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Family Offices and Institutional Change in Europe: A Comparative Analysis

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Abstract

This study analyzes the changes in the institutional contexts of family offices in four major European economies. Drawing on institutional theory and considering capitalist varieties, it uses a qualitative content analysis of the newspaper coverage in the UK, Switzerland, Germany, and France from 2000 to 2018. The findings reveal significant changes in the regulatory environment in most countries, few changes in the normative dimension, and an increase in critical articles over time. They add to the literature on institutional change in and across countries by identifying new types of drivers of change in the context of family offices.

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