

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910969819903321
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Titolo	Citizen capitalism : how a universal fund can provide influence and income to all // Lynn Stout, Sergio Gramitto, Tamara Belinfanti
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oakland, California : , : Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc., , 2019 ©2019
ISBN	9781523095667 1523095660
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (185 pages)
Disciplina	362.582
Soggetti	Basic income Capitalism Free enterprise Citizenship
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Half Title -- Title -- Copyright -- Dedication -- Contents -- Preface Introduction: What If? -- Chapter 1: Lost Opportunity -- Chapter 2: Short-Termism and Corporate Governance -- Chapter 3: Introducing the Universal Fund -- Chapter 4: The Private Money Is There -- Chapter 5: How Citizen Capitalism Unleashes Corporations' Positive Power -- Chapter 6: How Citizen Capitalism Embraces Capitalist Principles -- Chapter 7: How Citizen Capitalism Mirrors American Values -- Chapter 8: How Citizen Capitalism Promotes Equality -- Chapter 9: How Citizen Capitalism Compares to Other Proposals -- Chapter 10: Why Not? Conclusion: What Next? Notes -- Acknowledgments -- Index -- About the Authors
Sommario/riassunto	"Corporations have a huge influence on the life of every citizen—this book offers a visionary but practical plan to give every citizen a say in how corporations are run while also gaining some supplemental income. It lays out a clear approach that uses the mechanisms of the private market to hold corporations accountable to the public. This would happen through the creation of what the authors call the

Universal Fund, a kind of national, democratic, mega mutual fund. Every American over eighteen would be entitled to a share and would participate in directing its share voting choices. Corporations and wealthy individuals would donate stocks, bonds, cash, or other assets to the fund just like they do to other philanthropic ventures now. The fund would pay out dividends to its citizen-shareholders that would grow as the fund grows. The Universal Fund is undoubtedly a big idea, but it is also eminently practical: it uses the tools of capitalism, not government, to give all citizens a direct influence on corporate actions. It would be a major institutional investor beholden not to a small elite group of stockholders pushing for short-term gain but to everyone. The fund would reward corporations that made sure their actions didn't harm people, communities, and the environment, and it would enable them to invest in innovations that would take more than a few months to pay off. Which is another reason corporations would donate to the fund—they could be freed from the constant pressure to maximize their quarterly share price and would essentially be subsidized for doing good. The authors demonstrate that our current economic rules force corporations to be shortsighted and even destructive because for most large investors, nothing matters but share price. The Universal Fund is designed to be a powerful positive balancing force, making the world a better place and the United States a better nation.' -- Provided by publisher

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