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The emergence of democratic firms in the platform economy: drivers, obstacles, and the path ahead

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Propositions relating to the dissertation

THE EMERGENCE OF DEMOCRATIC FIRMS
IN THE PLATFORM ECONOMY

Drivers, Obstacles, and the Path Ahead

by Morshed Mannan

1. Interest in cooperative membership in the platform economy has grown as it offers the prospect of collective, democratic control over online labour and social media platforms, sectors often characterized by social atomisation and precarity.
2. Platform cooperatives face distinctive financing and governance challenges as they simultaneously experience the market pressures inherent in the platform economy and the expectation of embodying cooperative values and principles.
3. Shared-services platforms have an important role in addressing the financial, technological, and governance challenges platform cooperatives face.
4. Exit to community strategies will benefit from the creation of financial incentives for founders, companies and stakeholders.
5. The formation of platform cooperatives and other democratic firms is not a panacea for all the ailments of platform capitalism, but rather complement other regulatory and governance efforts to achieve platform accountability.
6. The Delphi technique is a useful research method for investigating how the future of the platform economy may develop.
7. Comparative cooperative law is an understudied discipline, given the importance of cooperatives in the global economy.
8. Governance technologies are gaining prominence as more businesses seek to digitize, automate and incentivize decision-making, a process that can be called 'corporate governance-by-design'.
9. The consistent use of a reliable citation management software over the course of a PhD trajectory makes the preparation of footnotes, cross-references and a bibliography hassle-free.
10. Reaching out to people whose work you follow and admire can lead to fruitful collaborations.

