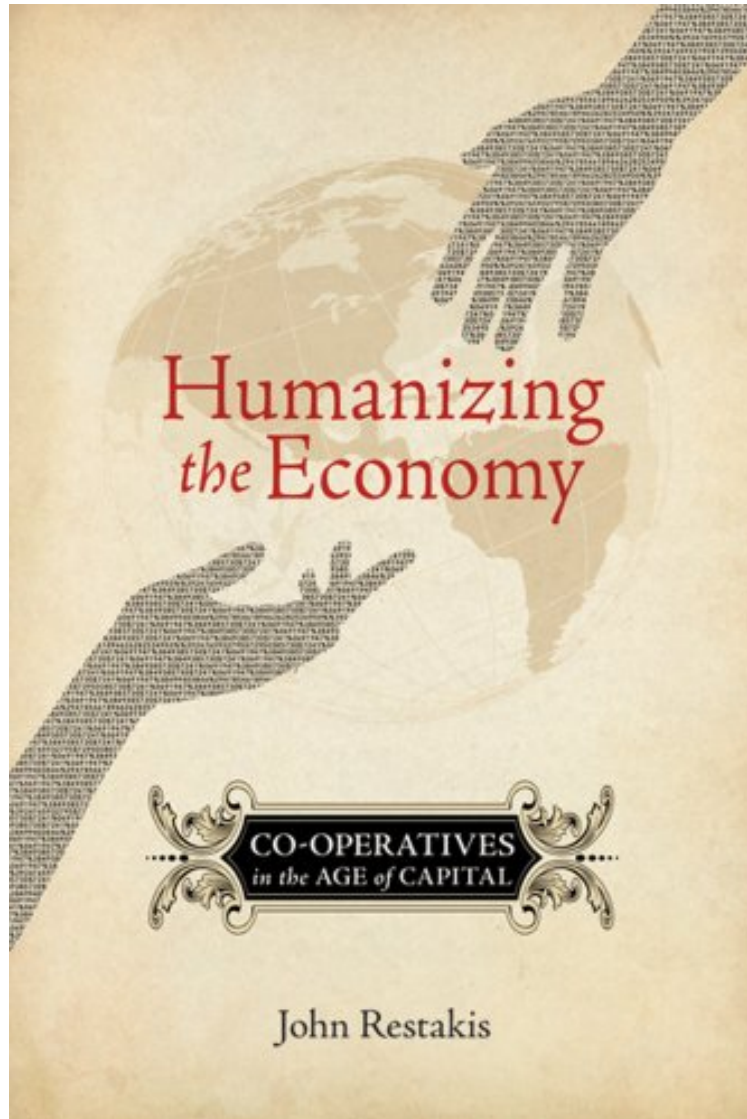


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Humanizing the Economy: Co-operatives in the Age of Capital

John Restakis

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John Restakis : Humanizing the Economy: Co-operatives in the Age of Capital before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Humanizing the Economy: Co-operatives in the Age of Capital:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Highly Readable Review Of Co-operatives As An Economic Alternative By Henry Dean An excellent and non-dogmatic approach to an alternative to the fraught and risky current fiscal situation of the western, multi-national, capitalist-based economy. Interested in the ideas having come across the concept of co-operatives as a means of growth in permaculture with previous awareness of the huge Mondragon Corporation in the Basque area of Spain, I found this a refreshing and generally stimulating read. I had not been aware

of co-operatives' background in Ducati and Ferrari as well as throughout the Tuscan region. That these structures have performed so well in the last few years while many regular corporations have stagnated, contracted, or vanished, makes them interesting anyway. That they are so stable, produce full employment and stability while being active not only locally but also in a multinational reach means they are certainly worthy of further study. The variety of businesses involved including the Bombay prostitutes collective to give those workers strength and the ability to address the rising HIV numbers makes for a readily digestible and interesting read. With many more aspects of traditional western corporation approaches to business showing signs of strain beyond the purely financial, this book offers some positive, timely and useful alternatives. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Truly inspiring! By Wojtek_U One of the most inspiring books I have read this year. With a lot of insights, the author explains the reasons of current economic problems of the World, merging together history and philosophy that I have learned back at school - this time, it all makes sense! But the best thing is the amount of detailed stories of co-operatives throughout the world - it's truly inspiring and educative, especially for those who truly seek an alternative to the current economic system. Just as the publisher promises, it's one of those books that may help change the world for better. 13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. I didn't realize the cooperative economy was this large. By Customer Abstract systems are a dime a dozen; getting them to work is another matter. Restakis talks about functioning alternatives to the capitalist economy. And functioning on large scales over long periods of time, long enough and large enough to compare the results with capitalism. This is a must read.

At the close of the twentieth century, corporate capitalism extended its reach over the globe. While its defenders argue that globalization is the only way forward for modern, democratic societies, the spread of this system is failing to meet even the most basic needs of billions of individuals around the world. Moreover, the entrenchment of this free market system is undermining the foundations of healthy societies, caring communities, and personal well-being. *Humanizing the Economy* shows how cooperative models for economic and social development can create a more equitable, just, and humane future. With over eight hundred million members in eighty-five countries and a long history linking economic to social values, the cooperative movement is the most powerful grassroots movement in the world. Its future as an alternative to corporate capitalism is explored through a wide range of real-world examples including: Emilia Romagna's co-operative economy of Northern Italy Argentina's recovered factory movement Japan's consumer and health cooperatives Highlighting the hopes and struggles of everyday people seeking to make their world a better place, *Humanizing the Economy* is essential reading for anyone who cares about the reform of economics, globalization, and social justice.