

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910974220803321
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Titolo	The rise and fall of the Soviet economy : an economic history of the USSR from 1945 // Philip Hanson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2014
ISBN	1-317-88537-6 1-138-13869-X 1-317-88538-4 1-315-84127-4
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (292 p.)
Collana	The Postwar World
Disciplina	330.947084 330.947085
Soggetti	Soviet Union Economic conditions Soviet Union Economic policy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"First published 2003 by Pearson Education Limited"--T.p. verso.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The starting point: the Stalinist economic system and the aftermath of war -- Khrushchev: hope rewarded, 1953-60 -- Khrushchev: things fall apart, 1960-64 -- A new start: Brezhnev, 1964-73 -- The "Era of Stagnation": 1973-82 -- Three funerals and a coronation: November 1982 to March 1985 -- Gorbachev and Catastroika -- The end-game, 1989-91 -- The Soviet economy in retrospect.
Sommario/riassunto	Why did the Soviet economic system fall apart? Did the economy simply overreach itself through military spending? Was it the centrally-planned character of Soviet socialism that was at fault? Or did a potentially viable mechanism come apart in Gorbachev's clumsy hands? Does its failure mean that true socialism is never economically viable? The economic dimension is at the very heart of the Russian story in the twentieth century. Economic issues were the cornerstone of soviet ideology and the soviet system, and economic issues brought the whole system crashing down in 1989-91. This book is a