Lorne Foster, Learning Networks as a Tool for Good Governance: The Case of the Canada-China Forum on Industrial Relations and Employment Standards

The global policy dialogue on industrial relations development is increasingly coming to involve the voices and perspectives of international institutions in the determination of domestic policies. This paper conducts a case study of the first Canada-China Forum on Industrial Relations and Employment Standards, as an international coalition of learning in order to address some dimensions of the new public policy space. In thinking about how international institutions have become actors in the establishment of national agendas, this analysis takes as its parameter the globalization of tensions between capital and labour, and efficiency and equity, in the articulation of employment policy.

Keywords: Canada-China Forum, participatory governance, globalization, learning networks