
Corporate Privilege and the Challenge of Sustainable Democracy

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Corporations operate in a system of rules, practices, beliefs, and theory that drive corporate leaders to maximize profits for executives and shareholders at the expense of value chain partners, democracy and the environmental sustainability. We consider proposals to alter that context – the reaffirmation of the historic role of public oversight of corporations, including charging for corporate privileges granted by the democratic state and reducing economically inefficient privileges. We find these proposals complimentary and likely to alter corporate activity for the benefit of society and the environment.