

BRICS Research Topics

BRICS Cooperation: The Cornerstone for a Pluralistic World*

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Abstract: The changing global environment has enabled the BRICS and other emerging powers to play a more important role in the global political and economic landscape. The flaw of the global governance system is that it is mainly based on Western concepts of universality and treats the entire world as a single entity. homogeneous entity, denying the existence of different values and governance systems. The world has encountered Western universalization, which has led to the backward development of many developing countries. Because developing countries cannot meet the requirements set by the West and cannot obtain development funds, it is achieved through a single dimension. The practice of world universalization is a product of colonization and still serves as a tool of neo-colonialism, destroying diversity and denying the prospects for common prosperity. The BRICS countries entered the global governance system in the hope of building a pluralistic world based on the realities of all countries. yŷ The BRICS countries are committed to strengthening, promoting and protecting multilateralism and becoming the cornerstone of building a pluralistic world. Driven by the BRICS spirit of openness, inclusiveness, cooperation and win-win, the BRICS countries are committed to dialogue with other emerging market countries. Establish partnerships to promote common development and prosperity. The expansion of the BRICS mechanism to developing countries and emerging economies allows them to choose institutions they are willing to cooperate with, reducing their dependence on Western-dominated and rigid international financial institutions.

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It is not a meaning (a world composed of independent units), but the interweaving of several different worldviews in the current pattern of

power differences." Pluralism is "a way of looking at reality, which is consistent with the 'one world hypothesis' ' In sharp contrast, the latter believes that there is only a single fact, while the former believes that there are a variety of cultures, opinions or subjective representations." Ndlov -Gatseny believes that the concept of "one world" has serious problems for human beings. flaws, and further refers to this phenomenon as the paradigm of "oneness", which is based on the firm belief in oneness, that is, one God, one country, one knowledge, one people, one culture, one A language, an identity, a sexual orientation, a religion, a way of knowing, an economic system, a political system, a moral order, monogamy, are also founded on the belief in bounded sovereignty and citizenship. Based on the rigid concept of identity, this is undoubtedly restrictive and exclusive.

Escobar argued that a universal view of the world and its governance contrasts sharply with "the plurality proposal, which acknowledges the existence of multiple realities but does not 'correct' the idea of a single reality in the name of a truer description." point of view". 5 Therefore, pluralism does not question the common standards and widely studied phenomena that help us manage our daily affairs, such as measurement of distance, weight, temperature, etc. On the contrary, according to Vasconcelos and Martin point of view. What needs to be pointed out in particular is that pluralism refuses to accept the "universalization of universalist thought" as a complete truth, under which there are no other worlds. Pluralism only hopes to put forward such an idea, that is, There are other sciences and knowledges, and as Blazer, de la Cadena, Escobar and others assert, pluralism is a tool that can be an alternative to the "one world" fallacy and is relevant to those who want to break the "one world" fallacy. "World" resonates with other worlds in the narrative and "means a shift from one-world concepts such as 'globalization' and 'global studies' to concepts centered on plurality, a multiplicity of interconnected, common constitute but

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It is believed that "the current international environment is characterized by increasing competition and confrontation among major powers, trying to change cross-regional integration initiatives and eliminate new threats to the international security order."

The situation is further complicated by the current epistemological regimes controlled by sponsored research, knowledge commercialization, international aid agencies and lobby groups, which continue to pursue a neocolonial agenda tinged with epistemic violence, exploiting the "universal" vision of "one world". "World" knowledge inculcates policy positions in the global governance system, rejects and limits any voice that contradicts one's own, or makes a set of knowledge systems scientific and universal through the endorsement of "universal" scientific methods, while treating other knowledge as The system is a non-scientific knowledge system, or simply an indigenous knowledge system, although all sciences are indigenous from the source. Craigazu notes that "international relations not only excludes difference through the disciplinaryization of epistemology, but also rejects other ontologies. Ontologies, especially those belonging to indigenous peoples, and relegating them to the

category of myths, legends and beliefs" This is a game of power. Craigazu shows this power game and points out that international relations as a It is a discipline that should produce knowledge about the world by bringing together different viewpoints from all over the world. However, sadly, this discipline is controlled by the West, which not only ignores theoretical contributions from all over the world, but also opposes them, resulting in only one knowledge system dominating the world . Affairs. As Craigazu said, "The impact of this situation is not just theoretical. It will have a huge impact on the way we deal with reality and the political arrangements we make, and ultimately affect our daily lives. " There is a close relationship between knowledge, power and development. According to Jacobs and Asokan, "knowledge promotes development in many ways, either as a productive resource or as a contribution to education, scientific research and industrial technology. It is an indispensable input, either as a catalyst for social change and economic development, or as the foundation of civilization and cultural values, promoting social unity and harmony, which is an important foundation for development."

