

Waseda Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies

RISING POWER AND RULING POWER WHO'S MORE REVISIONIST? THE CASE OF CHINA AND THE U.S.

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Venue: Building 9, Room 917
Waseda Campus



Free Attendance

No registration required

Abstract

Foreign policy scholars distinguish offensive and defensive foreign policy (Schweller, 1994), imperialistic and status-quo states (Morgenthau, 1948), satisfied and dissatisfied states (E. H. Carr, 1946), revolutionary and status-quo states (Kissinger, 1957). But for power transition theorists, rising powers want more influence on world affairs, while existing ruling powers resent and prevent it from happening. So rising powers are bound to be revisionist, while existing ruling powers are status quo powers. Is this right? How do we define “revisionism” in international relations? How can we identify revisionist states? In this talk, Professor Hu introduces a definition and classification of revisionism, which helps us to put things into perspectives. He argues that the binary assignment of states into the revisionist and status-quo category is unhelpful. It would be more productive to assess the extent to which a country is revisionist or status-quo oriented. A country can strive to improve its share of the distribution of benefits in international relations while try to preserve the existing international order. A country can be both pro-status quo and revisionist, depending on issues and situations.

Professor Richard Weixing Hu

Richard Hu is Professor and Head of Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Hong Kong. Professor Hu was educated in both China and the United States. He received a Bachelor of Law in international politics at Peking University in 1983 and then went to the United States for postgraduate studies. He completed an M.A. in International Relations from School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), the Johns Hopkins University, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from University of Maryland, College Park. He has had a distinguished teaching and research career in both the United States and Hong Kong. He was a John M. Olin Fellow at Harvard University, an IGCC Fellow at University of California, San Diego, and a CNAPS Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. He had taught at University of California, San Diego, Monterey Institute of International Studies, and University of Hong Kong, where he has taught since 1997. He has published widely in academic journals on Chinese foreign policy, policymaking in China, Sino-U.S. relations, East Asian international relations, Asian regional integration, and cross-Strait relations issues. He was a consultant to Hong Kong SAR Government on the Pearl River Delta cooperation, and the President of Hong Kong Political Science Association 2012-14.