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Beyond Sweatshops: Foreign Direct Investment and Globalization in Developing Countries

By Theodore H. Moran

Brookings Institution Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 196 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 6.0in. x 0.6in. Images of sweatshop labor in developing countries have rallied opponents of globalization against foreign direct investment (FDI). The controversy is most acute over the treatment of low-skilled workers producing garments, footwear, toys, and sports equipment in foreign-owned plants or the plants of subcontractors. Activists cite low wages, poor working conditions, and a variety of economic, physical, and sexual abuses among the negative consequences of the globalization of industry. In *Beyond Sweatshops*, Theodore Moran examines the impact of FDI in manufacturing on growth and welfare in developing countries, and explores how host governments can take advantage of the contributions of foreign investment while avoiding the hazards to lower-skilled workers. He traces case studies of countries that have managed to produce steady improvement in worker treatment at plants exporting garments, footwear, and other labor-intensive products. The first part of the book examines multilateral proposals designed to place a floor under the treatment of workers around the world, contrasting a WTO-based system to enforce labor standards with voluntary arrangements, including corporate codes of conduct, certification organizations, and sweatshop free labeling. It explores the pros and cons of adding...


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