University of Macau Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Department of Government and Public Administration

SEMINAR

Political Liberalism and Reform in China

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Abstract

There has been a revival of liberal political philosophy at the turn of the century. It is welcomed by liberal intellectuals and a civil society that is changing and opening up quickly. This paper briefly reviews Chinese liberalism in the earlier days of the 20th century and then summarizes and comments on the principal views of new liberalism, including re-evaluation of individualism, human rights and sovereignty, economic liberalism, democracy and system choice, and discusses its relevance with current economic and political reform in China.

Biography

Gu Su (顧肅, born April 1, 1955), Jiangsu, China), is a Chinese liberal political philosopher, professor of Philosophy and Law, Nanjing University, China. Having graduated at Nanjing University, he studied at Duke University from 1983 to 1986, since then he has been teaching in Nanjing university as a faculty member. His main work is *Essential Ideas of Liberalism*, published in China and Taiwan several times, introducing main ideas of liberalism and their implication to Chinese political and social practice. He has edited a series books and written many articles in the national press, newspapers and magazines on political and legal issues. He was Liberal Arts Fellow, Harvard Law School, and visiting scholar of London School of Economics and the University of Melbourne.

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