

Preface

This book provides evidence on how FDI leads to knowledge and technology transfer towards domestic firms by paying attention to the role of multinational companies. The author presents a comprehensive empirical research conducted at firm level in the Turkish automotive industry. Using a representative sample of face-to-face in-depth interviews with top-executives and a survey of top level managers of domestic suppliers, the research analyzes the existence, channels, intensity and determinants, and the kinds of transfers that occur at both inter- and intra-firm level in the industry. The author contends that policies aimed at attracting FDI flows should be reexamined under the findings and insights of this study since it is a necessary—although not sufficient—condition to have an efficient absorptive capacity level and/or skilled human capital stock in order to benefit from these flows. This study has policy implications for the automotive industry as well as practical recommendations for the top-executives of companies and for the public institutions in emerging countries in order to conceive and implement science and technology policies in supporting the knowledge transfers.

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