



Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy

Paul Murphy

[Download now](#)

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy

Paul Murphy

Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy Paul Murphy

Raised in the splendid court of Mantua, wealthy even by the standards of Renaissance cardinals, the patron of artists and scholars, the father of numerous children, an active participant in Italian and European politics as regent of the Duchy of Mantua, Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga (1505-1563) was in many respects a typical Renaissance prelate from a noble family. Nevertheless, in the course of his life he also exhibited a real commitment to reform of the Church and gave serious attention to the religious debates of his day. He reformed the diocese of Mantua, befriended reformers both Catholic and Protestant, and served as papal legate to the Council of Trent.

Ruling Peacefully provides the first in-depth study of this influential and paradoxical figure. Gonzaga emerges as a complex personality whose interests as the representative of a northern Italian ruling family could just as easily lead him to support reform in the Catholic Church as to hinder it. His career exemplifies much of the history of Italy and the Catholic Church in an era of uneasy transition. The process of change that the Church underwent in the sixteenth century only gradually provided theological clarity. This lack of definition exhibited itself not only in theology but also in the lives and works of individuals, including the leaders of the Church.

The career of Ercole Gonzaga, who does not fit easily into the categories of spiritual reformer, or intransigent inquisitor, or unreformed noble prelate, challenges stereotypical descriptions of Italian prelates and may represent the age more fully than any of these ideal types. This intermingling of the worldly and the religious suggests that he may best be understood as a patrician reformer who manifested the cultural life of late Renaissance Italy, the call for reform, and the interests of a powerful ruling family.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Paul V. Murphy is director of the Institute of Catholic Studies at John Carroll University and associate professor of history.

PRAISE FOR THE BOOK:

"In this careful, balanced study, Murphy (John Carroll Univ.) draws upon voluminous unpublished correspondence to assess the ecclesiastical career of an important but underestimated figure. . . . The book

participates in current revaluations of early modern Catholicism as complex, creative, and open to a variety of approaches to reform during the crucial decades of the mid-16th century. Summing up: Recommended." ? K. Gouwens, *Choice*

"[An] impressive and welcome book" ? Elisabeth Gleason, *Renaissance Quarterly*

"Those?like me?who have read and enjoyed Paul V. Murphy's essays in the *Sixteenth Century Journal*, in several edited volumes, and in this journal now have just what they hoped for: Murphy's thorough analysis covering the whole life of Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga (1505-63). He has made a first-class contribution to the history of sixteenth-century Italy." ? William Hudon, *Catholic Historical Review*

"Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga . . . has been a neglected figure of scholarly attention, due in great part to the difficulty in categorizing him as a reformer, conservative, or worldly lord. Making good use of archival sources, Murphy faces this challenge by looking at Gonzaga through the lens, as he puts it, of patrician reform. Assuming that the cardinal's status and formation as a scion of a ruling family influenced his religious activities, this book provides the reader with a well-rounded picture of the man, allowing us to understand the sometimes conflicting elements in his lifestyle and reform activities. . . . Murphy's analysis of the political exigencies faced by the cardinal is valuable and insightful. . . . This book sheds light on the cardinal's life and character and coherently explains apparent contradictions in his behavior. . . . Murphy's interesting, authoritative work provides evidence of the us

 [Download Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Pat ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and P ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy Paul Murphy

From reader reviews:

Rachel Louviere:

This Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy book is not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This particular Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy without we comprehend teach the one who reading through it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't be worry Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy can bring once you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even telephone. This Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy having very good arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Leonel Burton:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each data they get. How people have to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy book as this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it everybody knows.

Irene Gamino:

The reason? Because this Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will jolt you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such wonderful way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of gains than the other book include such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Kathleen Hernandez:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that will question when you got scholars? We believe that that issue was given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every individual has different hobby. So you know that little person similar to reading or as studying become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important and also book as to be the matter. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except

your own teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update about something by book. A substantial number of sorts of books that can you take to be your object. One of them is Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy.

Download and Read Online Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy Paul Murphy #6TIQKR9BF1N

Read Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy for online ebook

Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy books to read online.

Online Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy ebook PDF download

Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy Doc

Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy Mobipocket

Ruling Peacefully: Cardinal Ercole Gonzaga and Patrician Reform in Sixteenth-Century Italy by Paul Murphy EPub