question about the effects of enlargement on the Union (although sometimes the
analysis of the former is required to explain the latter). Nevertheless, this volume
provides a very good (broad and up-to-date) picture of EU enlargement, its effects
and implications for the Union. It should be a useful addition to any course on
enlargement and the future functioning of the European Union.

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£40 hb.)

When I was approached to write a review of this book, I wondered whether I was
capable to do this, not having a technology background. Reading it, I realized that
this work has a contribution to make to the understanding of my field, the political
economy. The contents examine the interplay between technology, competition and
business strategy.

The book aims to provide an insight into digitization issues. It focuses on HDTV
and DTV, as a valid case of the broader transition in the field, and analyses the standard-
war on an international scale. It is therefore organized into chapters that present the
institutional setting and discuss the more technological issues of digital convergence.
Three case studies subsequently research HDTV in Japan, the United States and
Europe. These regional studies explain the diverse evolution and challenges of
digitalization in these three leading economies. This part is followed by an analysis
of digital television in the United States and Europe, based on documentary sources
as well as field research and interviews. The whole is illustrated by examples of
global standards in a chapter that precedes the conclusions. The author uses very
pertinent examples and a style that is easily readable and comprehensible for the
layman.

What comes to mind when starting the book is a serious question about the relevant
time. Is a book that deals with digitization in the 1990s and 2000s not outdated?
The author has taken the risk of publishing material which could be considered
obscure. However, this worry is eliminated by his clear demonstration of the particular
interest of a time period that is essential for the study of the triad, of the US's lead
in global competitiveness, and of standards wars. This teaches us much about the way
corporations win markets, and how this is linked to the impact of institutions, interests,
ideas and nationalism. These relationships are crucial to global competitiveness. Jeffrey
Hart's main argument is that domestic decision processes and international negotiations
have a critical influence on the way business players seek advantages.

After all, while the theoretical output could have been enhanced, the discussion
of the broader meaning of the case of digitalization for the present and future of
the political-economy is well developed and contributes to our understanding.

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