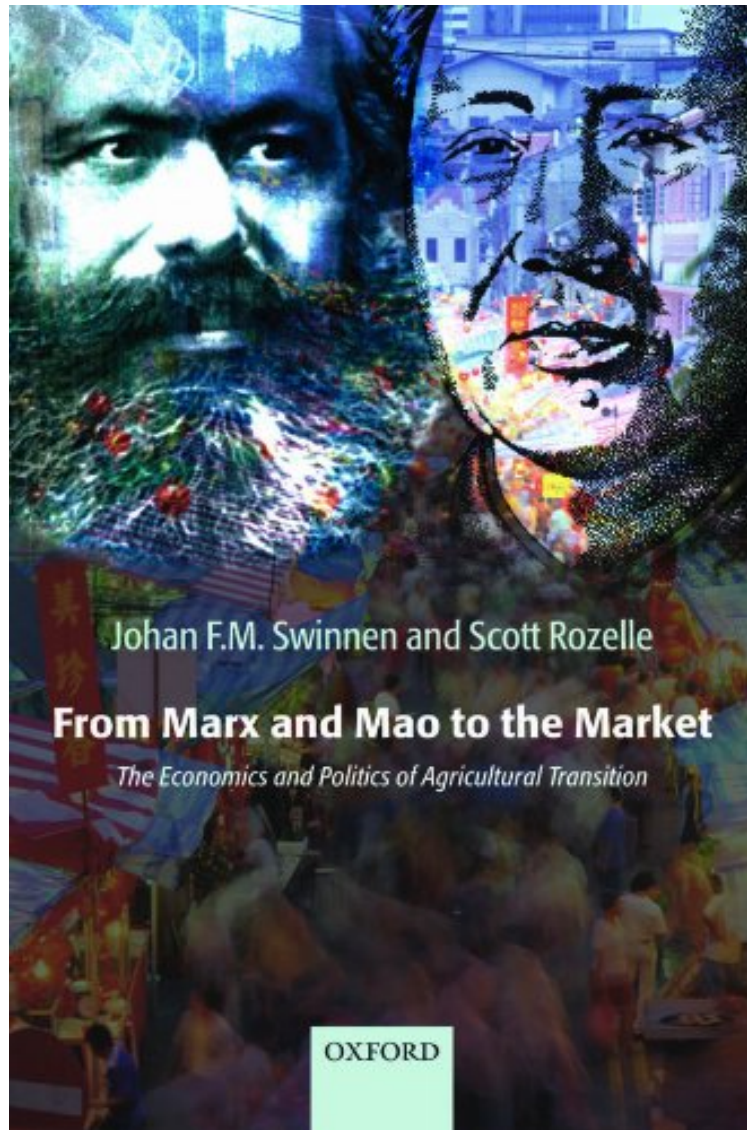


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From Marx and Mao to the Market: The Economics and Politics of Agricultural Transition

Johan F.M. Swinnen, Scott Rozelle

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Johan F.M. Swinnen, Scott Rozelle : From Marx and Mao to the Market: The Economics and Politics of Agricultural Transition before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From Marx and Mao to the Market: The Economics and Politics of Agricultural Transition:

The emergence of China as a global economic powerhouse, the uncertain path of Russia towards a market economy,

and the integration of ten Central and Eastern European countries into the European Union (EU) have occupied the minds and agendas of many policy-makers, business leaders and scholars from around the world at the end of the twentieth and the beginning of the twenty-first century. Twenty years ago these developments were unimaginable. The impact of these changes is so vast that the importance of understanding the forces that unleashed this process, how these changes became possible, and what the lessons are for other developing countries, cannot be overestimated. This book is the first effort to analyze the economics and politics of agricultural reforms by comparing the reform processes, their causes and their effects across this vast region. The authors draw on a vast set of studies and new data, which compare reforms and economic impacts in more than 25 countries, to come up with a series of conclusions and implications on the role of economic reforms in growth, and the importance of initial conditions and political constraints in explaining the choices that were made and their effects. The book analyzes some of the most successful sets of agricultural policies in history that have lifted people out of poverty, raising productivity and incomes by staggering amounts. At the same time the book explains the reasons behind dramatic failures in policy processes and reforms that caused hunger, poverty and which had devastating effects on economic growth and development for millions of other people.

About the Author Johan F.M. Swinnen is Professor of development economics and Director of the LICOS Center for Transition Economics at the University of Leuven (KUL) in Belgium, a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels, and Coordinator of the European Network of Agricultural and Rural Policy Research Institutes (ENARPRI). He has been lead economist at the World Bank and an Economic Advisor at the European Commission. He has also acted as consultant and advisor to other international institutions including EBRD, OECD, FAO, and IFAD and many East European governments. Scott Rozelle is Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics in the University of California, Davis. Dr. Rozelle received his B.Sc. from UC, Berkeley, M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Cornell University. Before moving to the University of California in 1998, he was an Assistant Professor in the Food Research Institute and Department of Economics at Stanford University. He is the U.C. Davis 2000 Chancellor Fellow and is the chair of the Board of Academic Advisors of the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy.