

## **Machiavelli and the problems of military force**

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Résumé ou extrait : Central to Niccolò Machiavelli's writing is the argument that a successful state is one that prefers to lose with its own arms (*arma propriis*) than to win with the arms of others (*arma alienis*). This book sheds light on Machiavelli's critiques of military force and provides an important reinterpretation of his military theory. Sean Erwin argues that the distinction between *arma propriis* and *arma alienis* poses a central problem to Machiavelli's case for why modern political institutions offer modes of political existence that ancient ones did not. Starting from the influence of Lucretius and Aelianus Tacticus on the *Dell'arte della guerra*, Erwin examines Machiavelli's criticism of mercenary, auxiliary, and mixed forces.

Sujet - Auteur/Titre : Machiavel (1469-1527) -- *Dell' arte della guerra*

Sujet - Nom commun : Politique et guerre  
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