Better Banking: Understanding and Addressing the Failures in Risk Management, Governance and Regulation
Adrian Docherty, Franck Viort

Why did the financial crisis happen? Why did no one see it coming? And how did our banks lose so much of our money? What's being done to sort out the banking industry? And will it work?

These are the questions that industry experts Adrian Docherty and Franck Viort cover in Better Banking: Understanding and Addressing the Failures in Risk Management, Governance and Regulation. They give a clear and thorough run-through of some of the key concepts and developments in banking, to enable the reader to understand better this vital yet perilous industry. Without excessive detail or jargon, they explain the most important issues in risk management, regulation and governance and build a comprehensive description of how failings in these areas resulted in the current financial crisis. In order to make the diagnosis clear, the authors illustrate their descriptions with a series of informative case studies. The book revolves around a critique of the current regulatory developments, which the authors feel will be ineffective in fixing the structural flaws in banking. Crucially, and as the title of the book suggests, they set out their own series of proposals to contribute to the development of a better, safer and more effective banking industry.

Docherty and Viort's book fills an important gap in the literature on banking and its role in the current financial crisis. It is at once a history, a primer, a critique and a manifesto. It does not take sides but works through a constructive diagnosis towards ideas that could lead to major improvements in the quality and stability of the financial world.
Better Banking: Understanding and Addressing the Failures in Risk Management, Governance and Regulation is a technical yet accessible book that seeks to engage interested readers of all kinds -- students, professionals, bankers and regulators but also politicians and the broader audience of citizens outside the banking industry, who are keen to inform themselves and understand what needs to be done to avoid a repeat of this crisis.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Adrian Docherty and Franck Viort have, in aggregate, 40 years of experience serving and advising the financial services sector on strategic issues, in a variety of economic conditions and in many different countries around the world. Their professional focus is on helping to improve the financial management and risk performance of banks and insurance companies. Better Banking is their first book, though their views are regularly quoted in the press and they are frequent presenters at industry conferences. Adrian holds a master’s degree from Cambridge University and lives with his wife, son and daughter in Kent. Franck has a degree from Sciences-Po in Paris and an MBA from the University of Chicago and lives in London with his wife and three daughters.

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