1. Record Nr. UNISA996544572803316 Autore Lehto Olli Titolo Mathematics without borders : a history of the International Mathematical Union / / Olli Lehto New York:,: Springer Science + Business Media, LLC,, 1998 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-4612-6840-0 1-4612-0613-8 Edizione [First edition.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XVI, 399 p.) Classificazione 01A74 01A70 01A80 01-02 Disciplina 510.9 Soggetti Mathematics - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Includes index. "With 55 Illustrations"--Title pages verso. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto 1 Prologue to the History of the IMU -- 1.1 Ideas of International Mathematical Cooperation Awaken -- 1.2 Formation of Institutionalized Congresses in -- 1.3 International Mathematical Activities Before World War I -- 1.4 Politics Enters into International Cooperation in Science --2 The Old IMU (1920-1932) -- 2.1 The Foundation of the IMU in the Aftermath of World War I -- 2.2 Mounting Opposition Against the IMU's Policy of Exclusion -- 2.3 Transformation of the International Research Council into the International Council of Scientific Unions -- 2.4 The IMU Separates from the Congresses -- 2.5 The IMU Adrift -- 2.6 Suspension of the IMU -- 3 Mathematical Cooperation Without the IMU (1933-1939) -- 3.1 The Fields Medals -- 3.2 Collaboration in Mathematical Education -- 3.3 A Failed Attempt to Found a New IMU --3.4 The Oslo Congress in -- 4 Foundation of the New IMU (1945-1951) 73 -- 4.1 American Declaration of Universality -- 4.2 Preparation of the IMU Statutes -- 4.3 The Rebirth of the IMU -- 4.4 ICM-1950 at

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Sommario/riassunto

The history of international mathematical co-operation over the last hundred years - from the first international congress in 1897 to plans for the World Mathematical Year 2000 - is a surprisingly compelling story. For reflected in the history of the International Mathematical Union (IMU) is all the strife among world powers, as well as aspirations for co-operation among nations in an increasingly interdependent world. As early as the 1920s, the IMU embraced principles of political neutrality, inviting every national mathematical organisation to join, and this principle of non-discrimination, while sometimes sorely tried, has held the IMU in good stead. A number of issues - the Cold War, the conflict between the Peoples Republic of China and Taiwan, a divided Germany, problems in the emerging nations of Africa - at times led to attempts to influence the IMU Executive Committee in its decisions regarding membership, location of international congresses, committee assignments, handling of protests, and awarding the coveted Fields Medals. Yet throughout, the IMU has sponsored international congresses around the world, and Professor Lehtos gripping story is one of individuals, among them many of the great mathematicians of our century, united in the common purpose of advancing their science, told against the backdrop of world events.