



Struggling Giants: City-Region Governance in London, New York, Paris, and Tokyo (Globalization and Community)

By Paul Kantor, Christian Lefevre, Asato Saito, H. V. Savitch, Andy Thornley

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Throughout the past thirty years a small number of city-regions have achieved unprecedented global status in the world economy while undergoing radical changes. *Struggling Giants* examines the transformation of four of the most significant metropolises: London, New York, Paris, and Tokyo. This volume analyzes the thorniest issues these sprawling city-regions have faced, including ameliorating social problems through public policies, the effect of globalization on local governance, and the relationships between local, regional, and national institutions.

Three critical themes frame *Struggling Giants*. The first is the continuing struggle for governability in the midst of regional governmental fragmentation. The second theme is how the city-regions fight to manage powerful political biases. Policy-making is often selective, the authors find, and governments are more responsive to economic exigencies than to social or environmental needs. Finally, these city-regions are shown to be strong economic leaders in part because they are able to change—although the authors reveal that pragmatism and piecemeal policy solutions can still prevail.

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