Record Nr. UNINA9910974026903321

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Titolo Equity Returns in the Banking Sector in the Wake of the Great Recession

and the European Sovereign Debt Crisis / / Jorge Chan-Lau, Estelle Liu,

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Washington, D.C.:,: International Monetary Fund,, 2012

ISBN 9781475577938

1475577931 9781475525458 1475525451

Edizione [1st ed.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (23 p.)

Collana IMF Working Papers

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Disciplina 332.1/52

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Lingua di pubblicazione

Inglese

Formato

Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico

Monografia

Note generali

Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references.

Nota di contenuto

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Sommario/riassunto

This study finds that equity returns in the banking sector in the wake of the Great Recession and the European sovereign debt crisis have been driven mainly by weak growth prospects and heightened sovereign risk and to a lesser extent, by deteriorating funding conditions and investor sentiment. While the equity return performance in the banking sector has been dismal in general, better capitalized and less leveraged banks have outperformed their peers, a finding that supports policymakers' efforts to strengthen bank capitalization.