



School of  
Sociology &  
Population  
Sciences

## SEPTEMBER SEMINAR

### Beijing 2016

Co-organized by  
**DFG Research Training Group 1613 Risk and East Asia,**  
University of Duisburg-Essen &

**School of Sociology and Population Studies,**  
Renmin University of China, Beijing

Organizers:

**Prof. Flemming Christiansen**  
University of Duisburg-Essen

**Prof. Yu Xianyang**  
Renmin University of China

Coordinators:

**Prof. Tao Liu,** University of Duisburg-Essen  
University of China

**Ms. Ren Danyi,** Renmin

University of China

**Ms. Liu Xin,** Renmin

September 26–28, 2016  
Renmin University, Beijing

**Professor Fan Ke**

**Professor Flemming Christiansen**

**Professor He Zengke**

**Professor Li Lulu**

**Professor Liu Tao**

**Professor Lu Yilong**

**Professor Tak-Wing Ngo**

**Professor Markus Taube**

**Professor Qin Ping**

**Professor Yu Xianyang**

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Renmin University, Cangshuguan (藏书馆) (4th floor)

8:30–9:00 **Opening speech**

**Prof. Yu Xianyang** and **Prof. Flemming Christiansen**

9:00–10:00 **Opening lecture** (in English)

**Prof. Tak-Wing Ngo**, *Macau University, Macau*  
Scalar Restructuring of the Chinese State

10:00–10:30 Tea break

#### 10:30–12:10 **Panel 1**

10:30 **Zou Yu**, *PhD student, University of Duisburg-Essen*

“Decentralization and Institutionalized Cooperation and Forest Self-governance in China, Theory and Experiment”

10:50 Commentator: **Professor Qin Ping**, *Department of Energy Economics of School of Economics, Renmin University of China*

11:10 Discussion

11:20 **Sun Dawei**, *PhD student, Renmin University of China*  
*Booming and Fading Away of Linhu Country*

11:40 Commentator: **Prof. Flemming Christiansen**, *University of Duisburg-Essen*

12:00 Discussion

12:10–13:30 Lunch at Huixian Restaurant, Renmin University (central dining hall, 3rd floor)

#### 13:30–15:10 **Panel 2**

13:30 **Chen Zelin**, *PhD student, Renmin University of China*

Structure-Mechanism-Function: The Theoretical Framework of Social Governance Studies

13:50 Commentator: **Prof. Lu Yilong**, *Renmin University of China*

14:10 Discussion

14:20 **Hollie Gowan**, *PhD student, University of Leeds*

The construction of gender roles and relationships in faith-based organisations in China: an examination of their impact upon women’s agency and social engagement.

14:40	Commentator: <b>Prof. Liu Tao</b> , <i>University of Duisburg-Essen</i>
15:00	Discussion
15:10–15:40	Tea break
15:40–17:20	<b>Panel 3</b>
15:40	<b>Connor Malloy</b> , <i>PhD student, University of Duisburg-Essen</i> Urbanizing Practices: A Sociological Study of Post-Relocation Residential Spaces in Urban China
16:00	Commentator: <b>Prof. Fan Ke</b> , <i>Nanjing University</i>
16:20	Discussion
16:30	<b>Liu Xin</b> , <i>PhD student, Renmin University of China</i> The End of Rural Postman: Emotion in Interpersonal Relationship Shift
16:50	Commentator: <b>Prof. Yu Xianyang</b> , <i>Renmin University of China</i>
17:10	Discussion
	Dinner at Huixian Restaurant, Renmin University (central dining hall, 3rd floor)

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Renmin University, Cangshuguan (藏书馆) (4th floor)

### 9:00–12:00 **Panel 4**

- 9:00 **Ge Ningjing**, *PhD student, University of Duisburg-Essen*  
Anti-corruption effort and social values in post-transitional China
- 9:20 Commentator: **Professor He Zengke**, *Beijing University*  
**Professor Li Lulu**, *Renmin University of China*
- 9:50 Discussion
- 10:00 **Xu Xiangwen**, *PhD student, Renmin University of China*  
The path of new collectivism in rural welfare governance
- 10:20 Commentator: **Prof. Markus Taube**, *University of Duisburg-Essen*
- 10:40 Discussion
- 10:50 Tea break
- 11:20 Final discussion
- 12:00 Lunch at Huixian Restaurant, Renmin University (central dining hall, 3rd floor)
- 18:30 Duisburg dinner at Yi He Ya Yuan Chinese Restaurant, Beijing Roast Duck

