Will regulators rein in the risk?

Executive Summary

Regulators are watching so-called shadow banks much more closely in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, but how best to regulate money market funds, the market for repurchase agreements and other potentially risky activities remains hotly debated. The 2016 election could be a turning point for the monitoring of these non-bank financial institutions, if President-elect Donald Trump succeeds in dismantling large portions of the Dodd-Frank Act.

Some key takeaways:

- The $36 trillion shadow banking sector is growing, although some risky activities, such as securitization, are less widespread than before the crisis.
- There's a broad recognition that financial stability depends on the health of shadow banks as well as traditional institutions, but regulators and Congress are still evaluating the best methods for containing risk.
- Policymakers are keeping an eye on the growth of shadow banking in emerging markets, particularly in China.
Why Business Researcher?

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