CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
Professional Development Workshop (PDW) at the Academy of International Business (AIB) 2020:
Studying socio-political risks in emerging markets: Methodological challenges and innovative solutions

The PDW on studying socio-political risks in emerging markets (PDW-SPR) will be offered as part of the pre-conference program for the 2020 Academy of International Business (AIB) annual meeting (virtually).

The goal of this interactive workshop is to showcase state-of-the-art interdisciplinary and discipline-specific methodologies for studying socio-political risks (PR) of emerging markets. The workshop will assess the suitability of several methodological approaches in different contexts and provide hands on opportunities for participants to explore methods appropriate for their projects. The main contribution of the workshop is threefold: (1) the systematic examination of pros and cons of a range of novel qualitative and quantitative methodologies for advancement of socio-political risk knowledge; (2) the illustration of several methods; and (3) the identification of the most appropriate analytical tools to study different types of socio-political risks in diverse contexts.

The main focus of the workshop is to foster an interdisciplinary conversation between IB and political science (PS) scholars over novel methodological approaches for examining socio-political risks and MNE strategic responses to the complexities of international, regional, and national business environments. The workshop will highlight the following methods: mix-methods subject focused approach; dynamic factor analysis; survey instrument design; primary data collection.

The workshop’s objective is for each participant to leave with a newly drafted or revised/refined research design for a project on their research agenda. To this end, the workshop structure includes:

- A brief overview of recent developments in empirical study of socio-political risks
- Succinct presentations that illustrate the use of several methods in new work on socio-political risks
- Individual and group brainstorming sessions on research design
- Discussion of the practical details and resources for implementing the various research methods in the research designs developed by the participants

As internationalization continues with emerging markets now taking the lead in several industries, MNEs face novel challenges related to diversity in governments’ ability to prevent political violence and crime of violent nature, respond quickly to man-made and natural disasters, or enforce contracts and protect intellectual property rights. As corporations choose the location and intensity of their operations, such challenges associated with socio-political risks often supersede economic concerns. However, theoretical and empirical research in IB and PS has not yet fully addressed these recent developments. By facilitating cross-disciplinary discussion and possible interdisciplinary collaboration, this workshop will provide a preliminary platform for fresh and creative research strategies, thus contributing to the development of theory-driven methodological approaches of socio-political risk analysis.

Prospective participants in the 2020 PDW-SPR are invited to register via the AIB submission system by June 21, 2020. The participation is on the first-come-first-serve basis.

2020 PDW-SPR Key Dates:
June 21, 2020. Deadline for PDW-SPR registration (via the AIB online registration form)
July 3, 2020, 12:30 pm – 2:15 pm (UTC/GMT).
Organizers and discussants:
Dr. Tatiana Vashchilko (Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary, Canada) tatiana.vashchilko@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Andreea Mihalache—O’Keef (Department of Public Affairs, Roanoke College, USA) mihalache@roanoke.edu
Dr. George O. White III (School of Management, University of Michigan-Flint, USA) gowhite@umich.edu
Dr. James Agarwal (Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary, Canada) james.agarwal@haskayne.ucalgary.ca
Dr. Irem Demirkan (Sellinger School of Business, Loyola University Maryland, USA) idemirkan@loyola.edu
Dr. Crystal Jiang (Bryant University, USA) cjjiang1@bryant.edu
Dr. Asda Chintakananda (NIDA Business School, Thailand), asda.chi@nida.ac.th