

UNILATERALISM VERSUS MULTILATERALISM?
EMERGING COUNTRIES AND EMERGING MULTILATERALISMS

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Summary

This presentation discusses the diverse approaches of the emerging countries to multilateral aid. It compares the different approaches of two unique Asian partners to multilateral aid: Gulf donors and China. Secondly, Gulf donors, a culturally and religiously homogeneous group, share common norms. Those norms, prevailing regional members, facilitate to develop their unique multilateral aid systems on a regional level. Particularly, their Co-ordination Group is a unique regional co-ordination mechanism of their aid, which may function in a similar way to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Meanwhile, Gulf donors are recently collaborating with the traditional multilateral aid. And thirdly, China, an emerging superpower, has not only the unique aid norms but also the outstanding power to institutionalise its new multilateral aid structure on a global level. While it demands more space and voice for emerging countries in the traditional multilateral aid, it succeeded in initiating new multilateralism, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the New Development Bank (NDB or BRICS Bank), and the One Belt, One Road Initiative (OBOR).