

The Renewal of China's Authoritarianism through Public Deliberation

A Public Lecture presented by Professor Baogang He
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In the last decade there have been many political and administrative reforms in China which have given rise to a redefinition and restructuring of Chinese authoritarianism. Authoritarian rule in China is now permeated by a wide variety of deliberative practices. These practices combine authoritarian concentrations of power with deliberative influence, producing the apparent anomaly of *authoritarian deliberation*. The increasing use of deliberative practices stabilizes and strengthens authoritarian rule, leading to deliberative authoritarianism, an advanced form of consultative authoritarianism, in contrast to the *electoral authoritarianism* of many “incomplete” democracies. This paper will examine the source, mechanism, and effect of deliberative authoritarianism in China.

Thursday 9th September 2010, 10:30 am
Senate Room
All Welcome, Free Admission

Professor Baogang He is the author of *The Democratization of China* (Routledge, 1996), *The Democratic Implication of Civil Society in China* (Macmillan, 1997), *Nationalism, National Identity and Democratization in China* (Ashgate, 2000, with Yingjie Guo), *Balancing Democracy and Authority: An Empirical Study of Village Election in Zhejiang*, (Central China Normal University Press, 2002, with Lang Youxing), *Multiculturalism in Asia* (Oxford University Press, 2005, co-editor with Will Kymlicka) and *The Search for Deliberative Democracy* (Palgrave, 2006, co-editor with Ethan Leib), *Federalism in Asia* (Edward Elgar, August 2007, co-editor with Brian Galigan, Takashi Inoguchi.). He has co-authored and co-translated several books in Chinese (including John Rawls's *A Theory of Justice*), and has published 29 book chapters and more than 34 international refereed journal articles in English. He has established an international reputation as an authority on Chinese democratization, NGOs and local governance, and has gained international recognition in the fields of international relations and Asian Studies. Much of his empirical research has been linked to broader theoretical concepts such as civil society and democracy, and has attempted to test, modify and develop theoretical hypotheses.

Reaching beyond the academic world, Professor He has also sought to be of service to public and governmental organizations. He was invited by the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) and the Ministry of Civic Affairs (MCA) in the PRC as an international expert to review the UN funded program ‘China Rural Official Training’ in August 2001; invited by the UNDP and the MCA to investigate an urban community construction project (December 2002, and invited by the Danish International Development Agency as an official delegation member to examine a political reform project in China in November 2003 and to examine the procedures for direct township elections in August 2004. He has served as an advisor to local governments for village elections, to the Wenling government for deliberative institutions, and to the Dejiang community for deliberative discussion forum.