ADVANCED SEMINAR

Prof. Dr. Mark Thompson
City University of Hong Kong

China’s “Singapore Model” and its Limits

Singapore exemplifies what China strives for: resilient authoritarianism in a modern economy with good governance and political stability. Despite its tiny size, China remains obsessed with Singapore, which is the only country in East Asia to have achieved advanced industrialization without undergoing substantial liberalization. Singapore’s leaders have carefully codified their national model and taught it to thousands of Chinese government officials eager to learn its secrets. This seminar focuses on three core areas in which China has claimed inspiration from Singapore - ‘Asian values’, elections and the rule of law – and examines the ways in which the “Singapore model” has been selectively adopted, adapted or repurposed in the process of translation from the small city-state to one of the largest and most powerful countries in the world.

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