



cloth • \$45.00
ISBN 9780674976054
280 pages • 17 illus.

Law and Macroeconomics

Legal Remedies to Recessions

Yair Listokin

“This book challenges the economic orthodoxy which has governed tax policy over the past four decades, and reclaims John Maynard Keynes’s fundamental insights for the twenty-first century. Listokin’s neo-Keynesianism can transform the tax code into a powerful force for both social justice and economic prosperity over the next generation.”

—Bruce Ackerman, author of *We the People*

After the economic crisis of 2008, private-sector spending took nearly a decade to recover. Yair Listokin thinks we can respond more quickly to the next meltdown by reviving and refashioning a policy approach whose proven success is too rarely acknowledged. Harking back to New Deal regulatory agencies, Listokin proposes that we take seriously law’s ability to function as a macroeconomic tool, capable of stimulating demand when needed and relieving demand when it threatens to overheat economies.

Listokin makes his case by looking at both positive and cautionary examples, going back to the New Deal and including the Keystone Pipeline, the constitutionally fraught bond-buying program unveiled by the European Central Bank at the nadir of the Eurozone crisis, the ongoing Greek crisis, and the experience of U.S. price controls in the 1970s. History has taught us that law is an unwieldy instrument of macroeconomic policy, but Listokin argues that under certain conditions it offers a vital alternative to the monetary and fiscal policy tools that stretch the legitimacy of technocratic central banks near their breaking point while leaving the rest of us waiting and wallowing.

Yair Listokin is the Shibley Family Fund Professor of Law at Yale Law School. He has been honored with a Milton Friedman Fellowship from the Becker-Friedman Institute at the University of Chicago and has served as a Visiting Professor at Columbia Law School, Harvard Law School, and New York University School of Law. His research has been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Fortune*, CNN.com, *Boston Globe*, and *Slate*.