Research

Economic Geography

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Dariusz Wójcik is Professor of Economic Geography at the School of Geography and the Environment, Oxford University, and Fellow of St Peters College Oxford. His research focuses on finance, globalisation, and urban and regional development. He serves on the editorial board of Economic Geography, the Journal of Economic Geography, Environment and Planning A, and GeoJournal. His recent books are the New Oxford Handbook of Economic Geography and International Financial Centres After the Global Financial Crisis and Brexit (both 2018, OUP). He is the chair of the Global Network on Financial Geography (www.fingeo.net). Berliner Straße 48 | room 211

Asset Management as a Digital Platform Industry: A Global Financial Network Perspective

We propose a new framework for conceptualizing the organizational and geographic logic of the digital platform economy in finance, and apply this framework to examine the impact of the digital platform model on asset management (AM). As we will show, AM is being profoundly disrupted by the rise of what we dub digital asset management platforms (DAMPs) including index fund and ETF provision, robo-advising, and third-party analytics and trading support. Their rise has produced a winner-take-all paradox of centralization through democratization that defies predictions of technology-enabled industry decentralization. DAMPs mostly reinforce rather than challenge the position of incumbent AM firms and centers.



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