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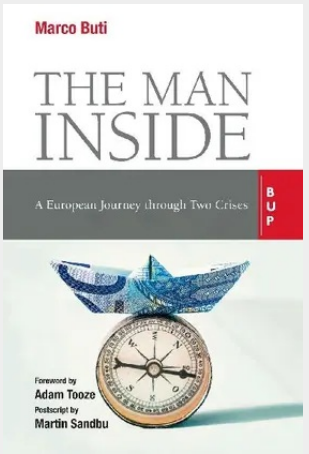
The Man Inside

A European Journey through Two Crises

“To go from point A to point B in Europe is rarely a straight line. Actually, trying to take a straight line is often the best way not to get to destination.” This is one of the lessons Marco Buti, one of the very few top policy makers who went through the financial and the sovereign debt crises and, lately, the pandemic crisis, which plagued the European Union over the past twelve years. This book, which brings together his real time input to the economic and policy debate, traces the intellectual journey leading to the design and implementation under duress of difficult policies and controversial reforms. His contribution is the graphic demonstration of Jean Monnet’s dictum that Europe will be forged in crises and will be the outcome of the responses to those crises. It shows the analytical and empirical foundations of choices that involved a delicate balance between economic, institutional and political considerations. What emerges is a new compass that helps understand the policy strategy the EU has adopted to fight the economic fallout of the pandemics.

A crucial analysis of European economic policy during times of crisis.In The Man Inside, Marco Buti, a key figure in European economic policymaking, offers a unique perspective on the EU's response to the financial and sovereign debt crises and the COVID-19 pandemic. Drawing from real-time contributions to economic debates, Buti traces the intellectual journey behind controversial policy decisions. He reveals the delicate balance between economic, institutional, and political factors that shaped Europe's crisis management strategy.What emerges is a new understanding of the EU's policy strategy for combating the economic fallout of the pandemic. This volume is essential for economists, policymakers, and anyone seeking to understand the inner workings of European economic governance. Readers will gain Insight into the EU's crisis response mechanismsAnalysis of the challenges facing European integrationA framework for understanding future policy strategies



99,60 €
99,60 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9788831322355
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-88-31322-35-5
Verlag: Egea Spa - Bocconi University Press
Erscheinungstermin: 01.11.2021
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2021
Serie: None
Produktform: Kartoniert
Gewicht: 734 g
Seiten: 250
Format (B x H): 152 x 229 mm