## **Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 28**

9:00–11:30     Visit to the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI)

11:45–13:30     Lunch at Yan Fu Restaurant

## **Introduction of programs**

**Tak-Wing Ngo**

### **Scalar Restructuring of the Chinese State**

#### **Abstract**

Recent studies have re-examined the implications and conceptual limitations of the theory of state rescaling in non-Western contexts. While the reconfiguration of state spaces has taken place in many countries and regions, the forces driving a state to reconfigure its spatial power and the forms of state rescaling appear to be contingent upon specific contexts. This article analyses the driving forces behind the scalar restructuring of the Chinese state, and discusses how the logic as well as the form of rescaling differ from the post-Fordist experience of the West. Using special development zones as an example, this presentation argues that development zones in China represent new political spaces that enable local state actors to navigate between multiple scales. Local states can manipulate the costs and benefits between a zone and its hosting locale by taking advantage of their overlapping jurisdictions across different scales. Zoning has become a scaling strategy from below. Local authorities have deployed various zoning technologies to empower themselves by manipulating the existing scalar order to their own advantage.

**Yu Zou**

### **“Decentralization and Institutionalized Cooperation and Forest Self-governance in China, Theory and Experiment”**

#### **Abstract:**

Since 2003 China started forest privatization reform aiming to improve the livelihood of the local residents as well as to protect the forest more efficiently. However, the reform cannot solve all the problems, such as the social conflicts and ecology destroying in forested areas. Why is privatization not a solution? In fact, forests are one of the Common-Pool Resources (CPRs), which are jointly owned by a certain number of people and it is costly to exclude potential beneficiaries obtaining benefits from the resource. The problem of governing the CPRs is how to make the people who face the

collective action dilemma to cooperate in terms of up keeping the CPRs in a sustainable way. The current literature refers some factors which have a positive impact on cooperation, for instance, communication, costly sanction, heterogeneity of the group, leadership and culture etc.

This project seeks to answer two research questions. The first asks, what factors impact the collective cooperation with regard to forest governance in China? The second considers the problem of incomplete property rights in China. This situation begs the question: what factors impact the cooperation between such users? The significant factors will be determined using experimental methods.

**Keywords:**

Collective forest reform, insecure property rights, common pool resources, self-governance

**Author:** Yu Zou is a PhD student at the Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen. She finished her Bachelor study in Finance at Jilin University, China and gained her master degree in Professional Public Decision Making at the University of Bremen. Her doctoral project's topic is "Decentralization and Institutionalized Cooperation and Self-governance in China, Theory and Experiment", in which she will investigate what kinds of institutional arrangements may promote a long-term cooperation in related to govern the forest in rural China through an experimental method. E-Mail: yu.zou@uni-due.de

**Sun Dawei:**

**Booming and Fading Away of Linhu Country**

**Abstract:** Rapid urbanization is happening in today's China, as the society is advancing with the passage of time there is a boom of *New town* in recent years. Urbanization is bringing up profound changes in rural areas which will impress the fate of farmers, the rural society and even the China's rural economy development. This study is focusing on the social change process from traditional country to *New town*

during the urbanization, to display which parts of the traditional country have faded away, which parts boomed and the mechanisms of it. Specifically, during the urbanization have the elements of traditional country including the old streets, buildings, lifestyles, values and cultures faded away or transited to *New town* and boomed there, then what's really causing all the changes. Taking Linhu country as an example this research has found that organized mechanism of modernization is a feasibility and applicability approach to understand the rural areas transformation basing on the market mechanism and industrialization logic.

**Keywords:** society change, rural China, organized mechanism of modernization

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**Chen Zelin**

**Structure-Mechanism-Function: The Theoretical Framework of Social Governance Studies**

**Abstract:** Nowadays Social Governance has been a popular issue in academic circle of China, yet as a whole, studies about it are obviously divided into different subjects and topics, resulting in its low theoretical level. This research explores the existing orientations and main topics during 2010 and 2015 in China, then tries to make a theoretical framework called the *Structure-Mechanism-Function Model*. And the author takes Tiancun Street, which belongs to Beijing City, as an example to explain the value of the above framework in connecting the governance theory and empirical world.

