



Globalizing in Hard Times: The Politics of Banking-Sector Opening in the Emerging World (Hardback)

By Leonardo Martinez-Diaz

Cornell University Press, United States, 2009. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In *Globalizing in Hard Times*, Leonardo Martinez-Diaz examines the sudden and substantial increase in cross-border ownership of commercial banks in countries where bank ownership had long been restricted by local rules. Many parties the World Bank and the IMF, the world's largest commercial banks, their home governments, and their negotiators had been pushing for a relaxation of ownership rules since the early 1980s and into the 1990s, when bank profitability levels in advanced industrial societies went flat. In their hunt for higher returns on assets, the major banks looked to expand business overseas, but through the mid-1990s their efforts to impose more liberal ownership regimes in nationalist countries proved largely unsuccessful. Martinez-Diaz illustrates the ongoing political resistance to liberalized ownership rules in Mexico, Indonesia, Brazil, and South Korea. He then demonstrates the importance of a series of events the Mexican crisis and the Brazilian banking shock in 1994-1995 and the Asian crisis of 1997-1998 among them in finally knocking down barriers to foreign ownership of banks. After these upheavals, policymakers who were worried about their political survival and...



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