



Between Hierarchies and Markets: The Logic and Limits of Network Forms of Organization

By Grahame F. Thompson

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This book conducts a survey into the ways in which the word 'network' has been deployed in a wide range of literature. In particular, it offers a commentary on how the idea of networks has been used to illustrate contemporary forms of socio-economic organization broadly conceived to also include the political aspects of networks. The book brings some intellectual clarity to the discussion of networks by asking whether it is possible to construct a clearly demarcated idea of a network as a separable form of socio-economic coordination and governance mechanism with its own consistent logic. In doing this, the primary contrast is with hierarchies and markets as alternative and already well understood forms of socio-economic coordination each with their own distinctive logic.

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Review

"This is a timely and useful stock-take of the burgeoning literature on organizational networks."--*Review of Political Economy*

About the Author

Grahame F. Thompson is Professor of Political Economy and Head of the Department of Government and Politics at the Open University. He has held visiting appointments at Harvard University, Griffith University, UNAM Mexico, and Curtin University. He is the co-author of *Globalization in Question* (with Paul Hirst, 1999) and editor of *Governing the European Economy* (2001).

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