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Expatriate Managers

The Paradoxes of Living and Working Abroad

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Expatriate Managers: The Paradoxes of Living and Working Abroad examines one of the core protagonists of economic globalization and the management of MNCs. It addresses the open question of whether today's expatriates managers can be described as interculturally open and competent cosmopolitans or rather as pronounced anticosmopolitans. Building on intensive ethnographic research in China, Germany, and the US, it reveals the multiple and sometimes paradoxical ways in which expatriate managers deal with cultural differences at work and in private life. The book examines the global elite from an everyday perspective, showing that understanding the dynamics of a global economy requires probing into the lifeworlds, agency, and everyday arrangements of the social actors who put globalization into practice.

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