

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910954021603321
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Titolo	Political parties in the Russian regions / / Derek S. Hutcheson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York, : RoutledgeCurzon, 2003
ISBN	1-134-41569-9 1-134-41570-2 1-280-14910-8 0-203-98668-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (209 pages)
Collana	BASEES/RoutledgeCurzon series on Russian and East European studies ; ; 2
Classificazione	89.61
Disciplina	324.247
Soggetti	Political parties - Russia (Federation) Regionalism - Political aspects - Russia (Federation) Political parties - Russia (Federation) - Volga River Region
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [170]-193) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; 1 Introduction; 2 Political parties in Russia: the federal level; 3 Politics and parties in the regions; 4 Party organizations: federal, regional, local; 5 The membership; 6 Parties and elections in the middle Volga; 7 Russian party development in perspective; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Since the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia's party system has suffered a difficult and turbulent infancy. Moscow based parties have had only very limited territorial penetration, and fragmentation has been one of its most significant features. Based on extensive fieldwork in three Russian regions, this book examines the development of the country's party system and the role played by parties in regional politics. Using a comparative approach, it scrutinises the internal structures and activities of the parties, looks at their decision-making processes, their everyday party life,