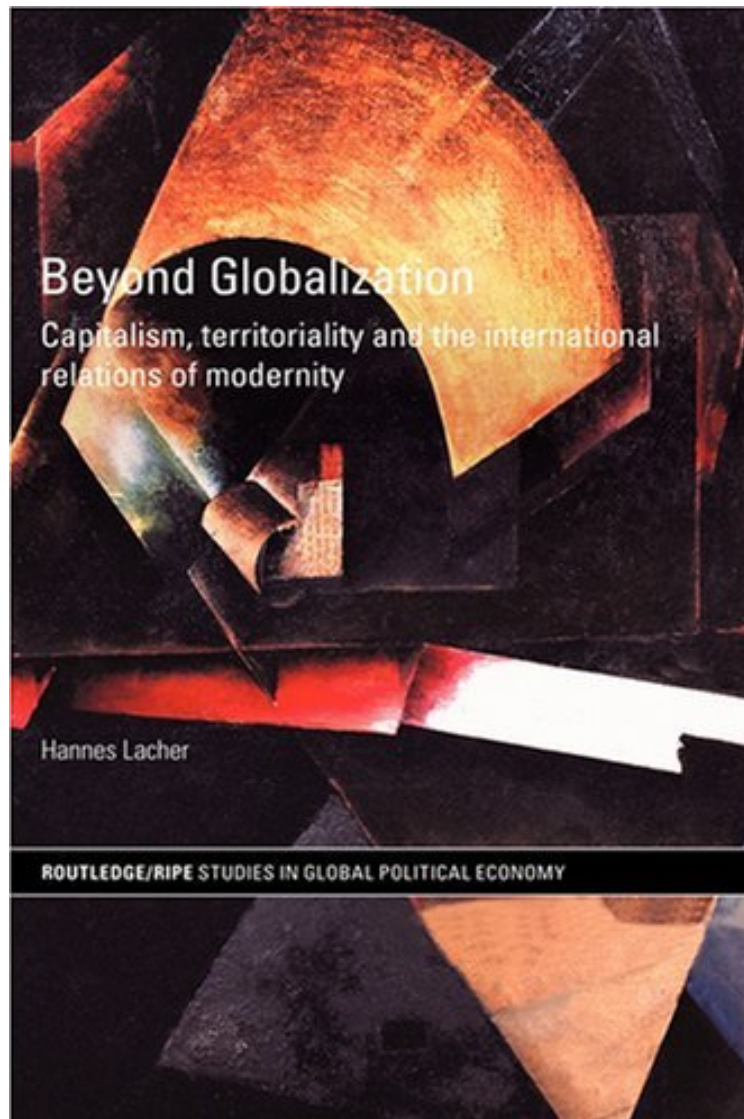


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Beyond Globalization: Capitalism, Territoriality and the International Relations of Modernity (RIPE Series in Global Political Economy)

Hannes Lacher

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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Capitalism and Nation-State By Doromber
The main topic of the book is the relation between capitalist mode of production and nation-state. As Lacher argues while capital definitely needs a state for reproduction it is not necessarily nation-state. The national form can not be directly derived from the nature of capital-relation. Because of that the origin of nation-state is to be found in precapitalist state-forms of Absolutist modernity. The other idea which seems to be more engaging is following. If we assume that nation-state can't be derived from national nature of capital in previous phases of capitalism it's impossible to consider that transnationalization and globalization of capital should automatically create a kind of transtational state because the state-form has its own logic of development. It can be said that Brennerian theory of development of capitalism is not without conceptual and historical problems. As James Blaut shown it is misleading in its emphasis on "internal" nature of capitalist development. Lacher understands that while the state is national capital accumulation is a transnational process. It makes Brennerian-Woodian idea of the birth of capitalism and nature of Absolutism problematic in such a way creating deep problems in the structure of explanation Lacher uses. But it's really possible to say that this account of nation-state formation is very deep and it would be incorporated in some form into some kind of a more global theory of capitalist development.

Hannes Lacher presents a new critical social theory of international relations that integrates sociology, history and political geography to understand the formation and development of modern international relations. Far from implying a return to state-centrist Realism, this essential new volume leads us towards a critical social theory of international relations that questions the prevailing conceptions of the modern international political economy as a collection of nationally bounded spaces more fundamentally than ever before. It also shows us that capitalist modernity itself was, from the beginning, characterized by the dualism of global economic integration and the fragmentation of political space, which actually stems from the divergent origins of capitalism and territorial sovereignty. This book will be of great interest to all students of historical sociology, political geography, international relations and political science.

About the Author Hannes Lacher is Associate Professor of International Relations at the Eastern Mediterranean University in Cyprus and currently a Visiting Professor at York University, Canada.