

Inward Foreign Direct Investment in emerging economies: A review and future research avenues

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Abstract

Given the surge in foreign direct investment (FDI) in emerging economies (EEs) during the last four decades, inward FDI has spawned a rich scholarly conversation on the topic. Based on the systematic review of 318 articles published between 1991 to 2018 on the topic, this review evaluates and synthesise the current research to propose future research avenues. The existing research is clustered as methods, motives, impact, and context aspects of inward FDI. Rich research opportunities exist on inward FDI in examining mechanisms (mediators) and conditions (moderators) influencing relationships between antecedents - inward FDI - outcomes relationships. Further opportunities exist in the role of the context and undertaking a multilevel analysis.

Keywords: Inward foreign direct investment, emerging economies, literature review