

Master Thesis

“The Internationalization Pattern of Chinese Central State-Owned Firms”

Background

Outward foreign direct investment (OFDI) from emerging countries has boomed in recent years, leading to a greater relative share of total OFDI, across both flows and stocks. Among these countries, China's OFDI has increased substantially from \$ 2.7 billion in 2002 to \$ 196.2 billion in 2016, as China has emerged as the second largest OFDI source countries (Ministry of Commerce China, 2017). Besides, China has further promoted two national strategies- “One belt, one road” Initiative and “Made in China 2025”. It can be tremendously interesting to see how the central state-owned firms align their foreign expansion strategies with regard to the national strategies, as they are reorganized as national policy instruments (Li, Cui & Lu, 2014).

Introductory Readings

- Buckley, P. J., Clegg, L. J., Cross, A. R., Liu, X., Voss, H., & Zheng, P. (2007). The determinants of Chinese outward foreign direct investment. *Journal of international business studies*, 38(4), 499-518.
- Luo, Y., & Tung, R. L. (2018). A general theory of springboard MNEs. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 49(2), 129-152.
- Li, M., Cui, L. & Lu, J (2014). Varieties in state capitalism: Outward FDI strategies of central and local state-owned enterprises from emerging economy countries. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 980–1004.

Tasks and Goals

This master thesis is closely related to the current research of the chair and you will conduct your analyses in close collaboration with our doctoral students. The thesis will be based on case study methodology to examine the internationalization routines of Chinese Central state-owned firms. You will especially analyze annual and financial reports and track changes in the subsidiary portfolios over time. Based on the data that you gather, you will undertake empirical analyses to uncover internationalization patterns of these firms.

Requirements

- Good English skills and preferably Chinese skills
- Good knowledge of Microsoft Excel
- Independent, reliable, and diligent working style with an eye for detail
- Successful participation in the lecture *Strategies in Multinational Enterprises (MNEs)*

Details

- Supervisors Prof. Dr. Thomas Hutzschenreuter and Jian Hu, MSc
- Start Flexible / As of now
- Working time 6 months

Contact

If you are interested in writing your thesis at our chair or have questions to this topic, please contact Jian Hu (jian.hu@tum.de). Please send an email, including a tabular CV and current transcript of records (as one PDF file), to apply for a master thesis. We are looking forward to working together with you!