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Sommario/riassunto

Europeans constitute 12 and a half per cent of the world's population but consume 50 per cent of the recorded world production alcohol, and this consumption plays a significant role in the cultural, religious, and social identities of these countries. The contributors show how different groups define the proper use of alcohol, how State policies may affect drinking behaviour, and highlight how beverages and comestibles must be seen in relation to each other. From this it is shown how important socio-cultural distinctions are made between and within communities, gender relations, ethnic groups,