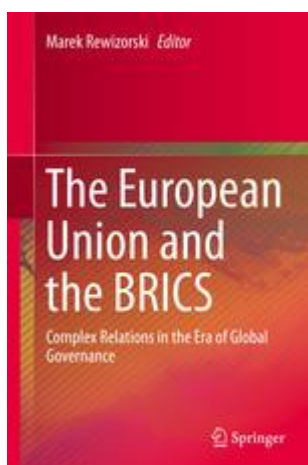


The BRICS in the Global Order: A New Political Agenda?

Marco António Martins

Abstract

Regarding the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) it's important to analyze comparatively the new power cycle in order to understand not only the impact of the world crisis as well as the relationship between the official political discourses and the economic instability. Actually, the trade liberalization and economic interdependence accompanied with an uncertain international system are putting pressure to the BRICS with their own agendas for global order in seeking for a balance and also to regain a new political and economical dynamic for the promotion of new strategies. The international system leading by the United States is presently experiencing turbulent structural change that consists of the need to implement political, social and economic measures and to create adjustments of the political debate towards the construction of a policy that can respond concurrently to the welfare and to international stability. Apparently the BRICS are the symbol of a new political and economic order eventually more stable. However, as international actors they are states that are included and remain in the Westphalian paradigm. In that order, it's import to measure the limits and the possibilities of these 'new' actors. It's only a matter of political power with international impact, or it's a matter of a new concept of civilization in the international system?



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