

Are Emerging Powers emerging, and are they powers?

Abstract

Dr Jorge G. Castañeda introduces the emerging “market” or economic discussion, reviewing what academics, the press and financial institutions mean when they speak of these countries, with acronyms such as BRICs, BRICS and MINT. Is size the point? Is growth the point? Is novelty the point? Is potential or promise the point? Which of all of these questions is truly relevant and important?

In the second part, draws up the regional and geopolitical discussion on: Are these countries important actors in their regions – Asia, Africa, Latin America, Middle East? Why or why not, and how does their economic performance influence their regional political action (domestic ideological and institutional issues would also be rapidly addressed here)?

Finally, the speaker explores international and multilateral discussion on: Are “emerging powers” truly powers? Are they all the same? Do others see them as powers? How do they express their economic success or geographic and demographic clout in the international arena?