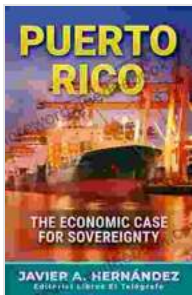


Puerto Rico: The Economic Case for Sovereignty

Puerto Rico is a U.S. territory located in the Caribbean Sea. It has a population of about 3.2 million people and a GDP of about \$105 billion. Puerto Rico is currently experiencing a severe economic crisis, with high levels of poverty and unemployment. Many Puerto Ricans believe that the island's economic problems are due to its lack of sovereignty.



Puerto Rico: The Economic Case for Sovereignty

by Emmanuel Farjoun

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Sovereignty is the right of a people to govern themselves. Puerto Rico is not a sovereign nation, and it is subject to the laws of the United States. This means that Puerto Rico does not have the power to make its own economic decisions. Instead, the U.S. Congress has the power to make economic decisions for Puerto Rico.

Many Puerto Ricans believe that sovereignty would allow Puerto Rico to make its own economic decisions, which would lead to greater economic growth and prosperity. There are a number of reasons why sovereignty could lead to economic growth in Puerto Rico.

1. **Sovereignty would allow Puerto Rico to set its own economic policies.** Puerto Rico is currently subject to the economic policies of the United States. These policies are not always in the best interests of Puerto Rico. For example, the U.S. Congress has imposed a number of austerity measures on Puerto Rico, which have led to cuts in government spending and services. These cuts have had a negative impact on the Puerto Rican economy.
2. **Sovereignty would allow Puerto Rico to attract foreign investment.** Foreign investors are often hesitant to invest in countries that are not sovereign. This is because they are concerned that their investments may be subject to expropriation or other forms of government interference. If Puerto Rico were sovereign, it would be able to create a more attractive investment climate for foreign investors.
3. **Sovereignty would allow Puerto Rico to develop its own economic niche.** Puerto Rico is currently heavily dependent on tourism and manufacturing. However, these industries are facing a number of challenges. For example, the tourism industry is being hurt by the Zika virus, and the manufacturing industry is being hurt by the rise of automation. If Puerto Rico were sovereign, it would be able to develop new economic industries that are not as vulnerable to these challenges.

Of course, there are also some challenges that Puerto Rico would face if it became sovereign. One challenge is that Puerto Rico would have to develop its own currency. This would be a complex and expensive process, and it could lead to inflation. Another challenge is that Puerto Rico would have to develop its own military. This would also be a complex and expensive process, and it could lead to conflict with other countries.

Despite these challenges, many Puerto Ricans believe that the economic benefits of sovereignty outweigh the risks. They believe that sovereignty would allow Puerto Rico to create a more prosperous and sustainable economy for its people.

Solutions to the Challenges of Sovereignty

There are a number of solutions to the challenges that Puerto Rico would face if it became sovereign. One solution is to create a currency board. A currency board is a monetary system in which the value of a country's currency is pegged to the value of another currency, such as the U.S. dollar. This would help to stabilize the Puerto Rican currency and prevent inflation.

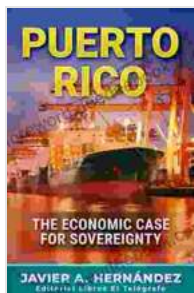
Another solution is to create a defense alliance with the United States. This would allow Puerto Rico to maintain a military without having to spend a large amount of money on its own defense. This would also help to protect Puerto Rico from external threats.

Finally, Puerto Rico could develop a more diversified economy. This would help to reduce the island's dependence on tourism and manufacturing. One way to diversify the economy is to invest in education and training. This

would help to create a more skilled workforce that can attract new industries to Puerto Rico.

The economic case for Puerto Rico's sovereignty is strong. Sovereignty would allow Puerto Rico to make its own economic decisions, which would lead to greater economic growth and prosperity. There are some challenges that Puerto Rico would face if it became sovereign, but these challenges can be overcome with careful planning and implementation.

The people of Puerto Rico have the right to determine their own political future. They deserve the opportunity to live in a sovereign and prosperous nation. The economic case for Puerto Rico's sovereignty is clear. It is time for the United States to support Puerto Rico's right to self-determination.



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