THE 21ST CENTURY AS WHOSE CENTURY?

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ABSTRACT

Macro-analysis and East-West encounter are shown through consideration of objective yet subjective constructed concepts for the international system and international economy in the 21st century. Three paradigms are considered, namely the 21st century as the Pacific Century, as Chinas Century and as the Asian Century. Overlaps are shown between these three paradigms, and also developments in time, and gradually shift in geographical location. The Pacific Century, and its associated Rimspeak, was the paradigm emerging in the late 1970s, knitting together Americas West Coast and the Japanese economy. By the late 1980s this was already shifting to talk of the 21st century likely to be an Asian Century model, mark-1, based on the Pacific Asia dynamism shown by the Asian Tigers and Japan. However, the Asian financial crash of 1997-8, and the economic downturn in Japan, meant that such an Asian Century seemed premature as the 21st century arrived. Instead, it was Chinas economic growth that seemed most evident, and with it the concept of the 21st century as Chinas Century. However, in turn that has already been modified during the first decade of the century by Indias arrival as a rapidly growing economy. Consequently the 21st century as Chinas Century and as Indias Century has been combined into talk of an Asian Century, mark-2.

FULL TEXT:

PDF

DOI: https://doi.org/10.5195/iwr.2007.350

REFBACKS

There are currently no refbacks.
The 21st (twenty-first) century is the current century of the Anno Domini era or Common Era, in accordance with the Gregorian calendar. It began on January 1, 2001, and will end on December 31, 2100. It is the first century of the 3rd millennium. It is distinct from the century known as the 2000s which began on January 1, 2000 and will end on December 31, 2099.