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TECH TRADER DAILY

## Amazon's Ambitions Go Beyond Standard Monopolies: Report

By *Jon Swartz* Feb. 15, 2018 5:35 p.m. ET

The Nation just published a series of stories on monopolies including what it calls the most ambitious all: Amazon.com (AMZN).



Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos ILLUSTRATION: GETTY IMAGES

Amazon CEO **Jeff Bezos** has "designed his company for a far more radical goal than merely dominating the market," the left-leaning magazine reports. "His vision is for Amazon to become infrastructure that commerce runs on."

A central premise is that the Seattle-based company touts itself as a platform where entrepreneurs can "create and sell products," but Harvard Business School researchers found Amazon often ends up competing with third-party sellers' products.

What is more, citing ProPublica, the magazine says "about three-quarters of the time, Amazon placed products and those of companies that pay for its [warehousing and shipping] services in that position there were substantially cheaper offers available from others."

And as more third-party sellers sign up for those services, Amazon has repeatedly raised fees.

"It's not simply that Amazon does so much more than sell stuff—that it also produces hit television shows; publishes books; designs digital devices; underwrites loans; delivers restaurant orders; sells a growing range of products; manages the data of U.S. intelligence agencies; operates the world's largest streaming video platform; manufactures a growing array of products, from blouses to batteries; and is even venturing into new markets," The Nation reports.

Amazon did not comment for the report.

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