Likewise, Bernard concludes: "Colonialism, past and present, has profoundly shaped the contemporary world: inequalities within and between countries, racial hierarchies, state forms, patterns of international trade, and patterns of financial flows, and The structures of international organizations are influenced by colonial activities and colonial legacies

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There is nothing wrong with studying how to inculcate policy positions. However, it becomes a problem when only one knowledge system enjoys the privilege of having an audience, while the other knowledge system is devalued. Ngkaweni said about the current situation commented on the situation: "We must pursue pluralism as an idea against hegemony so that solutions can be found within the totality of human experience. This includes the abolition of colonialism and its stifling of knowledge systems in the Global South, not Let colonialism continue to exist under the guise of universality." Despite undergoing reforms, the structure of global governance still bears the mark of history. This is a story of sectarian interests, hegemony and colonization under the cover of the banner of universality. The history of socialism and universalism believes that there is no other in the world, thereby perpetuating neocolonialism. The BRICS countries are in a position to change the status quo and have become the cornerstone of moving towards a pluralistic world.

Three BRICS cooperation: the cornerstone of a pluralistic world

When the global governance system was established, European colonialism was still active. Most southern countries were under European colonial rule, including today's BRICS members such as South Africa and India. Brazil gained independence in the early 19th century, and Russia has since have not suffered colonial rule. This point is mentioned to illustrate that not all BRICS members participated in the design and construction of the global governance system as independent countries in 1945. Chasse's words quoted earlier mentioned that the United Nations was founded by Dominated by European and American countries, this dominance aroused widespread repercussions among representatives of European colonies at that time. At that time, two current BRICS members, India and South Africa, joined the United Nations as colonial outposts. Their expressions may have been affected by the control of the metropolitan countries at that time. Therefore, the concept of global governance does not take into account diversity, but is based on the European and American ideal world model, that is, "one world", a

world without others. Since most countries strive to get rid of the politics and colonial rule, Ideological imprisonment, and the need to change the Western-dominated global governance system, the 21st century has witnessed the transformation of the world into a multi-polar structure based on a more equitable and pluralistic world order with multilateralism at its core. In this process The BRICS countries have become important participants in multipolarity and global governance, seeking to reshape the global governance system

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The concept of glory carries the idea of building a better world than the one created by the victors of World War II since 1945."y

4. The BRICS countries and their member states as a collective

Critics are skeptical of the BRICS. For example, they criticize that the BRICS member states are "geographically dispersed, their economies are at different stages of development, and there are large ideological differences." y However, it is this diversity that makes the BRICS The relationship between the BRICS member countries is of practical significance. In other words, the BRICS countries value and understand the diversity of the pluralistic world. Although there are various doubts, it is undeniable that the BRICS countries as a whole and its member countries play an important role in global governance and They have played a huge role in building a pluralistic world. They challenge the universality of the West and find alternatives for the development of countries in the global South. They have contributed by changing the global governance system and establishing new ways of financing development. Held in Durban, South Africa in 2013 In the preface to the collection of the 5th BRICS Academic Forum, Zondi pointed out when referring to the growing importance and attraction of the BRICS: "In a period when the Western-centered old world system is facing transformation pressure, the BRICS The BRIC member states have profoundly affected international relations economically and politically." y

What needs to be emphasized is that with the end of World War II and the international pattern settling, universality was placed at the center as a guiding principle, which meant the Europeanization of the world. Europe and the United States were portrayed as having the best If other regions of the world want to succeed, they should imitate Europe and the United States. The social, political and economic systems of European and American countries are promoted to the world as systems that are universally applicable. The core of universality is Universal values such as human rights, democracy and good governance. The issue of good governance is a delicate concept. It is advocated that only one world can be jointly governed under the prism of "universal good governance". world, good governance is therefore largely limited to Western democratic governance.

