

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910968645303321
Autore	Von Mises Ludwig <1881-1973.>
Titolo	Human action : a treatise on economics / / Ludwig von Mises ; edited by Bettina Bien Greaves
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Indianapolis, : Liberty Fund, c2007
ISBN	1-61487-837-4
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (1124 p.)
Collana	Liberty fund library of the works of Ludwig von Mises
Altri autori (Persone)	GreavesBettina Bien
Disciplina	330
Soggetti	Economics Commerce Libros electrónicos Comercio Ciencias economicas
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Pt. 1. Human action. Acting man -- The epistemological problems of the sciences of human action -- Economics and the revolt against reason -- A first analysis of the category of action -- Time -- Uncertainty -- Action within the world -- Pt. 2. Action within the framework of society. Human society -- The role of ideas -- Exchange within society -- Pt. 3. Economic calculation. Valuation without calculation -- The sphere of economic calculation -- Monetary calculation as a tool of action -- Pt. 4. Catallactics or economics of the market society. The scope and method of catallactics -- The market -- Prices -- Indirect exchange -- Action in the passing of time -- Interest -- Interest, credit expansion, and the trade cycle -- Work and wages -- The nonhuman original factors of production -- The data of the market -- Harmony and conflict of interests -- Pt. 5. Social cooperation without a market. The imaginary construction of a socialist society -- The impossibility of economic calculation under socialism -- Pt. 6. The hampered market economy. The government and the market -- Interference by taxation -- Restriction of production -- Interference with the structure of prices -- Currency and credit manipulation -- Confiscation and redistribution -- Syndicalism and corporativism --

The economics of war -- The welfare principle versus the market principle -- The crisis of interventionism -- Pt. 7. The place of economics in society. The nondescript character of economics -- The place of economics in learning -- Economics and the essential problems of human existence.

Sommario/riassunto

In the foreword to "Human Action: A Treatise on Economics," Mises explains complex market phenomena as "the outcomes of countless conscious, purposive actions, choices, and preferences of individuals, each of whom was trying as best as he or she could under the circumstances to attain various wants and ends and to avoid undesired consequences." It is individual choices in response to personal subjective value judgments that ultimately determine market phenomena--supply and demand, prices, the pattern of production, and even profits and losses. Although governments may presume to set "prices," it is individuals who, by their actions and choices through competitive bidding for money, products, and services, actually determine "prices." Thus, Mises presents economics--not as a study of material goods, services, and products--but as a study of human actions. He sees the science of human action, praxeology, as a science of reason and logic, which recognizes a regularity in the sequence and interrelationships among market phenomena. Mises defends the methodology of praxeology against the criticisms of Marxists, socialists, positivists, and mathematical statisticians. Mises attributes the tremendous technological progress and the consequent increase in wealth and general welfare in the last two centuries to the introduction of liberal government policies based on free-market economic teachings, creating an economic and political environment which permits individuals to pursue their respective goals in freedom and peace. Mises also explains the futility and counter-productiveness of government attempts to regulate, control, and equalize all people's circumstances: "Men are born unequal and ... it is precisely their inequality that generates social cooperation and civilization." Ludwig von Mises (1881-1973) was the leading spokesman of the Austrian School of Economics throughout most of the twentieth century. He earned his doctorate in law and economics from the University of Vienna in 1906. In 1926, Mises founded the Austrian Institute for Business Cycle Research. From 1909 to 1934, he was an economist for the Vienna Chamber of Commerce. Before the "Anschluss," in 1934 Mises left for Geneva, where he was a professor at the Graduate Institute of International Studies until 1940, when he emigrated to New York City. From 1948 to 1969, he was a visiting professor at New York University. Bettina Bien Greaves is a former resident scholar, trustee, and longtime staff member of the Foundation for Economic Education. She has written and lectured extensively on topics of free market economics. Her articles have appeared in such journals as "Human Events, Reason," and "The Freeman: Ideas on Liberty." A student of Mises, Greaves has become an expert on his work in particular and that of the Austrian School of economics in general. She has translated several Mises monographs, compiled an annotated bibliography of his work, and edited collections of papers by Mises and other members of the Austrian School.
