

Industrial Policy for the Manufacturing Revolution. Perspectives on Digital Globalisation

Patrizio Bianchi and Sandrine Labory 2018, Edward Elgar Publishing

This book is well written and provides valuable and significant addition to the literature. More specific, this book offers a critical reflection on the meaning and expected impact of the fourth industrial revolution, and its implications for industrial policy.

We could say that the fourth industrial revolution is having a major impact on industry and societies primarily because of what has been called its raw material: data. New technologies are allowing hyper-connection on a global scale, not only between people, but also between people and machines and, in the case of the Internet of Things, even amongst machines themselves.

Industrial Policy for the Manufacturing Revolution aims to increase our capacity to anticipate and adapt to the forthcoming structural changes. It outlines the type of industrial policy and strategies that are needed in this era of rapid transformation. The authors propose a 'comprehensive industrial policy' that considers the complexity of structural changes involving industry as well as institutions and social and education policies, in order to encourage the participation of all citizens in the development process. The book also features a concrete example of comprehensive industrial policy implementation at the regional level.

Overall, this book should be of interest to a wide audience such as academia, business analysts and policy makers. Also, it will be required reading for all those interested in industrial economics and policy, business and technology.

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