



Opiniões
de Acadêmicos
Brasileiros
sobre a China

Brazilian Scholars'
Views on China

Tiejun Gu
Organizador


UFRGS
EDITORA



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PREFACE

Antonio Domingos Padula



China is the second largest economy and the main Brazilian trade partner. In the foreseeable future China will continue to be the most dynamic economy worldwide. This dynamic can be a source of opportunities for Chinese and Brazilian enterprises.

The Sino-Brazilian diplomacy was resumed in 1974 and in 2012 was considered a “Global Strategic Partnership” by the two countries. China is today the biggest foreigner investor in Brazil, mainly in the sectors of energy, agribusiness, mining, telecommunications, banking, and automobiles. There are important Brazilian investments in the aeronautical, mining, food, motors, paper, and banking in China.

In 2015 the Brazilian and Chinese governments created the Sino-Brazilian Fund to support and expand their production capacities, mainly to finance projects and investments on logistics, energy, agriculture and mining. In that year the two governments signed 35 commercial agreements that can reach US\$53.0 billion.

With a population of 1.4 billion people in China and 210 million in Brazil, and the accelerated growth of the medium class in the two countries, new opportunities will emerge in the agribusiness (agriculture, agro-industry, logistics, infrastructure, machinery), the energy (renewable, gas and oil), informatics and communications, and tourism sectors, for example.

In 2011 The Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), The Confucius Institutes Headquarters (HANBAN) and The Communication University of China (CUC) signed a Cooperation Agreement to

Antonio Domingos Padula is professor doctor, Brazilian Director of the Confucius Institute at UFRGS.

create the Confucius Institute at UFRGS. In his cultural and academics activities the Confucius Institute at UFRGS has promoted the Chinese culture and language in the Rio Grande do Sul State. In recent years the number of students has been between 500 and 600 annually.

UFRGS is also an important center for research on Sino-Brazilian issues. The UFRGS's research and academic production has grown exponentially in recent years:

- From 1990 to 1996 it was produced and published 7 reports/documents;
- From 1997 to 2003 it was produced and published 24 reports/documents;
- From 2004 to 2010 it was produced and published 140 reports/documents;
- From 2011 to 2017 it was produced and published 263 reports/documents.

Considering the strategic relevance that the Sino-Brazilian relations are becoming, and considering that UFRGS is an important center of research on Chinese geopolitics, trade, agronomics and technology, in 2017 The Universidade Federal do Rio Grande Sul (UFRGS) established new challenges and objectives to the Confucius Institute at UFRGS. Beyond the Chinese language and culture teaching, the Confucius Institute at UFRGS will expand its activities to include cooperation with Chinese Universities, Business and Government Agencies in the technological, innovation, trade and business areas. To do that, the Confucius Institute at UFRGS, in accordance with the "Constitution and By-Laws of the Confucius Institutes", will create a "Center for Sino-Brazilian Studies and Cooperation". This Center will receive and include Brazilian and Chinese professors, researchers and students (undergrad pos-grad) from the different areas like Agronomy, Veterinary, Rural Development, Biotechnology, Food Science, Engineering, Informatics, Administration, Economy, International Relations and Policy, Law and Health... The Center will be a venue for interactions between the Brazilian and Chinese business and government agents interested in doing business, trade, innovation and

investments in Brazil and China. Executive programs will be designed and implemented to provide training and capabilities development programs for business executives and government agents.

This book brings an overview of recent research results produced by Brazilian scholars in different areas of the Chinese and Brazilian culture, economy, geopolitics, trade, business and international relations. These researches can contribute to a better understanding of the opportunities to be explored and the challenges we face when interacting with so rich and different cultures.

We wish you all a pleasant and rich reading.