**Key Words:** Social Governance; Structure; Mechanism; Function

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**Hollie Gowan**

**The construction of gender roles and relationships in faith-based organisations in China: an examination of their impact upon women's agency and social engagement.**

This doctoral project is concerned with the impact of Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) upon the social engagement and agency of Chinese women and how this is connected to wider social reform in contemporary China. In the context of this project, Faith-Based Organisations are 'non-profit associations that have faith-based motivations, hiring policies and funding sources, but do not do 'religious work' [...] but offer social services such as education, health or charitable work' (Hamrin, 2003) in the pursuit of a 'harmonious society' (McCarthy, 2013: 49). The relevance of these organisations lies not only in their role of social service to the public, but also in the new opportunities they are creating for the social engagement and agency for Chinese women. This doctoral project is a comparative ethnographic study of two organisations – one Buddhist and one Christian - with each offering a unique and different avenue from which to examine gender and development within the Chinese context. Therefore, this paper will outline the way in which 'gender' and 'development' is conceptualised, and understood, in this doctoral project; how this will impact upon the examination of gender roles and relationships in the work and rhetoric of these organisations, and the ethnographic research methods that will be employed during fieldwork. This will lead into a discussion on the concepts of 'Transpositionality' and 'Transevaluation' (Li Xiaojiang 2001) and how these will impact me as a researcher not native to the country being studied. In doing so, this paper will begin to explore how these organisations could be viewed as 'vehicles of engagement' in the mobilisation of Chinese women within the wider project of gender, development and women's empowerment in contemporary China.

**Key Words:** Gender; Agency; Development; Social Engagement

**Author:** Hollie Gowan is a PhD student working under the joint supervision of Professor Emma Tomlin and Dr Caroline Fielder at the University of Leeds. She received her First Class Honours Undergraduate degree in *Sociology with Theology & Religious Studies* at the University of Leeds in 2012 and was awarded the Leslie

Barnard Prize for her extended dissertation. She achieved her MEd in *Educational Research & Practice* at the University of Cambridge whilst working as a teacher in a secondary school in the UK. She began her PhD studies as a joint project between the East Asian Studies and the School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science at the University of Leeds in 2015. Alongside her studies, Hollie continues to work as Editorial Designer for an education journal at the University of Cambridge, as well as recently becoming a research assistant for a Development Research Cluster at the University of Leeds. E-Mail: [jh09hgg@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:jh09hgg@leeds.ac.uk)

### **Connor Malloy**

#### **Urbanizing Practices: A Sociological Study of Post-Relocation Residential Spaces in Urban China**

**Abstract:** In addition to China's recent and continued development of spaces of globalization and elite consumption, urban spaces of differentiation and marginalization have also proliferated (Ma and Wu 2005:7). The social, economic, and physical juxtaposition of these spaces underscore development goals to modernize the cityscape as well as the citizenry through the infrastructural and social redevelopment of these spaces. The (re)development of differential and marginal spaces, and subsequent relocation of residents, entails major social, economic, and cultural shifts for the local population as they are relocated to new sociospatial and institutional contexts. As such, residential relocation as a mechanism of social development requires actors to maintain, adapt, or adopt practices and strategies, creating a reflexive relationship between actors and space, whereby the social and institutional context influences, and is influenced by, local actors. Few studies have deeply engaged China's ongoing urbanization project in terms of the relationship between relocated residents and residential contexts, specifically in terms of shaping practices and strategies on an individual and community level. This dissertation aims to examine local social dynamics of China's urban development and the remaking of spatial margins.

**Key Words:** residential relocation, urbanization, practices

**Author:** Connor Malloy joined the DFG Research Training group in the autumn of 2015. He received Bachelor of Arts (International Studies) from the University of Regina in 2013, after which he spent an academic year studying Chinese Language at Jilin University before getting his Master of Arts (Modern East Asian Studies) at the University of Duisburg Essen in 2015. Connor's current research interests include China's urbanization, the relations between urban and peri-urban space, and identity and ethnicity. In September of 2016 Connor will begin ethnographic fieldwork in post-relocation residential communities in Hohhot, China.

