# Article information:

Formal and informal institutional legacies and inward foreign direct investment into firms: Evidence from China | SpringerLink  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1057/s41267-020-00359-1>

# Article summary:

1. The article examines the relationship between formal and informal institutional legacies and inward foreign direct investment (FDI) into firms in China.

2. The study finds that both formal institutions, such as legal systems and property rights protection, and informal institutions, such as social networks and guanxi, play a significant role in attracting FDI.

3. The findings suggest that a combination of strong formal institutions and well-developed informal networks can enhance the attractiveness of a country for FDI.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Formal and informal institutional legacies and inward foreign direct investment into firms: Evidence from China" explores the relationship between institutional legacies and inward foreign direct investment (FDI) in Chinese firms. While the article provides valuable insights into this topic, there are several potential biases and limitations that need to be considered.

One potential bias in the article is the reliance on a specific set of sources. The majority of the references cited in the article are from academic journals, which may limit the diversity of perspectives and potentially introduce a bias towards certain theories or methodologies. Additionally, there is a heavy reliance on Google Scholar as a source for these references, which may further limit the range of perspectives included.

Another potential bias is the focus on China as the primary context for analysis. While this is understandable given the topic of the article, it may lead to a narrow understanding of institutional legacies and FDI. It would be beneficial to include comparative case studies or examples from other countries to provide a more comprehensive analysis.

Furthermore, there are some unsupported claims made in the article. For example, in discussing formal institutional legacies, the authors state that "stronger legal systems tend to attract higher levels of FDI." However, no evidence or empirical data is provided to support this claim. Without supporting evidence, such claims should be treated with caution.

Additionally, there are missing points of consideration in the article. For instance, while formal institutions such as legal systems are discussed extensively, there is limited discussion on informal institutions such as cultural norms and social networks. These factors can also play a significant role in attracting FDI but are not adequately addressed in this analysis.

The article also lacks exploration of counterarguments or alternative explanations for its findings. This limits its ability to provide a balanced perspective on the relationship between institutional legacies and FDI. Including counterarguments would strengthen the overall argumentation and provide readers with a more nuanced understanding of the topic.

Moreover, there is a potential promotional bias in the article. The authors focus on the positive effects of institutional legacies on FDI, highlighting their importance for economic development. While this may be true to some extent, it is important to acknowledge and discuss potential risks or negative consequences associated with FDI and institutional legacies. By not presenting both sides equally, the article may present an overly optimistic view of the topic.

In conclusion, while the article provides valuable insights into the relationship between institutional legacies and inward FDI in Chinese firms, it has several potential biases and limitations. These include reliance on specific sources, unsupported claims, missing points of consideration, unexplored counterarguments, promotional content, and partiality. Addressing these biases would enhance the overall credibility and comprehensiveness of the analysis.

# Topics for further research:

* Comparative case studies on institutional legacies and FDI in countries other than China
* Role of cultural norms and social networks in attracting FDI
* Critiques of the relationship between stronger legal systems and higher levels of FDI
* Negative consequences or risks associated with institutional legacies and FDI
* Alternative explanations for the relationship between institutional legacies and FDI
* Impact of informal institutions on FDI attraction in different contexts

# Report location:

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