

**A REVOLUTION IN GLOBAL NORTH-SOUTH
POLITICS?
EVIDENCE FROM TRADE-ENVIRONMENT
NEGOTIATIONS**

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EMERGING POWERS: REVOLUTIONIZING NORTH-SOUTH POLITICS?



A DEBATE UNRESOLVED

"The dramatic rise of China and India among others has set the stage for a fundamental rethinking of world politics ... the relative decline of the United States is probably irreversible and its unipolar moment will soon give way to something new"
(Schweller 2011, 285)

- Has the nature of North-South politics changed with the rise of emerging powers?
- Are China and others promoting South-South ties that transform the nature of North-South interactions?
- Is the world order changing?

OUR APPROACH

- Systematic coding of all trade-environment negotiations in WTO Trade and Environment Committee, 1995-2012
- Controversial, conflictual, and critical for global politics
- Intellectual property, trade disputes, subsidies, protectionism, biodiversity, climate change, foreign aid...
- Regular meeting schedule, more than 2,500 randomly sampled paragraphs coded so far

KEY HYPOTHESES

POWER HYPOTHESIS

Least developed countries make fewer statements in trade-environment negotiations than do major developing economies or industrialized countries.

BANDWAGONING HYPOTHESIS

Least developed countries bandwagon with major developing economies in trade-environment negotiations more than with industrialized countries.

WHO TALKS?

Speaker	Statements
EC	199
USA	158
Canada	132
India	131
Australia	110
Japan	100
Brazil	100
New Zealand	85
Norway	78
Argentina	69

$N = 2,511$

SUMMARY STATISTICS

Statement Type	Percent
Pro-Env Statement	0.10
Pro-Trade Statement	0.11
Both Pro-Env and Pro-Trade	0.20
Silent on Trade-Env Balance	0.59
Pro-North Statement	0.00
Pro-South Statement	0.16
Both Pro-North and Pro-South	0.02
Silent on North-South Balance	0.82
Sustainability Reference	0.15
Unfairness Claim	0.01
Call for Research	0.04

$N = 2,511$

ARE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES BANDWAGONING EMERGING POWERS?

Probability of Supporting India and USA

	India	USA
LDC	0.04*** (3.35)	0.00 (0.33)
Polity IV score	-0.00 (-1.67)	-0.00 (-0.23)
Year	0.00 (1.12)	0.00 (0.40)
Observations	1706	1706

t statistics in parentheses

Probit regressions

Standard errors clustered by meeting

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

NEXT STEPS

- Finish data coding
- Changes over time?
- Competing hypotheses
- Interviews of key officials