Trust

Trust is to capitalism what alcohol is to wedding receptions: a social lubricant. In low-trust societies (Russia, southern Italy), economic growth is constrained. People who don't trust other people think twice before investing in, collaborating with, or hiring someone who isn't a family member (or a member of their criminal gang). The concept may sound squishy, but the effect isn't.

> Jerry Useem, The Atlantic, November 24, 2021

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