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Transnational networks and domestic agencies : making sense of globalizing administrative patterns

Heijden, M.J.A. van der

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Author: Heijden, M.A.J. van der

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Propositions

Belonging to the doctoral dissertation

Transnational Networks and Domestic Agencies:

Making Sense of Globalizing Administrative Patterns

Machiel van der Heijden

1. Decisions of domestic agencies regarding standard adoption are strongly guided by decisions of regulators in other countries, particularly those to whom they are directly related through network relationships [this dissertation].
2. In understanding the way in which transnational networks affect domestic agencies, we should explicitly measure the structure of relationships that constitute such networks [this dissertation].
3. The effects of transnational networks on domestic agencies are moderated by the way in which transnational network activities are structured and coordinated *inside* these agencies [this dissertation].
4. Organizational design choices that help domestic agencies to better cope with complex transnational environments are incompatible with those that keep them accountable within a national context [this dissertation].
5. The increasing complexity of transnational markets and regulation creates a greater scope for strategic behavior; this has more advantages for those that are regulated than for those that regulate.
6. Metaphorical conceptualizations of networks are too general to be useful for explanatory research; network *effects* can only be studied through formal modelling.
7. What principal-agent scholars perceive as *agency loss* or *shirking behavior* is more likely to be a public official coping with information overload and decision-making uncertainty.
8. Rather than conducting research at micro-, meso-, or macro-levels of analysis, the field of public administration should more explicitly focus and theorize on the micro-macro and macro-micro links that connect these levels.
9. The replication crisis in social science has as much to do with weak theorizing as it has to do with “bad data” or low statistical power.
10. Graduating in anthropology doesn’t necessarily make one an anthropologist.