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contents

research

Economic Reform and Performance: A Comparative Study of China and Vietnam

China and Vietnam initiated their economic reforms from comparable economic and social conditions and have followed similar approaches to reform and economic management. Both countries have made impressive achievements in their growth performance but their growth patterns have significantly diverged. China has far outperformed Vietnam in both the pace and efficiency of growth. The main factor appears to be the disparity in government effectiveness.

by Khuong M. VU 189

China-EU Relations: Strategic Partnership at a Crossroads

Since the mid-1990s, propelled by common economic and strategic interests, China and the European Union extensively engaged each other and cooperated quite closely on several international issues. However, differences are beginning to appear. It is not clear what kind of strategic partnership they can mutually agree upon. Both hold dear their respective national interests, and economic nationalism is likely to become more assertive in the future.

by Mingjiang LI 227

China's Policies towards Myanmar: A Successful Model for Dealing with the Myanmar Issue?

It is widely believed that China has considerable influence over the Myanmar military government. The two countries indeed have exchanges at both the central and local government levels. However, China faces a number of challenges with respect to Myanmar including illegal immigrants, drug trafficking, gambling, transnational crimes, smuggling, resource over-exploitation and environmental destruction. China's model of active engagement is borne out of existing realities on the ground.

by LI Chenyang and LYE Liang Fook 255

Macao's Gaming-led Prosperity and Prospects for Economic Diversification

Macao is at a crossroads. Due to the global financial crisis and visa restrictions imposed on visitors from the Mainland, casino revenues have declined sharply. The Government is being forced to re-examine its growth strategies. In the long run, this may turn out to be a good thing. The Territory needs to diversify its economy. Perhaps offering a wider range of tourist activities and developing facilities for business conventions is the solution.

by ZHANG Yang and Fung KWAN 288

comments and notes

China Attracting Global Talent: Central and Local Initiatives

China is in a better position to attract global talent than before. The pull factors, such as globally competitive salaries, better career opportunities and improved research and social environment, as well as the push factors — the global financial crisis — work to China's advantage. Local governments have joined the central government while state-owned enterprises and banks have joined universities and national laboratories in enlarging efforts to lure global talents.

by ZHAO Litao and ZHU Jinjing 323

Deliberative Institutions as Mechanisms for Managing Social Unrest: The Case of the 2008 Chongqing Taxi Strike

Is the development of liberal, multiparty democracy forthcoming in China, or is the country developing a new, independently determined "deliberative democracy" based on increased government transparency and expanded channels of political consultation without direct, competitive multiparty elections? The response to the 2008 Chongqing Taxi Strike provides an attractive approach for sub-national governments seeking to resolve major incidents of social unrest.

by Steve HESS 336

Has the QFII Scheme Strengthened Corporate Governance in China?

The China Securities Regulatory Commission established the Qualified Foreign Institutional Investor scheme to improve corporate governance in China's listed companies. Results from a survey of leading QFII players show that the scheme has been beneficial, but success has been limited because none of the players desires to assume an active management role.

by Michael N.T. TAN 353

The Structure and Roles of China's Party-state System in Industrial Relations: An Updated Review

The industrial relations system of a country is significantly affected by its socio-political system. The biggest difference between China and western countries in state structure is that there exists in China a "Party-state" system, which penetrates every aspect of the political, social and economic life of the country. As a sub-system of the broader social system, the industrial relations system is no exception.

by Zhining MA 370

China-ASEAN relations

Chronology of Events: October 2008 to March 2009 388

compiled by LIM Chee Kia

Documents: October 2008 to March 2009 395

compiled by LIM Chee Kia

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Driven by the collapse of the Maoist health system, China's health sector has undergone significant changes in the reform era. For almost two decades, issues of public health and healthcare were marginalised by a development agenda centred on economic growth. Beginning in the new century, a series of events in the microbial and political world — the SARS outbreak and rise of the fourth-generation leadership — have made healthcare an especially high priority in national development strategies. Over the past decade China's public health challenges have extended to food safety, drug regulation and biological security. The aim of this special issue is to provide a platform for China researchers to present new research and developments in this area and shed some critical light on China's evolving social and political systems.

Areas of interest for this special issue (March 2010) include, but are not limited to the following topics:

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Please feel free to contact the Guest Editor, Yanzhong Huang, at yanzhong.huang@shu.edu if you have any questions/concerns.

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