Logistical Power

Abstract

"Logistical power" is government's dominance over private actors based on its coordination of circulation of people, goods and information. Logistical power is a development of both "infrastructural power" and "despotic power" (Mann 1984). Logistical power is highly effective but can be fragile too. Professor Xiang uses this concept to make sense of a number of shifts in China's dealing with COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2022.