



ERASMUS UNIVERSITEIT ROTTERDAM

Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

CSC PhD 2022 Project Description

Application to: euccchinaoffice@eur.nl

Application deadline: Friday Mar 4, 2022

<i>School/Department:</i>	Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University
<i>Project Title:</i>	Business responses to equitable-income government policies in China
<i>Abstract:</i>	<p>China's transition from a highly planned to a more market-oriented economy has spurred the development of the private business sector. This long-term public policy shift has led to China's conversion from relatively autarkic localized production heavily leaning on agriculture to highly export-oriented production in the manufacturing industry, increasingly organized in innovative clusters and ecosystems of impressive scale. The rise of such innovative ecosystems has enabled Chinese firms, guided by the state, to move into ever more advanced sectors of the economy, including the realm of digital innovation.</p> <p>These developments have raised important questions like: Who stands to gain from the rising affluence levels accompanying these transitions? And: What is the role of China's private and state-owned corporations in ensuring an equitable primary distribution of wealth and income?</p> <p>Answers to these questions are not straightforward and warrant scientific study and reflection. On the one hand, by offering many Chinese citizens paid jobs, and helping them escape the toil and insecurity of subsistence farming, this transition has hugely improved the living standards of many Chinese citizens. While (extreme) poverty was still widespread three decades ago, it has now been officially declared a past stage. The average income and living standards of Chinese citizens has strongly grown as a result and has made China a middle-income country.</p> <p>At the same time, the gap between the most affluent and the most deprived persons has widened a lot as a result of more liberalized forces determining the levels and distribution of wages, profits, and other forms of business-mediated income accruing to Chinese citizens. These rising discrepancies between incomes and the resulting</p>



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	<p>social tensions have driven the Chinese government to seek and engage in policies that marry a more equitable income distribution to continued market-driven economic development.</p> <p>What remains uncertain is how businesses will respond to this revised public policy. For sure, neither the government nor firms are monolithic entities. Government influence manifests itself through a hierarchically stratified system, where central bodies may initiate and implement different income policies than local authorities. Policies may also differ by region, depending on the level of affluence and nature of local labor markets. Business responsiveness to public income policies may furthermore depend on their ownership structure, with private firms potentially differing from state-owned enterprises and with domestic firms behaving differently than internationally owned businesses. Other contingencies, including sectoral competitiveness, social imprints owing to firm age, and the realities of geographic markets, may also affect dissimilar business responses to the new income policies set by the Chinese government.</p> <p>In this project, we therefore seek to arrive at a deeper and more nuanced understanding of how Chinese enterprises will respond to the new policy imperatives of the state, and of how they can contribute to more equitable income development through the enactment of these responses.</p>
<i>Requirements of candidate:</i>	<p>Background: A solid background in management, international business, sociology, or economics (preferably in combination).</p> <p>Master degree: Completed, preferably cum laude, preferably from a top school</p> <p>IELTS Grade: 7.5 or higher</p> <p>GMAT (if applicable): 700 or higher</p> <p>Other: Strong and demonstrable interest in pursuing a scientific career after completing the PhD degree.</p>



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<p>Supervisor information:</p>	<p>Prof. Dr. Pursey Heugens Web: www.rsm.nl/pheugens Email: pheugens@rsm.nl</p> <p>Selected publications:</p> <p>Liu, W., Heugens, P., Wijen, F., & Van Essen, M. (2021). Assessing and extending the unique contributions of Chinese management studies. <i>Academy of Management Conference best paper proceedings</i>.</p> <p>Liu, W., Heugens, P., & Wijen, F. (2020). State political ideology as a corporate control mechanism: Evidence from China. <i>Academy of Management Conference best paper proceedings</i>.</p> <p>Wang, R., Wijen, F., & Heugens, P. (2018). Government's green grip: Multifaceted state influence on corporate environmental actions in China. <i>Strategic Management Journal</i>, 39: 403-428.</p> <p>Drees, J. & Heugens, P. (2013). Synthesizing and extending resource dependence theory: A meta-analysis. <i>Journal of Management</i>, 39 (6), 1666-1698.</p> <p>Essen, M. van, Oosterhout, J. van & Heugens, P. (2013). Competition and cooperation in corporate governance: The effects of labor institutions on blockholder effectiveness in 23 European countries. <i>Organization Science</i>, 24 (2), 530-551.</p> <p>Essen, M. van, Heugens, P., Oosterhout, J. van & Otten, J. (2012). An institution-based view of executive compensation: A multilevel meta-analytic test. <i>Journal of International Business Studies</i>, 43 (4), 396-423.</p> <p>Carney, M., Gedajlovic, E.R., Heugens, P., Essen, M. van & Oosterhout, J. van (2011). Business group affiliation, performance, context, and strategy: A meta-analysis. <i>Academy of Management Journal</i>, 54 (3), 437-460.</p> <p>Heugens, P. & Lander, M. (2009). Structure! Agency! (And Other Quarrels): Meta-Analyzing Institutional Theories of Organization. <i>Academy of Management Journal</i>, 52 (1), 61-85.</p>
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Dr. Frank Wijen

Web: www.rsm.nl/fwijen

Email: fwijen@rsm.nl

Selected publications:

Liu, W., Heugens, P., Wijen, F., & Van Essen, M. (2021). Assessing and extending the unique contributions of Chinese management studies. *Academy of Management Conference best paper proceedings*.

Liu, W., Heugens, P., & Wijen, F. (2020). State political ideology as a corporate control mechanism: Evidence from China. *Academy of Management Conference best paper proceedings*.

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Wang, R. & Wijen, F. (2015). Responding to complexity within a state logic: Environmental responsibility reporting in China; Best Paper Proceedings. *Academy of Management best paper proceedings*.

Wijen, F. (2014). Means versus ends in opaque institutional fields: Trading off compliance and achievement in sustainability standard adoption. *Academy of Management Review*, 39 (3), 302-323.

Ansari, S., Wijen, F. & Gray, B. (2013). Constructing a climate change logic: An institutional perspective on the "Tragedy of the commons." *Organization Science*, 24 (4), 1014-1040.

Wijen, F., Zoeteman, K., Pieters, J. & Seters, P. van (Eds.). (2012). *A Handbook of Globalisation and Environmental Policy, Second Edition: National Government Interventions in a Global Arena*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.



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English requirements: Please refer to Erasmus University China Center official website for your information www.eur.nl/eucc

Erasmus University China Center -> CSC Scholarship -> "I am a prospective CSC PhD Candidate" -> Table 1

Please note that each institute requires difference level of English, make sure to find the right institute. 2022 CSC-PhD programme information will be shared and updated soon!