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**Xin Liu**

### **The End of Rural Postman: Emotion in Interpersonal Relationship Shift**

**Abstract:** Since the reform and opening up, Chinese society has entered a period of rapid transformation, people's life has changed dramatically. Progress of science and technology, convenient transportation, transformation of communication technology unceasingly changes people's communication way. Letter based traditional communication media has been replaced by mobile phones, Internet and other modern communication media. The communication between people is more efficient. Modern and timely communication tools to replace the letter of this time delay communication. As a service at the grassroots level, serving a group of the public, as a connecting people and people, people and social communication media plays an important role in the society. But with the development of transportation and communication technology, great changes have taken place in society, the role of rural postman has also undergone a fundamental change. Behind this change, our concern is that changes in the role of the rural postman has changed people, the relationship between man and society strength and depth. This paper attempts to explore the technical means for the node, with traffic communication technology invention and creation of traditional society in the community of solidarity, the close relationship between the mutual attachment of the change, and through the role change of the rural postman tries to reveal the influence of the internal mechanism of interpersonal relationship in rural society.

**Keywords:** rural postman; interpersonal relationship; emotion

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**Ningjing GE**

**Anti-corruption effort and social values in post-transitional China**

**Abstract:**

“Anti-corruption” has always been a core task of the Chinese Communist Party. Since the foundation of the PRC, a rather integrated and rigorous anti-corruption system has been gradually established, after the 18th CCP National Congress, it is further refined. Meanwhile, according to the supreme prosecutor, corruption crimes show new situations and new features. So this research delves into the question “Why corruption practice is deemed ‘wrong’ by almost everyone but meanwhile widespread? How is the boundary between morality and immorality, right and wrong, acceptable and unacceptable negotiated, shaped and changed by different social agents?” Existing studies on the cause of corruption fit into either institutional or value perspective, but rarely both. In order to fill in this gap, this research attempts to construct a framework analyzing the root cause of corruption in China considering not only institutional environment but also social value system and argues that with the structural changes brought by modernization and individualization, it is necessary to explore the root of corruption with the assumption that cadres are subjects with comprehensive characters as both rational and social actors.

In the book “cadres and corruption”, Lv Xiaobo raised the idea that analyzing corruption from the perspective of organization. Beck discussed the reconfiguration of all kinds of “boundaries” of social life in his reflexive modernity theory. Inspired by their works, this research takes “how is the morality red line drawn by organizational actors” as the starting point of theoretical consideration. By analyzing different principles of moral judgment held by various subjects (especially the cadres), this research intends to detect how are the boundaries between moral and immoral, right and wrong, acceptable and unacceptable negotiated and shaped in

contemporary China; whether reflexive modernity theory is applicable to explain China's situation; whether the value judgments around corruption phenomenon could reveal some universal principles of human society.

This research will be built on the data mainly collected from newspapers and ethnographic fieldwork. Critical discourse analysis and institutional analysis will be adopted as methodological approaches.

**Keywords:**

Cadre corruption; Institutions; Values; Organizational integrity; Involution

**Author:** Ningjing Ge, joined the DFG Research Training Group 1613 "Risk and East Asia" as a doctoral student in May, 2015. In 2010, she gained Bachelor's degree in Public Administration and Law at Tianjin University of Finance & Economics, China. In January, 2013, she obtained Master's degree in Public Administration at University of Macau, China. Her Master thesis defined and discussed the mechanism of "legal but illicit practice" based on literature review and the relationship theory. Her current research focuses on the value shift and institutional changes coming along with individualization of China. E-Mail: ningjing.ge@stud.uni-due.de

**Xu Xiangwen**

**The path of new collectivism in rural welfare governance**

**Abstract:** China is a typical collectivistic country. The collective plays a pivotal role in the supply of rural welfare for a long time. However, the establishment of market system and the household contract responsibility system breaks the social basis of rural collective participates welfare governance, which has caused some issues of rural empty nest, discrete, depressed etc. become increasingly prominent, also has caused a high degree attention from all walks on rural welfare governance. In recent years, land-based, some regions of China are trying to re-collectivize and re-organize the rural society, and showing a significant difference in collective characteristics with the period of the planning system, that is, the new collectivism. This research is based on the practice mode of a rural village in southern Jiangsu, exploring the evolution,

features and behavior logic of new collectivism in rural welfare governance, on this basis, furtherly revealing the significance of new collectivism path to resolve the current rural welfare governance issues in China.

