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Making sense of democracy and governance in the Asia-Pacific

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REGIONAL OUTLOOK

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1.

been taken seriously. The World Bank, on the other hand, was beginning to recognise that 'one size fits all' solutions based on 'rule of thumb' economics may not be the best policies to promote.[6]

Rodrik summarises the 'Augmented' Washington Consensus as the original ten items, plus: corporate governance; anti-corruption; flexible labour markets; WTO agreements; financial codes and standards; 'prudent' capital-account opening; non-intermediate exchange rate regimes; independent central banks/inflation targeting; social safety nets; and targeted poverty reduction.[7] Just as the original reforms required, or rather assumed, a depoliticised state, these reforms again assumed the neutrality or insulation from local power structures and political interests. The state itself, at least the institutions of the

m dern sation the wu d a a p a a d m a e with mac s c ca the s .'[16] But by the late 1990s, Adam Przeworski and Fernando Limongi had a a as ed s e u s du b s abu s c u ed e e a ce with the c u e the 052 .6

ah m e eu sX b l c. P l cal sX e sX r e p sX-C l d Wa e a e ded c lasX e mesX r acc da ce w e dem c a c a b esX, e l ac e e , a d c r u ed r e adject esX sX r w a e eme X dem c ac e l esX a p e ec e mesX we e l ac r r - m sX e mesX we e c lasX ed w a ew e r e able a sX ma r r a be e , e be sX m. Tu sX, e e a e ma h b d e mesX a l e sX mew e e be wee a a a sX m a d dem c ac asX e h l d elec r sX b l ac c l l be esX, a l e r a e l e med c m p e e elec a l a a a .[31] Re me c lasX ca r a a a h b dsX esX l ed r a p l e a sX b- c lasX ca r sX, w e c r e desX r d l d l be a l dem c ac , m l a -d m a ed dem c ac , p -dem c ac , a l dem c ac , a d a ade dem c ac .

Te cu r esX r d ded r sX a u sX l abe l ed r -be wee ca e we e e a ded asX p a dem c a c beca sXe w l e e ma h a e h adu r esX a l sX a e, m l p a c m p e r eu l a elec r sX e we e asX ea ed asX a l ed, m p e ec l be a l u asX ma l dem c ac esX beca sXe e r c r r , r d l d e elec a l c m p e r , d d r esX emb l e a l be a l -dem c a c e mesX u r d r WesX e r sX c e esX. He ce, sX ce e WesX e r l be a l -dem c a c e mesX e p esXe ed a r ma e l l aded be c ma b w c a l l e a u sX u a ed dem c a c e mesX ad be u d ed, e e e mesX we e m e l esX dem c a c de p e d r h w c l sXe l e a pp ma ed e WesX e r sX a da d. M r ma l sX de r sX dem c ac we e a esX ame me r sX c e e r e l ec ed e am r e h w e p esXe a esX ma da ed ma e decsX r sX r be a c esX we e esX, r sX e esX dema dsX - .e., dem c ac mu sX be e p esXe a e, decsX e a d esX p r sX e.[32] M r ma l sX de r sX dem c ac cu l d r e w dsX, adeu a e l accu r w a L p sX e called a e mesX e ec e esX - w a h asX asX bec me r w asX u p sX p e ma ce u c mesX

C lsX ce a d dem c ac

r l ma ece dsX sXr sX, c l sX ce a d dem c ac h a e bec me c l sXe c r ce p u a l c m p a r sX[33] C l sX ce sX e sXee asX e e a ab l e e p l a r e l a e we ce u 'wa e' dem c a sX a r a d dem c a c c r sX l da r dsX sX ed ab e. A u h m sX sX l asX w r r c r em p a c l sX ce ma e a l ea sX m p l c asX m p r sX abu l be a l dem c a c c l , sX p emsXe ca be c a l l e ed. C l sX ce sX e ad e sX ed asX a r h sX ed e A ab S p r 2011 a d be e a e 'c l u ' e u l r sX EasX e r E p er e ea l 2000sX, a d e Ce a l -EasX e r E p ea dem c a c e u l r sX 1989-91. B c l sX ce wasX asX sX r r e r e wa Ge ma We ma Re u b l c w e esX pp mma d e e sX ce a l u p sXe ab l ed e emsX u p sX sX e dem c ac a d p a ed e wa sXe u e p we b e Na sX[34] Na c Be me h asX a u ed a ' d a Ge ma sX u p ed r -1.4 ( )2.1 (.3 (( )8.3 (sX)-4.1 (a ( )-1

understate the importance of domestic conditions, make the quality of democracy a function of the success of political and socio-economic reforms. Indeed, good governance and democratic governance may not be a common feature of the Asia-Pacific region. Emmerson, for example, suggests that both democracy and effective governance do not go together in Southeast Asia, but that trade-offs appear between the two and become desirable.[54] Good effective governance is largely a matter of measuring performance outcomes, while democratic governance is a matter of measuring participation inputs.

