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**Foreword – Reform, Opening and Adjustments: Issues in Chinese
Public Policies and Foreign Relations (pp. 543-548)**

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(editorial, no abstract)

**China's African Policy – Increasing Importance and Active
Adjustments (pp. 551-608)**

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Abstract

As China's economy continues to grow, it wants to expand its markets and secure reliable supplies of resources in support of its economic development. Resource diplomacy therefore becomes a prominent feature of its modernization diplomacy. In turn, many African countries perceive political and economic ties with China an important asset which strengthens their international bargaining power, especially vis-à-vis the Western countries. African countries are also depicted as China's reliable political and economic partners. Chinese leaders have no intention of engaging in diplomatic and strategic competition with the United States and the European Union in Africa, but they certainly will not cooperate with Western governments in helping Africa because they want to push for multipolarity. China's approach to Africa has come under criticisms of neo-colonialism; and in recent years serious adjustments have been implemented. It is expected that Africa's significance within the Chinese foreign policy framework will continue to grow.

Keywords: *foreign aid, Taiwan issue, human rights, oil/resource diplomacy, Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, foreign policy adjustments*

JEL classification: *F21, F35, F53, F59*

On the Social and Political Effects of Opening in Rural China (pp. 609-636)

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Abstract

What are the economic, social and political effects when previously isolated villages are opened to the outside world? Scholars from different traditions expect different sorts of positive or negative affects to occur. Rural China presents an ideal environment to study this question empirically. Villages within rural China are in the process of being opened to the outside world in different forms, such as through being connected by road, the investment of agribusiness, or urbanization. Moreover this opening is being driven and shaped by different actors, including local residents, government and businesses. The different ways and actors that this opening occurs affect the nature of the opening, as well as its impact on the economic, social and political characteristics of the village.

Keywords: *China, rural development, marketization*

JEL classification: *O13, Q12, Q15, R58*

Recent Trends in Graduate Unemployment and Higher Education in China (pp. 637-661)

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Abstract

This paper reviews the policy debate over urban graduate unemployment in China, and how it is related to the expansion of the higher education sector. Several possible explanations for this phenomenon are discussed. Policy implications are drawn especially the possible strategies for improving the quality of education provided by universities.

Keywords: *graduate unemployment, urban unemployment, university reform*

JEL classification: *J60, I21*

Managing across Public-Private Partnerships: A Review of Implementation in China and Australia (pp. 663-698)

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Abstract

Public-private partnership is about governance in the contemporary public service and public interest in public administration with the participation of private sector in the market economy in establishing strategic partnerships in responsible economic management of public services. This article provides an overview of the implementation of public-private partnerships and how these evidences have been managed across China (including Hong Kong SAR) and Australia. It also depicts the key challenges of managing them in both countries given their different stages of maturity in implementation framework of regulation and evaluation.

Keywords: *public-private partnerships, public administration, China, Australia*

JEL classification: *H41, H44, L32, L33*

Siliguri: A Geopolitical Manoeuvre Corridor in the Eastern Himalayan Region for China and India (pp. 699-720)

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Abstract

Siliguri Corridor being part of Indian West Bengal is a diplomatic manoeuvre place located between Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India's Seven Sister States and Chumbi Hills in the Eastern Himalayan Region. Being located at the crossroads and centrally situated between all the neighbouring countries the landlocked Siliguri has an especially economic and political value for the regional countries. The corridor being in close proximity to China and India's Seven Sister States has added to the diplomatic mosaic of the Eastern Himalayan Region. The region consists of beautiful landscape, mountains and rivers which not only add to topographical diversity but also demographic mixture. Despite its geopolitical significance the area could not advance for not only being a northeastern border region but also for being a gateway to the Seven Sister States. Peripheral development of Siliguri Corridor is one of the reasons for illegal practices like smuggling and terrorism. In year 2002 Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh discussed a proposal to form a free trade corridor to simplify the goods transportation through

Siliguri Corridor but no such pact could be concluded that would have avoided the activities like smuggling and terrorism mainly through economic and diplomatic ventures.

Keywords: *India, Eastern Himalaya, China, “string of pearls”, corridor, economy, diplomacy, landlocked states, cultural mosaic*

JEL classification: *F51, F52, F59, O19*

Book Review (pp. 723-727)

Yanqing Jiang (ed.), *China: Trade, Foreign Direct Investment, and Development Strategies*, London: Chandos Publishing, 2014, 232 pp. + xiii.

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