**Key words:** new collectivism; rural welfare; welfare governance; assets construction; developmental social welfare

**Author:** Xu Xiangwen, male, PhD candidate in Sociological Theory and Method Research Center of Renmin University of China. His main research direction is social policy and social work. He had published 12 papers in *"Hebei journal"*, *"Gansu social science"*, *"East China University of Technology (Social Science Edition)"*etc. E-Mail: xiangwen-xu@qq.com

## Introduction of invited mentors

**Prof. Dr. Fan Ke**, Professor at Research Institute of Social Anthropology, School of Social and Behavior Sciences, Nanjing University, he is also the professor at the Johns Hopkins-Nanjing Center and the Director of the Research Institute of Social Anthropology in the Nanjing University. His interest includes Ethnicity and nationalism, Political Anthropology, Identity politic, Anthropology and history, East Asian Muslims, Transnationalism and globalization. He is the member of the editorial board of the following journals: *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*, *Asian Anthropology*, 《民族研究》(Ethno-National Studies), 《开放时代》(Open Times), 《中国研究》(China Studies), 《中国人类学评论》(Chinese Anthropological Review). His major publication includes: 2017 《思与行——认同政治、文化、历史》(*Thinking and Practicing: Identity Politics, Culture, and History*) 北京: 社科文献出版社 (Beijing: Sheke Wenxian Chubanshe ); 2015 《在野的全球化——流动、信任与认同》(*Globalization at Large: Mobility, Trust, and Identity*) 北京:知识产权出版社 (Beijing: Zhishi Chanquan Chubanshe), 288 pages. (The book was awarded as one of the best 10 books of 2016 in Social Sciences ); 2012 《他我之间——人类学语境里的“异”与“同”》(*Between Them and US: Difference and Similarity in Anthropological Perspective*) 北京: 中国社会科学出版社 (Beijing: Zhongguo Shehui Kexue Chubanshe), 305 pages. E-Mail: fankanthr@gmail.com

**Prof. Dr. Flemming Christiansen**, Professor, Sociological Institute and Institute of East Asian Studies and Speaker of the Postgraduate Research Training Group "Risk and East Asia" at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Professor in Chinese Studies and Director of the National Institute of Chinese Studies and Deputy Director, White Rose East Asia Centre, University of Leeds 2006–2011. Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies, University of Leeds 1995–2005. Lecturer in Chinese Politics, University of Manchester 1989–1995. Member of the editorial boards of *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* (Hamburg); *China Information* (Leiden); *Journal of Agrarian Change* (London); *Asian Politics and Policy* (Washington and Beijing); and the book series *Chinese Worlds* (Routledge, London). Main publications include: *Chinese Politics and Society. An Introduction*.

London, 1996 (with Rai); Chinatown, Europe. An Exploration of Overseas Chinese Identity in the 1990s. London, 2003; The Politics of Multiple Belonging. Ethnicity and Nationalism in Europe and East Asia. Aldershot, 2004 (with Hedetoft); Encyclopedia of Modern China, 4 volumes. Farmington, 2009 (with Pong et al.); and Village Inc.: Chinese Rural Society in the 1990s. Richmond, 1998 (with Zhang). E-mail: [flemming.christiansen@uni-due.de](mailto:flemming.christiansen@uni-due.de)

**Prof. Dr. He Zengke:** He Zengke is a Professor and Director of Academic affairs at PKU Center for Chinese Politics. Prof. He got his PHD on Political Science in Peking University in 1991. He was a visiting scholar at Bradford University and Nottingham University in UK (1997-1998) and a trainee for Executive Development Courses at Duke University (2005). He was also a Visiting Fellow in Harvard University from August 2014 to March 2015. His research interests include corruption and anti-corruption, political reform and government innovation, civil society, social reform. He has published more than 170 academic papers and more than 10 books around the above research fields. He is the author of *Civil Society and Democratic Governance* (Beijing: Central Compilation & Translation Press, 2007). His latest book is *Study on Chinese Social Governance Reform* (Beijing: Law press, 2013).

