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## Abstract

The book deals with the main issues of the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the states of the Italian peninsula, from the beginning of the early modern period, marked by the subjugation of the peninsula to foreign rulers, mainly Spaniards, until the completion of the long period that led to Italian unification in 1861 and a few years later to the liberation of Venice (1866) and Rome (1870), where the capital of the new state would be transferred.

The author's central choices include: a) the integration of the Italian example into the European framework of the history of the period under consideration, and b) the interconnection of the text on the one hand with the sources of Italian history and on the other hand with the geography of the peninsula, through the use of maps that will allow us to follow the numerous changes in the political geography of the preunification Italian states.



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