

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910960714903321
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Titolo	Foreign Investment, Development, and Globalization : Can Costa Rica Become Ireland? // by E. Paus
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Palgrave Macmillan US : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2005
ISBN	9786611364236 9781281364234 1281364231 9781403978813 1403978816
Edizione	[1st ed. 2005.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XVI, 250 p.)
Disciplina	332.67/3/097286
Soggetti	Political science International economic relations Economic policy Development economics International relations Globalization Political Science International Political Economy' Economic Policy Development Economics International Relations
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [207]-237) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Contents -- List of Tables -- List of Figures and Graphs -- Acronyms and Abbreviations -- Acknowledgments -- 1 Foreign Direct Investment in the Global Age: New Opportunities for Development? -- 2 High-Tech FDI-Led Growth in Small Latecomers: An Analytical Framework -- 3 The Rise of the Celtic Tiger -- 4 The Development of Knowledge-Based Assets in Ireland -- 5 From Coffee to Computers: High-Tech FDI in Costa Rica -- 6 The Tico Tiger That Hasn't... -- 7

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-- A -- B -- C -- D -- E -- F -- G -- H -- I -- J -- K -- L -- M -- N --
O -- P -- Q -- R -- S -- T -- U -- V -- W -- Y -- Z.

Sommario/riassunto

This book engages the question, hotly debated among theorists and policymakers alike, of how a developing country's pursuit of foreign direct investment (FDI) affects its development prospects in a globalized world. Can small latecomers to economic development use high-tech FDI to rapidly expand indigenous capabilities, thus shortcutting stages of the industrialization process? What conditions, economic and non-economic, must be met for this strategy to succeed? Using the cases of Ireland and Costa Rica, the author shows how the dynamics of the FDI-development nexus have changed over time, rendering problematic Costa Rica's attempt, and those of other latecomers, to replicate the Celtic Tiger's success story.
