

Autocracy 2.0

Type de contenu : Texte

Type de médiation : sans médiation

Type de support : Volume

Titre(s) : Autocracy 2.0 : how China's rise reinvented tyranny / Jennifer Lind

A pour autre édition sur un support différent : Autocracy 2.0 Lind 2025 [Lieu de publication inconnu]
Cornell University Press 978-1-5017-8415-6

Auteur(s) : Lind, Jennifer (1969-....) politologue

Mention d'édition : [1st edition]

Publication : Ithaca, New York London : Cornell University Press, 2025

Description matérielle : 1 volume (xiii-228 pages) ; 23 cm

Collection : Cornell studies in security affairs

ISBN : 978-1-5017-8414-9

EAN : 9781501784149 relié sous jaquette

Appartient à la collection : Cornell studies in security affairs 2690-957X

Autre variante du titre : [How China's rise reinvented tyranny.]

Classification décimale Dewey : 320.951

Note sur disponibilité : La ressource est également disponible en format numérique

Note sur les bibliographies et les index : Bibliographie pages 173-220. Notes bibliographiques. Index

Résumé ou extrait : In Autocracy 2.0, Jennifer Lind reveals how China's leaders defied expectations and propelled the country to innovation-superpower status - and what that means for the balance of power and global struggle between democracy and authoritarianism. In 2008, the world watched in awe as 2,008 men pounded Fou drums in unison at the Beijing Olympics opening ceremony - a spectacle that heralded China's arrival as a global powerhouse. Yet even as China's economy skyrocketed, skeptics scoffed at its ability to lead in tech, arguing that its authoritarian institutions smother true innovation. Lind dismantles this assumption, showing that China has not just kept pace; it has, in fact, surged ahead. Coupling hard

data with razor-sharp analysis, Lind shows that China's ascent was fueled by what she calls "smart authoritarianism": a model of governance in which autocratic leaders temper tight political control with inclusive economic measures. By balancing proinnovation policies with tools of repression, China's leaders have obtained political control and economic growth. These smart authoritarians, Lind observes, are not the brass-knuckled dictators of the past - they are their polished Savile Row-clad progeny, and they are found not only in China but also in authoritarian regimes worldwide. Compelling and incisive, *Autocracy 2.0* is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand China's meteoric rise and how today's autocrats are reshaping the technological frontier, governance, and the global balance of power.

Sujet - Nom commun : Autoritarisme -- Chine -- 2001-2025 2001 2025

Innovation -- Aspect économique -- Chine -- 2001-2025 2001 2025

Politique et gouvernement -- Chine -- 1997-....

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