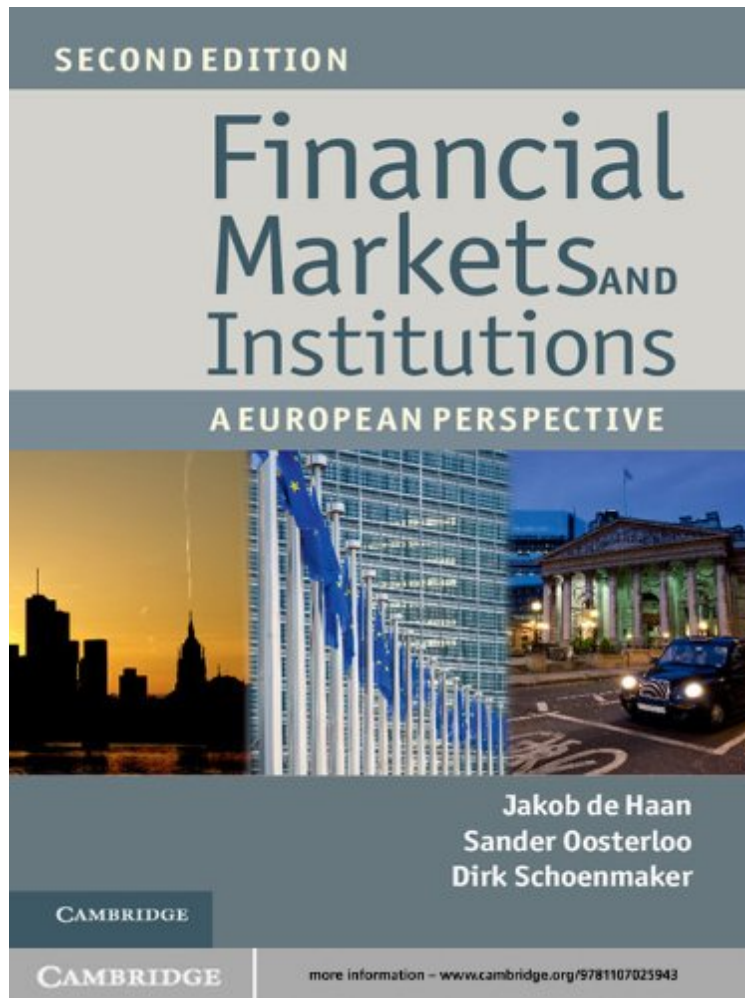


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Financial Markets and Institutions

Jakob De Haan, Sander Oosterloo, Dirk Schoenmaker
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Jakob De Haan, Sander Oosterloo, Dirk Schoenmaker : Financial Markets and Institutions before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Financial Markets and Institutions:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Welcome knowledge for a current undergraduate By A. May A year and a half ago I went back to school to earn my Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with majors in financial services and accounting. The only bad thing about college is the prerequisites I have to take in place of the additional business classes I would love to focus on while marching to 120 credit hours. Since I can't take every business course, this book provides a welcome augmentation to the classes I have already taken in finance and will undoubtedly prove handy in my more advanced studies junior and senior year. Since I returned to school as an adult who had already owned and operated a business and who writes financial articles, I appreciate that this book doesn't spend an abundance of time refreshing the memory about basic topics and usually gets into the meat of a subtopic within a paragraph and then continues from that point. Bedside manner in such a focused text is a bit unnecessary, and

the authors of this book seemed to realize that. However, I will emphasize that despite its pointed nature, this book is, as it states, accessible to both undergraduate and graduate students. In terms of organization, this volume features many more traditional textbook features than most Cambridge publications. Each chapter starts with an overview and learning objectives while the chapters themselves feature special "boxes" of focused material, charts, and graphs before ending with notes, suggested readings, and a reference list. The back of the book features a full index. Any formal student or casual adult learner should find this volume very focused, interesting, and educational reading.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent overview of the European Financial Structure By Igelfeld This book is really written as a text that can either be used for upper division college course, or for the industrious student, a self-study guide to the European market and economic structure. The book has not only explanations of the current economic structure for the EU, but also provides a history so the reader can gain an understanding of why things developed the way they did. This book is probably going to include much more than the casual reader might find useful (and interesting), but it's really an indication of the comprehensive nature of the book. In general, the book does not take strong stands on what are quite explosive issues, but simply describes the inherent mechanisms. The authors themselves truly have written this in a pure academic style, not trying to render judgements or opinion on policy, but simply providing the requisite information to gain a basic understanding of the economic structure of the EU. It's also important to note that the title uses the term "financial", but in many ways, the book is as much about economics as it is financial. This is the (very sad?) state of the current world is that the line between economics and finance has now become so blurred that the distinction is no longer made. This book is a good example of how economic policy and thought has dramatically changed global economy, with a prime example being the disasters associated with 2008. With all that said, this book I believe is required reading to really understand how economic structures are driving not only Europe, but also the world. After all, the EU is only trying to "adjust" and become a financial (economic?) superpower. This book does a good job of showing how they've gone about doing this. Don't confuse this book with popular titles written by the likes of Michael Lewis that really are writing the financial equivalent of a travel log. It is a bit dry in spots and includes loads of acronyms, definitions, and almost tedious amounts of detail that are imperative to understanding the EU financial structure. It's a hard book to read from cover to cover, but with the right motivation, it is achievable. The 5th star really was due to the spots in the book that really are dry, but this is what makes it more "text like", and quite honestly, this is just related to the ease of reading. But with that said, books like this aren't meant to be page turners. But now that protests are dying down, we need to see how the financial dust is settling with still large implications looming in countries like Greece, Ireland, and Iceland. I've always believed that part of the problem with the EU is cultural and unfortunately, this is not be book to read to get that insight (Michael Lewis' book is a better example of this), but it would be nice if this was integrated into an academic work.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The benefit is in the European perspective and data and discussion of recent events By C. Ang In my opinion, this book is valuable for at least two reasons. First, the book, as the title suggests, discusses financial markets and institutions from a European perspective. It is not surprising that the major topics in the text are not new and can be found in many other texts on this topic. Examples of books along this strand of the literature but focused more on the US perspective and data are Fabozzi, et al.'s Foundations of Financial Markets and Institutions and Saunders and Cornett's Financial Markets and Institutions. Having said that, the topics on the origins of European financial integration, European financial markets, and European competition policy would differ from US-focused texts. These are certainly helpful. In addition, I personally found the recent European data most helpful. Having updated data to describe and support trends after the recent financial crisis is very beneficial. Second, the book devotes an entire chapter on the recent financial crisis - e.g., the Euro crisis and credit crisis. This book does a good job discussing of how recent events have affected European financial markets and institutions. The discussion is mostly light, but there are some sections, which are marked with "*", that are more technical and can be skipped.

Since the first edition of this book, the world's financial system went through its greatest crisis for a century. What made this crisis unique is that severe financial problems emerged simultaneously in many different countries and that its economic impact was felt throughout the world as a result of the increased interconnectedness of the global economy. Written for undergraduate and graduate students of finance, economics and business, the second edition of this successful textbook provides a fresh analysis of the world financial system in light of the recent financial crisis. Combining theory, empirical data and policy, it examines and explains financial markets, financial infrastructures, financial institutions and challenges in the domain of financial supervision and competition policy. This new edition features three completely new chapters, one on financial crises, a second on financial innovation, and, on the policy side, a third on the monetary policy of the European Central Bank.

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