GOVERNING MARKETS AS KNOWLEDGE COMMONS

This volume develops a theoretical framework for the analysis of the production, reproduction, and transformation of intellectual and legal infrastructures that enable market interactions using the Governing Knowledge Commons (GKC) framework. A distinctive contribution of this volume is the conceptualization of market-supporting knowledge structures as shared goods (established through cooperation) and contribution goods (established through competition). There are four building blocks around which the edited volume revolves. First, the chapters show that markets are cultural; they depend on various kinds of knowledge, some of which are governed as commons. Second, unlike physical commons, the market-supporting knowledge commons are produced and reproduced by contributions and sharing. Third, these knowledge commons serve as economic inputs in private production processes. Finally, the volume highlights the social and cultural effects of entrepreneurship. Through innovation and slight evasions of existing rules, entrepreneurs change not merely market goods but also social conventions and cultural meanings. Building on the GKC framework, the book highlights the entanglement of markets with society and the broader culture of which markets are part.

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