3. Effect e esia d e mac n e Asia Pacific

support to the argument that the more legitimacy is based on the output side of the political system.

Finally, Morlino, Dressel and Pelizzo's work on the qualities of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region found that the democratic dimensions were only loosely connected to one another, there was no funnel of causality, and that participation and competition were not the main drivers of democratic qualities.[60] These findings were exceptional because they inferred that while Asia-Pacific citizens talk about democracy, they are often thinking about good governance. Satisfaction with democracy was more closely related to [illegible] representativeness, and Asia-Pacific citizens care more about good governance (defined as decisiveness and responsiveness) than democracy and representation.

implications for democracy and governance. These [illegible] are [illegible] macro conditions that are [illegible] and [illegible], and [illegible] occupation, colonial legacies, religion, [illegible] pluralism, the [illegible], the [illegible], bureaucratic capacities, constitutions, party systems, electoral systems, elections, and the judiciaries.

[illegible] few years) while aiming to improve government effectiveness and increase meritocracy, [illegible] assumptions of good governance necessarily being liberal democratic.[89] In fact, Chinese officials have attempted to learn from the Singapore model of improving governance while maintaining authoritarian rule.[90]

Howard and Smith examine the evolution of 'think tanks' in China, their relationship to the CCP, and [illegible] the [illegible] the new emphasis on [illegible] effective [illegible] of governance.[91] They argue that despite the level of political [illegible] that think tanks are subject to, it would be incorrect to devalue the [illegible] the development of [illegible], albeit in restricted form, within the Chinese political context. Indeed, the existence underscores a dramatic change in attitudes towards the relationship between the state and society. [illegible] domestic political issues. Significantly, the state [illegible] to improve governance by re-establishing the role of experts in policy formation; the existence [illegible] intellectualism has [illegible] been apparent under the current regime. This adds to the evidence of David Shambaugh's earlier argument that the CCP has engaged in political learning, adapting and attempting to improve its governance in order to [illegible] their hold on power.[92]

Although the Chinese think tanks may [illegible] to what may be acceptable independent [illegible] intellectual [illegible], the challenges [illegible] the [illegible] institutions remain. In his examination of the PRC's treatment of [illegible] as a governance issue, [illegible] examines how governance [illegible], in particular [illegible] has been [illegible].[93] The local [illegible] regulations has [illegible] from place to place; and what is regarded as acceptable can [illegible]. Although China has [illegible] beliefs, [illegible] practices [illegible] regulations that members claim [illegible] their same beliefs; local government [illegible] the action [illegible] elsewhere; and [illegible] can [illegible] concerned [illegible] China's [illegible] evidence [illegible] public presence. Such actions cause uncertainty and tension [illegible] community and because the number [illegible] of the CCP members, this could be [illegible] China's [illegible] political stability.

5. Conclusion

This paper has explored some doubts and assumptions about 'good governance'. In particular, the belief that all good things go together – the promotion of good governance promotes democracy and development, and vice-versa – was questioned. It was also asked whether the [illegible] corruption, the promotion of good governance, and the consolidation of democratic regimes is justified. While critics claim that the 'post-Washington consensus' has [illegible] replaced market with institutional fundamentalism', it has increasingly come to be recognised that one-sized policies might not fit all situations, particularly in so-called developing countries. Thus, increasingly there have been calls for [illegible] better governance focused on localised solutions, specific [illegible] needs.

have been impacted by military and non-democratic [illegible] in the Asia-Pacific with various [illegible] in Burma (Myanmar), Fiji, and [illegible]. The combined effect [illegible]. The [illegible] a.)-0747 -1 Tc 0.01951.6 ()21 [illegible] (b)4 (a.

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