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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Foreword -- Map of Belarus -- Introduction -- 1. Kyivan Rus and the Principality of Polatsk -- Toponyms -- Linguistic Comparison -- 2. The Grand Duchy of Lithuania -- Civil War and the Union of Kreva -- Rise of a Great Power -- The Century of the Renaissance -- 3. The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth(1569-1795) -- The Russian Deluge -- The Great Northern War -- 4. The Russian Empire (1772-1917) -- The North-Western Territory -- National Awakening -- A New Political and Cultural Renaissance -- 5. The First World War (1914-1918) -- The Russian Revolutions -- BNR-Belarusian National Republic -- 6. The Polish-Soviet War (1919-1921) -- Slutsk Uprising -- 7. Divided Belarus (1921-1939) -- BSSR-Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic -- Western Belarus as a part of Poland -- 8. The Second World War (1939-1945) -- Belarusians in the Winter War -- The Great Patriotic War -- Khatyn and Katyn -- The German Retreat -- 9. Post-war Belarus (1945-1991) -- The Era of Stagnation -- Perestroika and Glasnost -- 10. Independent Belarus (1991-) -- Lukashenko's Rise to Power -- Dictatorship begins -- Yeltsin is replaced by Putin -- Temporary Rapprochement with the West -- Towards a Eurasian Union -- The Ukraine Crisis turns the course -- National Project continues -- Belarus opens for tourism -- 11. The Reinstatement of Totalitarianism(2020-2021) -- Tsikhanoskaya's Rise and the August Election Fraud -- Why did the Revolution fail? -- Hybrid War against Poland and Lithuania -- Russian Ultimatum and Occupation of Kazakhstan -- 12. War in Ukraine (2022-

) -- The Russian Retreat from the North -- The Ukrainian Counterattack -- The War Escalates -- The Liberation of Kherson -- Independence at Stake -- The Fall of Bakhmut and the Spring Stalemate -- Wagner Group rebellion -- All Quiet on the Eastern Front -- 13. The Future of Belarus -- Disclosure -- Timeline.

Sommario/riassunto

The importance of Belarus to European security has increased in recent years, but the history and identity of the country have yet to be uncovered by the broader public. Throughout the centuries, the various rulers of Belarus have intentionally silenced its national history to distance Belarus from its European context. This historical book aims to demonstrate that Russian assimilation policies and the labeling of Belarus as “Russia's little brother” have been elements of a deliberate imperialistic policy, as Belarus shares most of its history with Poland and Lithuania. The Russian invasion of Ukraine dominated international headlines in 2022. Belarus officially supported Russia in the war, yet hundreds of Belarusian volunteers enlisted in the Ukrainian army. Meanwhile, the Belarusian opposition organized itself in Poland and Lithuania, and a concrete wall emerged along the border with Belarus. Is Belarus destined to remain isolated from Europe and an extension of Russian geopolitics, or can it restore its historical connections to Poland and Lithuania? How have Belarusians defined their identity, and how have their international relations evolved over the centuries? Toni Stenström provides a new and unique insight into one of Europe's most unknown countries.

“The publication of this history is a significant event, as Belarusians have only received occasional attention alongside the Ukrainians.” Harri Tiido, Estonian journalist and former diplomat

“Stenström is passionately interested in his subject. He has gathered unique source material from Belarusian archives.” Salla Nazarenko, Finnish journalist and author.

“The author's fundamental strength lies in his familiarity with Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and Poland and his language skills. These abilities have allowed him to compensate for the limited availability of English-language source material. The book's title correctly indicates that we are talking about silenced history.” Pekka Virkki, Finnish journalist and author
