



HARVARD Kennedy School

ASH INSTITUTE

for Democratic Governance and Innovation

Asia Programs

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“CHINA GOES GLOBAL” CONFERENCE CONVENES ACADEMIC AND POLITICAL LEADERS

Two-Day Conference on Chinese Globalization at Harvard Kennedy School

Cambridge, Mass., – October 9, 2008 – Today Asia Programs of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation will host “[China Goes Global](#),” a two-day conference to be held October 9-10 at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Convening academics and public officials from 20 countries and 19 American states, this multi-national event will assess the globalization of Chinese firms and the resulting political and business implications.

Since 1978, China has experienced a dramatic rise to economic and political power. Not only is China the world’s most populous country, it now has the second largest economy, surpassing the U.S. as the largest recipient of foreign direct investments. Chinese firms are increasingly extending their brand presence beyond country borders; the country is now the fifth largest exporter and the third largest trader in the world. Yet, the country’s rise to power can be perceived as irregular and unsustainable in the long term.

Through more than 50 academic paper presentations, the “China Goes Global” conference will share current research on China’s potential to surpass the U.S. as the world’s next economic superpower and provide tangible recommendations to policymakers and academics. The event marks the formal kick-off of a three year multi-disciplinary research project on Chinese firms’ internationalization. One journal issue and one book are already in the process of being developed as a result of the conference.

Speaker topics include:

- Chinese global competitiveness and export performance

- Political transformation, institutional change, and globalization of China
- The impact of Chinese business and firms on global business environment
- China's policies towards acquisition of natural and strategic resources
- Outward Direct Investment (ODI) of China and Chinese companies

"We are witnessing a watershed moment in China's modern history," said Anthony Saich, faculty chair of Asia Programs and director of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation. "Since China's entry into the WTO seven years ago, the country has witnessed a paradigm shift in its relationship with other countries and in its government's relationship to Chinese citizens. In hosting this conference, we hope to spark dialogue and scholarly discussion on the global impact of China's internationalization."

"China Goes Global" is co-sponsored and organized by Asia Programs, Harvard Kennedy School; the Crummer Graduate School of Business and Rollins China Center, Rollins College; University of Potsdam, Germany; and the Center for International Business Education and Research, Georgia Institute of Technology.

About the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation

The Roy and Lila Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation advances excellence in governance and strengthens democratic institutions worldwide. Through its research, education, international programs, and government innovations awards, the Institute fosters creative and effective government problem-solving and serves as a catalyst for addressing many of the most pressing needs of the world's citizens. Asia Programs, a school-wide initiative integrating Asia-related activities, joined the Ash Institute in July 2008. The Ford Foundation is a founding donor of the Institute. Additional information about the Ash Institute and Asia Programs is available at www.ashinstitute.harvard.edu. Additional information about "China Goes Global" is available at www.chinagoesglobal.org.

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