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**Prof. Dr. Liu Tao:** Liu Tao is a junior professor for the comparative sociology and Chinese society at the Institute for the East Asian Studies and the Institute of Sociology of the University of Duisburg-Essen. He is also a member of the Association of German Professors with Chinese Origin in Germany. He has collaborated with the Research Centre of the State Council (SC) of the PR China on the welfare reform and social governance in China. His major research interests include the social policy, social



protection, welfare state, pension reform, elderly care etc. in China and Germany. E-Mail: tao.liu@uni-due.de

**Prof. Dr. Li Lulu:** Li Lulu is a professor at the School of Sociology and Population Studies, Renmin University of China. He is Vice Chairman of Chinese Association of Sociology, Deputy Dean of School of Sociology and Population Studies, Renmin University, Dean, Professor and Doctorial Student Advisor of Department of Sociology, Renmin University. His main research fields include social stratification, modernization and organizational research. Main publications include: Study on Social Indicator Theory; Social Structure and Changes in Modernization Course in Today's China; China's Institutions-Powers, Resources and Exchanges, Private Enterprise Owners in Social Transition, etc. E-mail: [lilulu@ruc.edu.cn](mailto:lilulu@ruc.edu.cn)

**Prof. Dr. Lu Yilong:** Professor of School of Sociology and Population Studies, Renmin University of China. Main research directions are: the Huji system, rural society and culture, law and society, water resource and society. Published *The Huji System* (The Commercial Press, 2003), *Peasantry China* (Renmin University of China Press, 2010), and other 6 works. Also published more than hundred papers on Chinese academic journals.

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**Prof. Dr. Tak-Wing Ngo:** Tak-Wing Ngo is Professor of Political Science at the University of Macau. He specializes in state-market relations, regulatory governance, and the political economy of development in East Asia. He holds a PhD from SOAS (London), and worked as an anti-corruption official and journalist before joining the academia. He has taught at Leiden University, and was the holder of the IIAS Chair in Asian History at Erasmus University Rotterdam. He is the editor of the refereed journal *China Information*, and the editor of the book series *Governance in Asia* (NIAS Press) and *Global Asia* (Amsterdam University Press). E-Mail: [twngo@umac.mo](mailto:twngo@umac.mo)

**Prof. Dr. Qin Ping:** Ping Qin received her Ph.D. in environmental economics in 2009, at University of Gothenburg, Sweden. She visited Resources for the Future

from 2009 to 2010. Now she is an associate professor at Department of Energy Economics of School of Economics, Renmin University of China and associate editor of SSCI journal of *Environment and Development Economics*. Her research interests cover environmental and resource economics, energy economics, experiment and behavior economics. Her papers were published in such journals as *Land Economics*, *Resource and Energy Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*. E-Mail: pingqin@ruc.edu.cn

**Prof. Dr. Markus Taube:** Professor for the Economy of East Asia/ China and Director of the IN-EAST School of Advanced Studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Co-Director of the Confucius Institute Metropolis Ruhr. Founding Partner of THINK!DESK China Research & Consulting (Munich). “One Thousand Plan” Professor of Tianjin City in China (2013–2015) and “Outstanding Professor” of Nankai University (2014–2016). Member of the Advisory Board of the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS) (Berlin). Guest Professor at University of Wuhan (2002–2005). Main research interests: institutional economics, economic development and systemic transition, global economic integration of developing economies, theory of the multinational corporation. E-Mail: markus.taube@uni-due.de

**Prof. Dr. Yu Xianyang:** Professor of Sociology, the School of Sociology and Population Studies, Renmin University of China. Member of China Public Relations Association and of China Chain Store & Franchise Association. Visiting Scholar at Moscow State University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Tübingen, and University of Duisburg-Essen. His main research interests include organizational sociology, organizational behavior, enterprise development strategy, franchise model, etc.

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