

Book Project - Summary

1. Title

The China Puzzle – The Rise of an Autocracy and Its Implications

2. Editor

Dr. phil. Miao-ling Lin Hasenkamp, associate professor (des.) at the UNESCO-Chair of Human Rights Education / Institute for Political Science, Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg, Germany

3. Summary of the Project

The rise of an autocratic China as the world's second largest economic power without fundamental political reform has challenged the basic tenets of democratic theory and seems to have launched a new "reverse wave" to demonstrate the strength and potential of authoritarianism with its normative power in the international system. For one thing, an emerging multipolar world has resulted in the building of new group dynamics with shared values and common interests (for example, the democratic world led by the United States and the European Union (EU), on the one hand; China, India and Brazil as the leaders of the developing world and a power diffusion of authoritarianism beginning with the China miracle, followed by Venezuela, Russia and Vietnam, on the other). The success and efficiency of the Communist regime to weather a variety of political, economic and social crises at different levels have further solidified the legitimacy of its authoritarian rule at home. Meanwhile, despite China's efforts to accommodate and dance with those mainstream discourses (democracy, human rights and the rule of law), the giant country has often encountered the limits of its autocratic rule demonstrated in many paradoxes, conflicts, discrepancies and anxieties. The key questions are: Is China changing the world and has become the leading role model of autocracy that counterbalances the spread of liberalism and democracy? Or is it still just a question of time for China to gradually transform itself into a sustainable and reliable democracy? This book examines both China's domestic conditions and developments and China's role in international affairs. It aims to decipher the China puzzle and detect if an alternative space of authoritarianism as a global or

regional phenomenon is coming into existence. If so, how does it work and what are its implications for international relations?

Providing an overview and assessment of the rise of China as global player in the twenty-first century, this volume has a unique format in combining scholarship from comparative political systems, IR and geopolitics, China studies, international law and human rights and education expertise for the elicitation of some disillusioning facts surrounding China's political, economic and human resource developments at home and its engagements and expansions abroad. The book is divided into two parts. The first part examines domestic conditions and reform efforts in China and covers issues ranging from political, economic and legal reforms, new forms of participation to educational reform addressing the issues of social justice. The second part dissects China's role in international relations with issues including US changing foreign policy toward China, China's relations with the EU and India and its engagements in Africa. The concluding chapter presents the summary of a mapping of the China model and its implications. These cross-disciplinary conversations about the Chinese model of development and its role in the world are accessible not only to non-specialist audiences, policy-makers and NGOs experts. They will also be of interest to students and scholars of involved disciplines.

4. Outline of the Volume

Chapter 1: Understanding The China Puzzle – A Rising Developmental Autocracy trapped between Transition and Authoritarianism Diffusion (Miao-ling Lin Hasenkamp)

Part I China's Domestic Affairs between Reforms and Stability

Chapter 2: Towards a Chinese Brand of Democracy? Models and Dynamics (Miao-ling Lin Hasenkamp)

Chapter 3: Politics of Participation and Changing State-Society Relations in Reform Era China (Ceren Ergenc)

Chap. 4: China's Economic Development between Authoritarianism and Liberal Market Economy (Yukon Huang)

Chapter 5: Managing Urbanization in China's Migration Policies (Jeremy Wallace)

Chapter 6: Addressing Social Justice in Education Policy Reform (Zhenzhou Zhao)

Part II China and Its Foreign Affairs

Chapter 7: Conceptualizing Foreign Policy Change: U.S. Representations of China from Bush to Obama (Dirk Nabers and Robert G. Patman)

Chap. 8: China and the European Union: The Dilemma between Economic Interests, Human Rights and the Rule of Law (Sven Gareis)

Chapter 9: China and India between Strategic Partnership and Power Concurrence: Motor for Regional Integration and International Cooperation? (Rupakjyoti Borah)

Chapter 10: China in Sub-Saharan Africa – Implications for Democracy Promotion (Earl Conteh-Morgan)

Chapter 11: Mapping China's Model – The Assessment of Authoritarianism Diffusion and Its Implications (Miao-ling Lin Hasenkamp)

5. Work plan

Workshop in Magdeburg, Germany: Presentation of chapters; In-depth discussion about the content and implications of “the China Model” (Nov. 27-29, 2013)

Submission of the chapters to the editor: Feb. 15, 2014

Submission of the whole manuscript to Palgrave/NY: March 3, 2014

6. Main Marketing / Selling Points

Main selling features: Scholarship in international relations, comparative political systems, international political economy, international law and human rights, democracy and human rights education, China and regional studies

Regions of interest for book marketing and selling: Europe, North America, East Asia and Africa