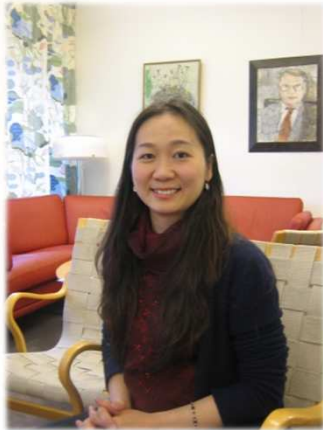




# “*The Determinants of Media Bias in China*”

(in English)



**Dr. QIN Bei**

**Assistant Professor**

**School of Economics & Finance**

**Faculty of Business and Economics**

**The University of Hong Kong**

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**Time: 4:30 - 6:00 pm**

**Venue: WYL314, Dorothy Y. L. Wong Building**

## **Abstract:**

We measure and investigate the determinants of political control of newspapers in China. To this end, we collect information, including the name and ownership, of all newspapers in China that existed between 1981 and 2011. We also analyze the content of 110 general interest newspapers between 1998 and 2011. We find that more strictly politically controlled newspapers cover disasters and corruption more than their commercial competitors, most likely in order to monitor lower level officials. We also find that they cover leaders and the official news agency Xinhua to a larger extent. Moreover, we construct an index of political control of each of the 110 newspapers. We find that in the cross section, this correlates negatively with GDP per capita and population size. We find no time trend in the political control of Chinese newspapers in the 2000s. Finally, we analyze the effect of a reform to close down all county papers in 2003. The reduced competition significantly affected the degree of political control of the remaining papers.

## **Biography:**

Bei Qin is now an assistant professor in the School of Economics and Finance, the University of Hong Kong. She received her PhD degree in Economics from Institute for International Economic Studies (IIES), Stockholm University. Her main research fields are development economics and political economics. Within these fields, her research has focused on two areas: media and political connections.

**All Are Welcome**

For enquiry: 26167190 (Yuki)