

# **Simplify and focus the Fed's job and we will progress**

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*From Mr Christopher Whalen.*

Sir, Roger Altman is very wrong indeed to say that there is no practical alternative to [giving the Federal Reserve further powers](#) to deal with “systemic risk”, something nobody can define but all fear (Comment, August 25) .

The clear alternative to Mr Altman's pathetic apology for our incompetent central bank is for the Fed to do its job and thereby lessen the sources of systemic “risks”. When we understand that systemic risk is plural, that is, arises from things such as excessive leverage and bad public policy, and that the solution is less, but more effective regulation, then it should be clear that the Fed is the source of – and not the solution to – the problem. Simplify and focus the job of the Fed and we begin to make progress.

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