

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996247896903316
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Titolo	Iron and Steel in the German Inflation, 1916-1923 // Gerald D. Feldman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, NJ : , : Princeton University Press, , [2015] ©2015
ISBN	0-691-60394-4 0-691-63316-9 1-4008-4788-5
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (540 pages) : illustrations, tables
Collana	Princeton Legacy Library ; ; 1771
Disciplina	338.4/7/66910943
Soggetti	Inflation (Finance) - Germany - History Industrial policy - Germany - History Trusts, Industrial - Germany - History Steel industry and trade - Germany - History Iron industry and trade - Germany - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Bibliography: p. 477-494.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List of Tables -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- Introduction -- Chapter One. The Dilemmas of Industrial Self-Government, September 1916-July 1919 -- Chapter Two. The Disruption of Industrialist Solidarity, July 1919-April 1920 -- Chapter Three. Unity Restored: The Struggle for Decontrol, 1920-1921 -- Chapter Four. Vertical Concentration -- Chapter Five. 1922: From Low Interest to High Principle -- Chapter Six. 1923: From Ruhr Occupation to Twelve-Hour Shift -- Epilogue -- Appendix One. Dollar Exchange Rate of the Paper Mark and the Gold Mark in Berlin, 1914-1923 -- Appendix Two. Production of Coal, Pig Iron, and Crude Steel in Germany, Great Britain, France, and Belgium, 1913-1929 -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This study explains how businessmen in the German iron and steel industry managed their enterprises, dealt with their customers, and acted in their relations with state and society during a period of war, revolution, and economic crisis. Because this industry occupied a

central position in Germany during the inflation, the author's investigation illuminates certain crucial aspects of the Weimar Republic that have hitherto been relatively unexplored. The author explains how heavy industry-and particularly the iron and steel industry-successfully took advantage of shortages of raw materials and of inflation to gain the upper hand over customers in the manufacturing industries. He notes that it proved able to resist government and consumer efforts to change and control policies affecting heavy industry and, finally, to lead the counterattack against labor's greatest gain in the Revolution of 1918, the eight-hour day. Although the importance of iron and steel to the German economy declined in relation to that of more advanced sectors of the economy, its highly concentrated character, able leadership, and importance to the war and reconstruction efforts gave it advantages in reconstituting its power within the business community and the Weimar state. Originally published in 1977. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.
