



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

of Institut québécois des hautes études internationales (HEI)

State Capitalism in the New Global Political Economy

21 - 24 November, 2013

Université Laval

Quebec City (Québec)

Canada


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In collaboration with



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CALL FOR PAPERS

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The term State Capitalism was originally conceived to describe the Stalinist economic system. However, since the publication of Ian Bremmer's article (2009) "State Capitalism Comes of Age" in *Foreign Affairs*, State Capitalism has referred to a new reality based on the fact that the state/government has significant influence on economic activities as well as on the global marketplace.

In this context, State Capitalism could be characterized by a triple role of the state: the state performs as a "programmer" to guide economic activity; it acts as a "protector" to safeguard national economic interests; and it also plays the role as a "producer" to create national wealth through its state-owned enterprises (SOEs). However, the influences of State Capitalism in a country are not limited only to the domestic sphere. They often extend internationally, either through the globalization of SOEs, or through Sovereign Fund investments, or by means of other influences. Many recent acquisition projects by SOEs, often in strategic sectors, highlight the importance of understanding this new geopolitical investment which has created special relations between State Capitalism and the free market. They also raise the question of the need for updating national economic security concerns in the context of globalization. As the amount of Sovereign Funds reaches several trillion dollars, the controversy of this Fund is evolving. For many, these Funds do not necessarily always look for maximizing business performance, but sometimes they can also be accompanied by political and strategic ambitions of the respective states from where they originate.

The phenomenon of State Capitalism has gained prominence in recent years especially in several emerging markets. It appeared, firstly, because of multiple government interventions in the economy, and secondly, emphasis given to the globalization of their SOEs / economic organizations in international markets (China, Russia, Brazil, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, India, Korea, etc.). In January 2012, *The Economist* published another special article on State Capitalism and wondered if the new balance of power that is being built-up with the emergence of market oriented SOEs will pose a challenge to the liberal capitalist model.

The objectives of this conference are manifold: to examine the characteristics of State Capitalism in the world economy, especially in emerging countries, to assess its real impact on economic development, to identify its scope to other developing countries, and also to explore the major challenges that it poses to the liberal capitalist model in the world of free-markets.

THEMES

Although not exclusive, the main themes of the conference are:

- State Capitalism in the world: fundamentals, characteristics, similarities and differences
- Impact of State Capitalism in the economic development of countries
- Characteristics of the economic policies of emerging countries
- Forms of state intervention in economic activities
- Presence of SOEs in R&D
- Governance of SOEs in emerging markets
- Performance of SOEs
- Strategies and behaviors of SOEs in international markets
- Impact of foreign state investments on host countries
- Importance and influence of Sovereign Funds in the global economy
- Issues related to national economic security in the context of globalization
- Political, legal, diplomatic and administrative frameworks adopted by different countries to deal with foreign state investments
- Scope of State Capitalism in emerging countries to other developing countries
- Challenges of State Capitalism to the liberal capitalist model.

In addition, as part of the conference, topics specifically related to the situation in Quebec and Canada are also encouraged. In fact, Quebec and Canada, rich in natural resources and close to the U.S. market, are attracting more and more foreign state investors. The recent acquisition of Alberta's Nexen by Chinese CNOOC, the takeover of the Canadian company Progress Energy by Petronas of Malaysia, or the implantation of Jilin Jien Nickel Co. in Northern Quebec are all projects that have generated much controversy. Moreover, the Quebec and Canadian companies have to increasingly compete with foreign SOEs in international markets and have to deal with the growing influence of State Capitalism in many countries.

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IMPORTANT DATES

- August 25, 2013

The abstracts or full papers, in English or French, should be sent by email to info.confhei@fsa.ulaval.ca, not later than August 25, 2013. Two pages are required:

- the first page must indicate the title of the paper, as well as author name(s), title(s) and complete contact information;
- the second page must present an abstract (max. 500 words) specifying the purpose of the study, methodology and overall results.

Each submission will be evaluated by the scientific committee. The decision will be notified to the author(s) two weeks after receiving the abstracts or papers.

- September 30, 2013

The deadline for conference registration and payment of fees is on September 30, 2013. After the September 30, 2013 deadline, registration fees will be increased by 20%.

Registration Fees	
By September 30, 2013	After September 30, 2013
Student: 100 \$ CAD	Student: 120 \$ CAD
Others: 250 \$ CAD	Others: 300 \$ CAD

- October 20, 2013

The final text, in English or French, must be submitted not later than October 20, 2013 by email to: info.confhei@fsa.ulaval.ca.

Papers must be submitted in Word format. Total length must not exceed 20 pages, including the cover page, graphs, tables and references. Text format must be single spaced, Times New Roman, 12 points (normal font weight for text, bold for titles and subtitles), with 2.5 cm (1 inch) top, bottom, right and left margins. Titles must be numbered using the 1.1.1 format. References must be listed at the end of the document. In the text, references must indicate the names of the authors followed by the year of publication in parentheses, for example: (Smith, 2009).

CONFERENCE LANGUAGES

English and French

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