

# An International Comparison of Deregulation in the Construction Industry

The construction industry is a major contributor to the global economy, accounting for approximately 10% of global GDP. In recent decades, many countries have implemented deregulation policies in an effort to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of their construction industries.

However, the impact of deregulation on the construction industry has been mixed, and there is considerable debate about its overall effects.



## Building Chaos: An International Comparison of Deregulation in the Construction Industry (Routledge Studies in Business Organizations and Networks Book

22) by Gerhard Bosch

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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This article provides an international comparison of deregulation in the construction industry, examining the impact of deregulation on industry structure, performance, and innovation. The article draws on a wide range of sources, including academic research, industry reports, and government data.

## **Industry Structure**

Deregulation has led to a significant decrease in the number of firms operating in the construction industry in many countries. For example, in the United States, the number of construction firms declined by more than 20% between 1990 and 2010. This decline has been driven by several factors, including the increased cost of entry into the industry, the consolidation of the industry by larger firms, and the growth of subcontracting.

The decline in the number of firms in the construction industry has had a number of consequences. First, it has led to a decrease in competition in the industry, which has resulted in higher prices and lower quality. Second, it has made it more difficult for small businesses to enter the industry, which has stifled innovation. Third, it has led to a decrease in the number of jobs in the industry, which has had a negative impact on the economy.

## **Performance**

Deregulation has had a mixed impact on the performance of the construction industry. In some countries, deregulation has led to improved efficiency and productivity, while in other countries it has led to a decline in quality and safety.

In the United States, deregulation has led to a number of improvements in the performance of the construction industry. For example, the cost of construction has declined by more than 10% since 1990, and the productivity of the industry has increased by more than 20%. However, deregulation has also led to a decline in the quality of construction, and the number of construction-related accidents has increased.

In the United Kingdom, deregulation has led to a decline in the performance of the construction industry. For example, the cost of construction has increased by more than 20% since 1990, and the productivity of the industry has declined by more than 10%. Deregulation has also led to a decline in the quality of construction, and the number of construction-related accidents has increased.

## **Innovation**

Deregulation has had a negative impact on innovation in the construction industry. The decline in the number of firms in the industry, the consolidation of the industry by larger firms, and the growth of subcontracting have all made it more difficult for small businesses to enter the industry and to innovate. In addition, deregulation has reduced the government's role in funding research and development in the construction industry, which has further stifled innovation.

The lack of innovation in the construction industry has led to a number of problems, including:

\* The high cost of construction \* The low productivity of the industry \* The poor quality of construction \* The high number of construction-related accidents

The impact of deregulation on the construction industry has been mixed. Deregulation has led to a decrease in the number of firms in the industry, a decline in the performance of the industry, and a lack of innovation. However, deregulation has also led to some improvements in the efficiency and productivity of the industry.

Overall, the evidence suggests that deregulation has had a negative impact on the construction industry. The decline in the number of firms in the industry, the consolidation of the industry by larger firms, and the growth of subcontracting have all made it more difficult for small businesses to enter the industry and to innovate. In addition, deregulation has reduced the government's role in funding research and development in the construction industry, which has further stifled innovation.

The lack of innovation in the construction industry has led to a number of problems, including the high cost of construction, the low productivity of the industry, the poor quality of construction, and the high number of construction-related accidents.



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