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Economic Geographies of Financialization

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Abstract

This article argues that financialization—shorthand for the growing influence of capital markets, their intermediaries, and processes in contemporary economic and political

life—generally moves to move finance in a way that is understood

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economic geography and is generating tensions between territorial and relational spatialities of geographic differentiation. Finally, we address the relative dearth of empirical work by examining the financialization of brands that have shaped the evolution of the brewing business and the development of new derivative instruments to hedge against weather risks. We conclude by arguing that our analysis of financialization demonstrates how finance occupies an integral position within economic geographies and reveals some of the sociospatial relations, constructions, and reach of existing and new actors, relations, and sites in shaping the uneven development of financialized contemporary capitalism.

Keywords: financialization political economy brands brewing weather derivatives

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