## CHOICE connect

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## **University of Chicago Press**

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Social & Behavioral Sciences Economics

**60-1165** HD6971 CIF

**Democratize work: the case for reorganizing the economy**, ed. by Isabelle Ferreras, Julie Battilana, and Dominique Méda; tr. by Miranda Richmond Mouillot. Chicago, 2022. 168p bibl index ISBN 9780226819624 pbk, \$15.00; ISBN 9780226819631 ebook, \$14.99.

This terse and acerbic book argues for three urgent and critical changes to workplaces: democratize firms, decommodify work, and decarbonize the environment. These three D's are presented first as a manifesto, modeled on a petition one might deliver to a politician in the hope of impelling immediate and relevant legislative action. In this case, the calls for action stem from both long-standing trends in a majority of workplaces and the inequalities the global COVID-19 pandemic revealed. The authors' assessment of the status quo is not sugarcoated with easy-to-swallow challenges and uplifting signs of progress. Rather, the ideas presented are ambitious and bold. After the brief introduction and manifesto on work, the authors include 12 separate companion pieces, each making the case that dire consequences will result without changes to workplaces and society. The suggested workplace adaptations represent logical approaches to long-term economic success, yet the dramatic changes may be polarizing and difficult to undertake incrementally without widespread support. Bold and fascinating, this book offers an important perspective on the priorities of the workplace and society at large.

--S. K. Allen, Virigian Military Institute

Summing Up: Highly recommended. Undergraduates through faculty and general readers.