Huntington proposed that after the end of the Cold War, the main conflict will be between Western civilization and Confucian civilization and Islamic civilization, because each civilization has its own set of value systems. Because of this, the West must abandon the illusion of universality. y Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi spoke at the 14th Bali Democracy Forum

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and the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB). “The goal of the New Development Bank is to provide

The establishment of the Bank is hailed as one of the significant achievements of the BRICS countries today. Therefore, many

scholars regard the establishment of the New Development Bank as the "BRICS The work of the New Development Bank complements the efforts

of multilateral and regional financial institutions to achieve global growth and development, and its work focuses on rapid, flexible and efficient ways .

Maximize the impact of development. This kind of flexibility that takes into account the specific circumstances of each country is very important in

a pluralistic world and can ensure equitable development for all countries. The 2022 BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting further demonstrated the

importance of

promoting the development of countries in the global South. commitment to development, and decided to "support the advancement of the

BRICS membership expansion process through discussions and promote BRICS outreach activities and 'BRICS+' cooperation." This call shows the

inclusiveness reflected in the 2015 meeting declaration of the BRICS countries. principles of equality and representativeness, reaffirming the

openness of BRICS countries to deepen cooperation with other countries, international and regional organizations on the basis of equality and

mutual respect, thus giving rise to the "BRICS+" cooperation model. BRICS countries are committed to cooperating with other countries, international

and regional organizations. and other emerging market countries to engage in dialogue, establish partnerships, and promote common development

and prosperity. This is driven by the BRICS spirit of openness, inclusiveness, cooperation, and win-win. This expansion to developing countries

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institutions, which are often rigid and inflexible. The flexibility of the BRICS increases the attractiveness of the organization. It has been widely

reported in the media that Iran and Argentina have applied to join BRICS, Iran's Foreign Minister claimed that "Iran's membership will bring benefits

to both parties" .

5. Reform of the global governance system

Since the establishment of the BRICS mechanism, member states have repeatedly reaffirmed the core position of the United Nations in the

global governance system based on multilateralism. However, due to the limitations of the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions,

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First, the concept of "building a community with a shared future for mankind" proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping has been written into United Nations resolutions many times. Behind this concept is what State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said: "It is in line with the pursuit of peace, development, cooperation, and cooperation by all countries." Sincere desire and lofty pursuit of progress. From the BRICS to the United Nations, from Latin America to the Middle East, efforts to build a community with a shared future for

mankind have continued to make positive progress. Second, South Africa insists on pursuing a foreign policy, that is, "recognizing mutual respect between countries, interdependent relationship, promote cooperation rather than competition, promote collaboration rather than confrontation, use the African continent as the foothold of foreign policy, be committed to South-South cooperation, maintain the central position of multilateralism, and stand firm in Pan-Africanism and opposition to any form of oppression and To this end, South Africa has pledged to use its membership of the BRICS to "ensure that other parts of the continent benefit from South Africa's membership of the BRICS and ensure that these regions can Continue to benefit from the BRICS countries in the priority areas identified by the African Union." South Africa's Department of International Relations and Cooperation pointed out, "South Africa will insist on independent control of its own foreign policy stance based on its own national, regional, global status and agenda. However, the BRICS The shared vision and principles of our national partners will continue to ensure closer alignment on global issues of common concern." Whenever invited to participate in global forums, South Africa has always been at the forefront of the G7, G20 and other international Raise the African flag high in the organization

Six Conclusions

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must mutually understand each other. Encourage, point out and support the conscious efforts of the BRICS countries to address the global ills caused by Europeanization. Like other multilateral institutions, the BRICS countries have their own weaknesses, such as development disruptions when political changes occur in member countries. or slow down. The BRICS countries need to actively manage expectations while gaining widespread public support and accelerate the speed and rhythm of people-to-people and cultural exchanges. In addition, mature national and institutional capacity-building plans should be developed and placed on the organization's agenda. Prominent position

(Translated by Yu Qiang and Editor-in-Chief Huang Nian)

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