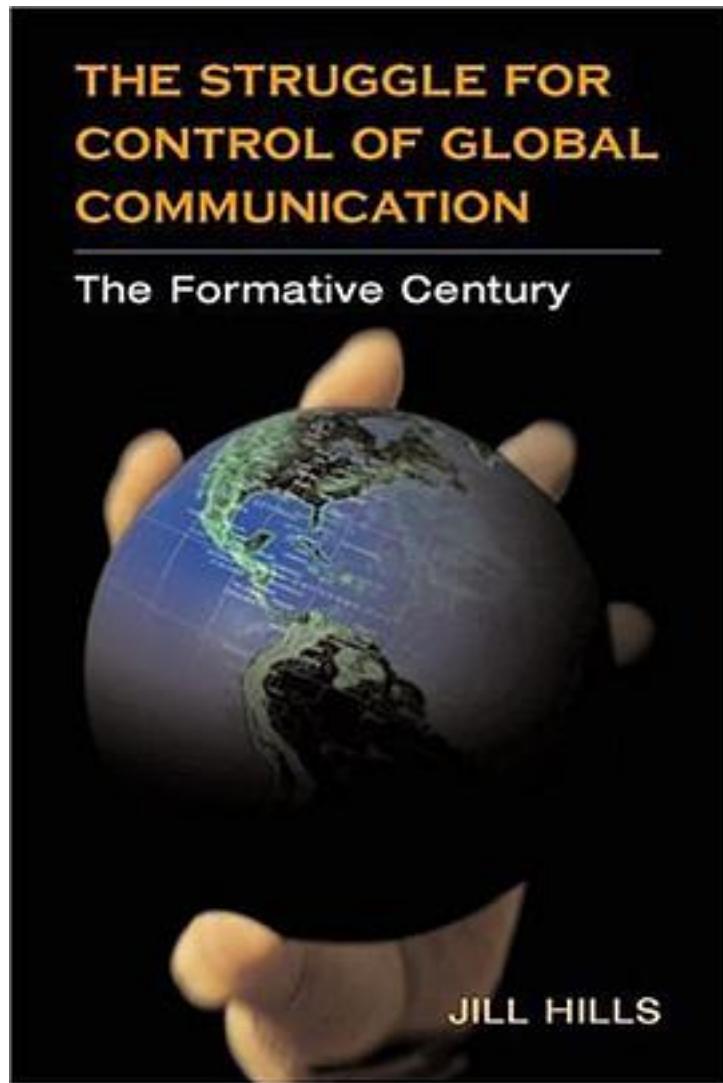


The Struggle for Control of Global Communication



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Tracing the development of communication markets and the regulation of international communications from the 1840s through World War I, Jill Hills examines the political, technological, and economic forces at work during the formative century of global communication. "The Struggle for Control of Global Communication" analyzes power relations within the arena of global communications from the inception of the telegraph through the successive technologies of submarine telegraph cables, ship-to-shore wireless, broadcast radio, shortwave wireless, the telephone, and movies with sound. Global communication began to overtake transportation as an economic, political, and social force after the inception of the telegraph, which shifted communications from national to international. From that point on, says Hills, information was a commodity and ownership of the communications infrastructure became valuable as the means of distributing information. The struggle for control of that infrastructure occurred in part because the growing economic power of the United States was hindered by British control of communications. Hills outlines the technological advancements and regulations that allowed the United States to challenge British hegemony and enter the global communications market. She demonstrates that control of global communication was part of a complex web of relations between and within the government and corporations of Britain and the United States. Detailing the interplay between U.S. federal regulation and economic power, Hills shows how communication technologies have been shaped by these forces and fosters an understanding of contemporary systems of power in global communications.

作者介绍:

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标签

评论

挺comprehensive的历史，写的19世纪后半期到二战的国际传媒的政治经济史（主要是电报和广播），重点关注英国（技术领先者和最开始的国际产业垄断者）和美国（后起霸权，对国际传媒的控制的转移对应世界霸权从英到美的转移）。讨论主题包括（1）不同时期的帝国商业意识形态（倡导自由贸易或保护主义）如何被策略性地在国内／国际的传媒产业竞争和管控中发挥作用，国际协议管控和单体民族国家的主权的关系；（2）帝国主义的军事政治扩张和传媒产业（有一章专门写南美洲的多方竞逐；作者很强调战争对于技术／产业发展的推动；路透社随帝国／传媒业的发展也是一个线索）；（3）垄断企业的兴衰交替，跨国企业／国家／政府／市场的dynamism。

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