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**George Ritzer** is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland. He is the author of numerous books including *The McDonaldization of Society* (1993; 2008; 2011), *The Globalization of Nothing* (2003; 2007) *Globalization: A Basic Text* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2010) and the editor of *The Encyclopedia of Social Theory* (2005), *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2007), and *The Blackwell Companion to Globalization* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2007). His work has been translated into over twenty languages. He is the recipient on numerous awards including the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Contribution to Teaching Award.

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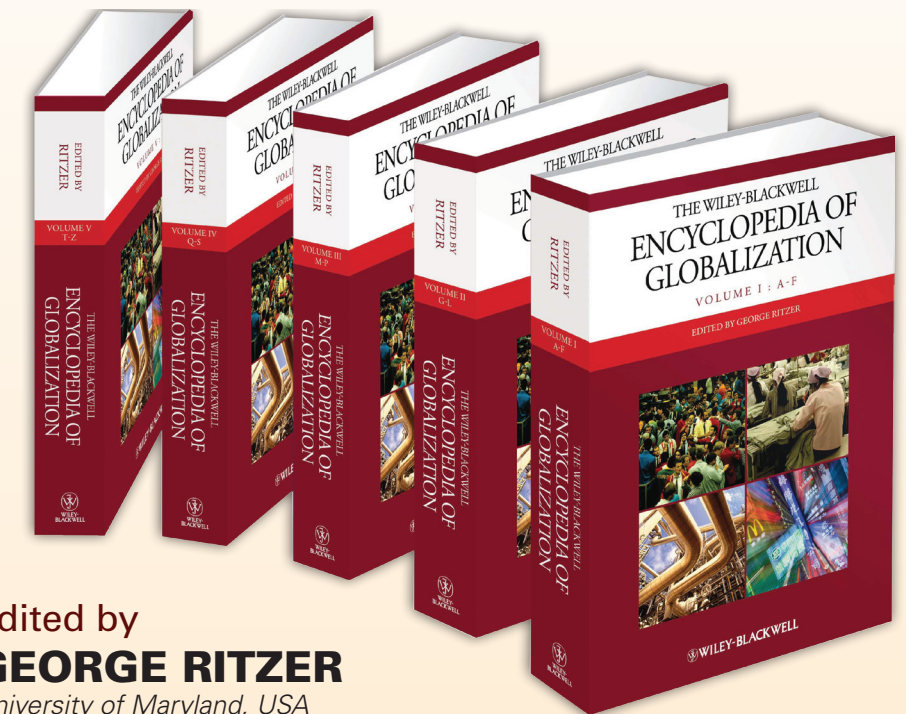
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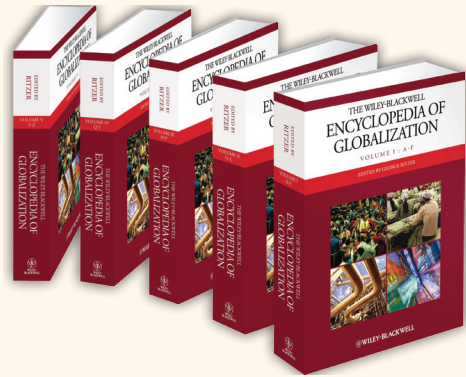
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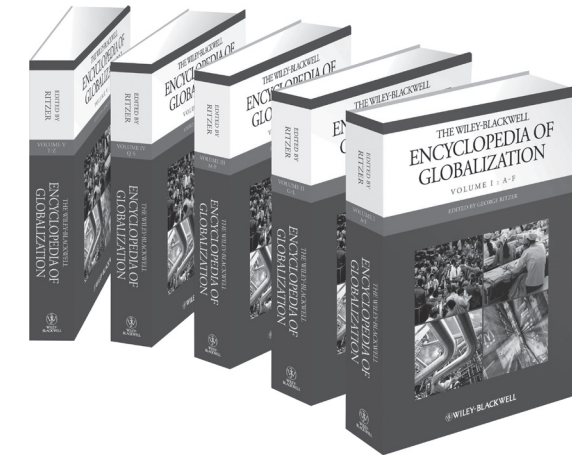
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