

Business Ethics Quarterly



CALL FOR PAPERS

*Ethics, Corporate Social Responsibility,
and Developing Country Multinationals*

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Overview

Over the past decade there has been increasing recognition of the growing influence of multinational enterprise (MNEs) from developing countries. This influence has been acknowledged in both the popular and academic literature. Public and private organizations such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, United National Conference on Trade and Development, investment banks and consulting firms have all documented the rise of developing country MNEs (DMNEs) (see Sauvant, McAllister & Maschek, 2010) and scholars have begun to explore the ramifications of the emergence of these DMNEs for established business and management theory (Carney, Gedajlovic, & Yang, 2009; Cuervo-Cazurra, 2012; Ramamurti, 2004; Ramamurti & Singh, 2009).

To date, much of the research on DMNEs has focused on whether and how established theories of management and international business should be revised or extended, given the different institutional and cultural contexts in which DMNEs have emerged and the distinct ownership, governance and management strategies of these firms. And while ethics and corporate social responsibility (CSR) scholars have begun exploring the international and global dimensions of MNEs generally (Scherer, Palazzo, & Matten, 2009), especially in the area of human rights (Kobrin, 2009; Muchlinski, 2012; Wettstein, 2012), and some IB scholars have started examining the CSR practices of MNEs (Campbell, Eden, & Miller, 2012, Doh, Husted, Matten, & Santoro, 2010) observed that the integration and assimilation of international management and ethics/CSR literature is, to date, relatively underdeveloped. In particular, very little attention has been directed toward the ethical orientation and corporate social responsibility practices of these DMNEs, with a few exceptions (Gugler & Shi, 2009).

The purpose of this special issue is therefore to explore ethics and corporate social responsibility in and by DMNEs. We are especially interested in scholarly investigations of the antecedents, processes and impacts of ethics and CSR as conducted and practiced by DMNEs.

Potential Topics

Among the topics that could be the focus of submissions are the following:

- How do the ethical conduct and /or CSR policies and practices of DMNEs differ from their developed country counterparts? What theoretical explanations can be provided for such differences?
- How do the institutional, cultural environment, and distinct ethical traditions of specific developing countries manifest in the ethical conduct and/or CSR policies and practices of the DMNEs that emerge from those countries?
- How do ethical conduct and/or CSR policies and practices evolve as DMNEs globalize and enter other developing and developed countries?

- Given the high proportion of state ownership among DMNEs, how does government influence affect the ethical conduct and/or CSR practices of DMNEs?
- How do the ethical conduct and/or CSR policies and practices DMNEs from one region (e.g., Asia) compare to—and differ from—those from others (e.g., Africa, Latin America)?
- How might the legacy of post-colonial influence; for example, British influence in India, affect ethical conduct and/or CSR practices and policies of DMNEs in those former colonies?
- Unlike their developed country counterparts, many DMNEs maintain a broadly diversified portfolio of businesses. How does this diversification influence ethics and CSR policies and practices in DMNEs?
- Are DMNEs more or less likely to participate in regional and global ethics and CSR standards and agreements such as the UN Global Compact, the UN Tripartite Framework on Business and Human Rights, GRI, etc.? Which ones are they more likely to participate in and which are they less likely to participate in? What theoretical explanations can be provided for such differences?
- Does available evidence indicate that DMNEs are more or less compliant with labor, human rights, anti-corruption and other regional or global ethical standards than MNEs from developed countries? What theoretical explanations can be provided for such differences?
- Does available evidence indicate that DMNEs engage in business practices that are more or less environmentally sustainable than MNEs from developed countries? What theoretical explanations can be provided for such differences?
- When DMNEs enter into joint ventures and alliances with developed country MNEs, which sets of ethical conduct and/or CSR policies and practices prevails?
- How do DMNEs strategize business ethics and CSR policies and practices to achieve competitive advantages? How should they?
- How do DMNEs adapt their business ethics and CSR policies and practices to legitimize their presence in host countries?
- Does the ethical and CSR behavior of DMNEs suggest a convergence or divergence of global ethical norms regarding international business?

Dates and Process

The BEQ submission guidelines and author guide are available at the links below:

<http://www.pdcnet.org/beq/Submission-Guidelines>

<http://www.pdcnet.org/pdf/BEQ%20Author%20Guide.pdf>

Authors must submit manuscripts by June 15, 2014, using BEQ's online system.

https://editorialexpress.com/cgi-bin/e-editor/e-submit_v12.cgi?dbase=beq.

Papers will be reviewed following the regular BEQ double-blind review process.

About *BEQ*

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Full call for papers is available at <http://www.pdcnet.org/beq/Calls-for-Submissions>