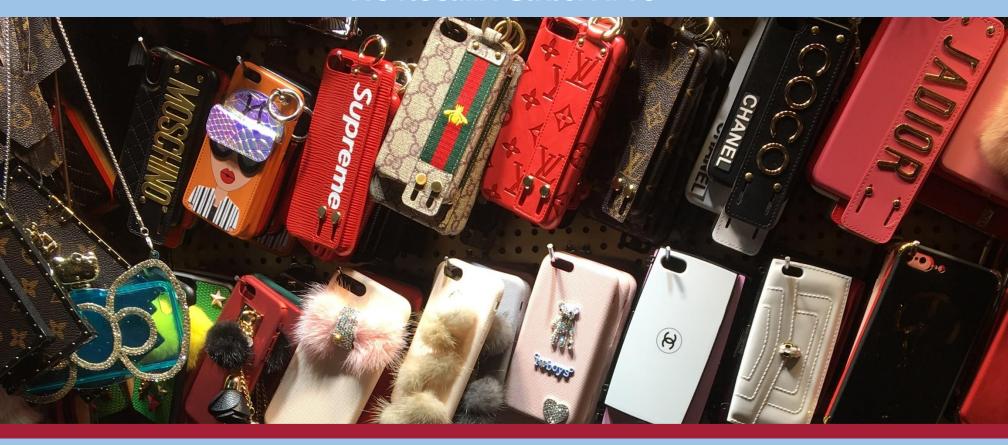


## **Novissima Sinica #15**



## **Dr. Zairong Xiang**

Potsdam University

## Counterfeiting, Made in China The World of Shanzhai

From Luii Veidon handbags and Caiwen Klain underwear to HiPhones and Rolaix watches, Chinese-made counterfeits have gained considerable notoriety - and a thriving market - both at home and abroad. Popularly known as 'shanzhai', counterfeit mobile phones and other products, already seem, from a 2020 vantage point, like a last-century story in China. By contrast, shanzhai can still be seen widely across the global south. Precisely because of this perhaps, shanzhai is often portrayed as little more than lower-end globalisation, as the straightforward manufacture and circulation of counterfeit goods.

However, as Dr. Xiang argues, there may be more to the *shanzhai* phenomenon than meets the economist's eye. Exploring *shanzhai* not only as a form and product of globalisation, but also as a mode of life- and world-making, he questions boundaries between high- and low-end, decent and indecent, different and indifferent. What is 'real' and what is 'fake', who decides and how?

ONLINE on Wednesday, May 27, 18.15
Register at events.chinacentrum@gmail.com to receive the link!



