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Craig Morris, Arne Jungjohann

Energy Democracy

Germany's Energiewende to Renewables

- Focuses on Germany as a role-model for other countries to follow
- Feeds into the broader discussion surrounding energy transition and the move from coal and nuclear to renewables
- Tackles the debate in an accessible and engaging style

This book outlines how Germans convinced their politicians to pass laws allowing citizens to make their own energy, even when it hurt utility companies to do so. It traces the origins of the Energiewende movement in Germany from the Power Rebels of Schönau to German Chancellor Angela Merkel's shutdown of eight nuclear power plants following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear accident. The authors explore how, by taking ownership of energy efficiency at a local level, community groups are key actors in the bottom-up fight against climate change. Individually, citizens might install solar panels on their roofs, but citizen groups can do much more: community wind farms, local heat supply, walkable cities and more. This book offers evidence that the transition to renewables is a one-time opportunity to strengthen communities and democratize the energy sector – in Germany and around the world.

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