The relationship between FDI in developing countries and the progress of these countries towards human development has been a subject of controversy for decades in the development community. Adopting an interdisciplinary perspective combining insights from international investment law, human rights law and economics, this book offers an original contribution to the debate. Through the use of original empirical data the book demonstrates the impact of bilateral and multilateral investment treaties on the flows of FDI, and the impacts of FDI on economic growth and on human development. It explores how improvements to the legal framework of FDI and to the way investment agreements are negotiated can maximize the contribution of FDI to human development.

Selected Contents:

1. Introduction: Liberalization of Investment and Human Development Olivier De Schutter, Johan F. Swinnen and Jan Wouters

Part 1: The Development of International Investment Law: A Historical Overview

2. The Emerging Customary Law of International Investment Law Jan Wouters, Nicolas Hachez and Sanderijn Duquet

Part 2: Economic Consequences of FDI

3. FDI as an Engine for Economic Growth and Human Development: A Review of the Arguments and Empirical Evidence Liesbeth Colen, Miet Maertens and Johan F. Swinnen

4. Do Bilateral Investment Treaties Attract FDI to Developing Countries? Liesbeth Colen, Miet Maertens and Johan F. Swinnen

5. FDI and International Investment Treaties. An Analysis of the Heterogeneous Effects of BITs and DTTs Liesbeth Colen and Andrea Guariso

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6. The Host State: Improving the Monitoring of IIAs at the National Level Olivier De Schutter

7. The Capital-Exporting State: Ensuring Accountability of National Export Credit Agencies Matthias Sant’Ana

8. The Negotiation Framework: Improving the Framework of Negotiations on International Investment Agreements Philip De Man and Jan Wouters


Part 4: Directing Foreign Investment Towards Human Development

10. Conclusion: Reconciling FDI and Human Development Olivier De Schutter, Johan F. Swinnen and Jan Wouters

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November 2012: 350pp

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