

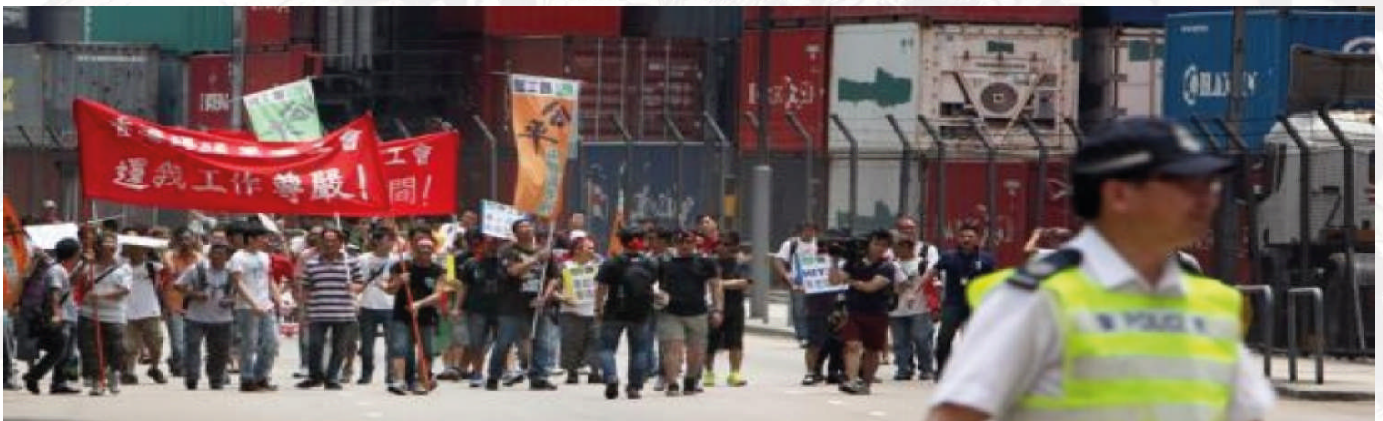


Conflict and mobilization in China

under 'one country, two systems':

The 2013 Dock Strikes in Yantian and Hong Kong

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The dynamics of conflict and mobilization are critical for evaluating workplace industrial relations, yet there has been scant research to conceptualize strike activities in contemporary China by specifically examining the nature of conflict and mobilization.

Grounded on the mobilization theory and rational social action approach, this study evaluates the reason, mobilization process and resolution of two 2013 dock strikes in Hong Kong and Yantian, mainland China in the context of the 'one country, two systems' policy that has sheltered the two regions with distinctive industrial relations regimes. By examining the documentary and interview evidence, we argue that the industrial conflicts in the two ports are not dissimilar in their nature as the result of social relations of production and management-labour relationship embedded in the capitalist labor process.

Findings show that, despite different labour management regimes, workers in both Hong Kong and Yantian resembled comparable patterns of resistance, although they displayed distinctive organizing strategies due to contextual differences thanks to the 'one-country, two systems' arrangement. However, the 'two systems' framework does differentiate the two strikes by providing quite different degrees of union organizing, collective bargaining and public support.

ALL WELCOME!

Dr Xuebing (Jack) Cao studied Sociology at Renmin University of China before he worked in China's post and telecom industry for a number of years. He then has received his MA and PhD degrees at Keele University in HRM and Industrial Relations. After working as a lecturer at Middlesex University in London he returned to Keele Management School in 2010 as a lecturer in HRM.

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SEMINAR SERIES

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Friday, 25 January 2019

6:30pm - 8:30pm

VENUE:

**Meeting Room 3,
Finsbury Park Trust FinSpace
225-229 Seven Sisters Rd,
Finsbury Park, London,
N4 2DA**