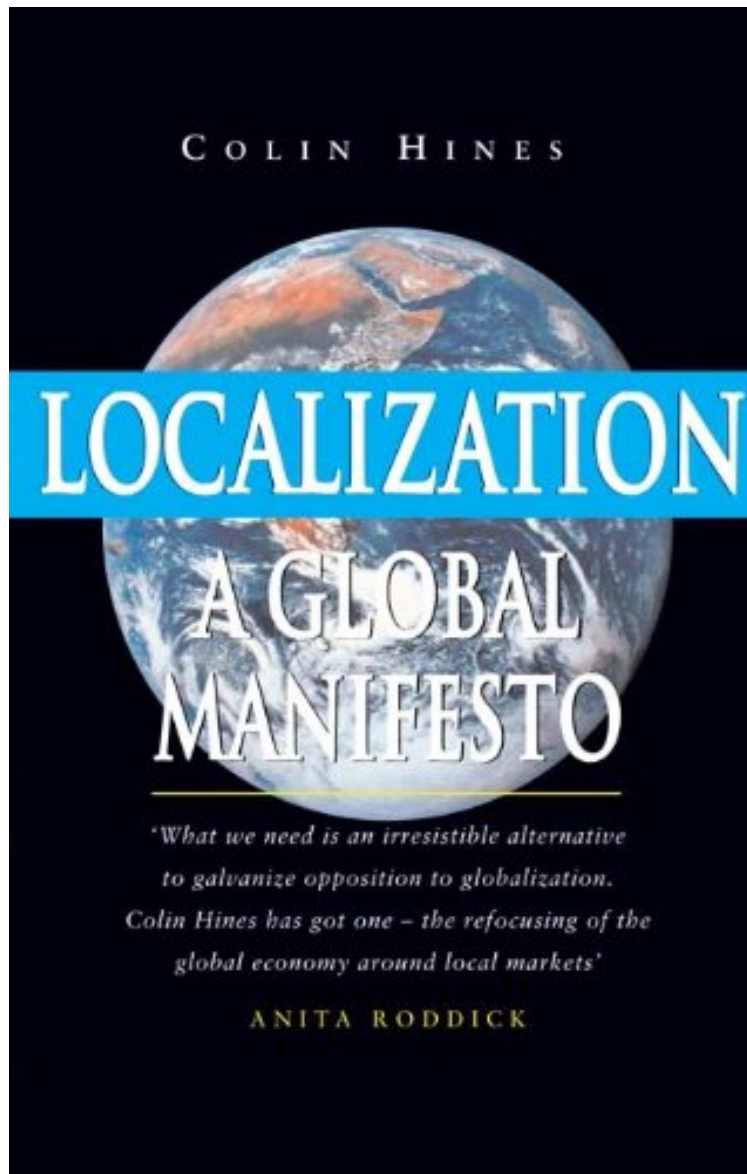


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Localization: A Global Manifesto

Colin Hines

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Colin Hines : Localization: A Global Manifesto before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Localization: A Global Manifesto:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Love it or Hate itBy CustomerIts really instructive to read the other reviews of this book. Anti-globalization folks love it, and anyone with even basic economics training will hate it. It tells you a lot about the division in world views that drives the debate over globalization, which is really about moral economics vs utilitarian economics. This is something people in the West have been arguing about for 200 years;

anyone who read Polanyi or any of the romantic critics of British Utilitarianism will find the content of this book familiar. I found the book a good statement of one of the more extreme, but increasingly popular positions of the anti-globalization camp, one which envisions a world where people become more self-sufficient, do more satisfying labor, and where justice is more important than profits. I have to agree with the sentiments. But unfortunately I can't go along with the program, which seems like the worst kind of romantic and unrealistic idealism. This does not mean I agree with the critics, who think the only alternative to localization is just more untrammelled free market capitalism. You would think that after 200 years people would have figured out that this particular set of polar opposites is pretty useless to think with!

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Interesting about localization as opposed to globalization. By vagabundoMr Hines has written an interesting book about localization as opposed to globalization. It may not be quite as good as Michael Shuman's Going local, but Hines gives us a viable alternative to the hypercapitalism which pits Third World countries against each other in the race for foreign investments. ... there is an alternative to pro-trade economy, see for example Herman Daly (Beyond growth) or Hernando de Soto (The mystery of capital) for an excellent overview of why trade is not a road to proper development.

5 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A sustainable alternative to globalization. By A CustomerThis excellent book explodes the myth that globalization is good for people or the environment, showing clearly how the harm it does usually outweighs any benefit. Localization, the proposed alternative, offers a real practical route to sustainable prosperity. This book should be obligatory reading not only for decision makers in trade and politics but also for every voter in a democratic society.

Localization is a manifesto to unite all those who recognize the importance of cultural, social and ecological diversity for our future - and who do not aspire to a monolithic global consumer culture. It is a passionate and persuasive polemic, challenging the claims that we have to be 'internationally competitive' to survive and describing the destructive consequences of globalization. This book is unique in going beyond simply criticizing free trade and globalization trends. It details self-reinforcing policies to create local self-sufficiency and shows clearly that there is an alternative to globalization - to protect the local, globally.

The latest volume, in a series of Science in Society produced by the James Martin Institute at Oxford University, provides an excellent overview for interested citizens—and we better get up to speed on this portentous, unregulated, largely invisible technology.

About the AuthorCOLIN HINES is a Fellow of the International Forum on Globalization, former head of Greenpeace's International Economics Unit and co-author of The New Protectionism: Protecting the Future Against Free Trade.