In the past decade China’s economic ties with Latin America have boomed, mainly based on rapidly expanding trade and more recently on increased Chinese investment. As Chinese outward foreign direct investment has increased substantially in recent years, Chinese and international analysts focus more on the risks faced by China’s state owned enterprises (SOEs) engaging in the region. In this talk, I will explore the motives, strategies and interactions through examining the SOEs behaviors and their relations with the state. I also demonstrate the complicated relations between Chinese SOEs with the host countries and local community and how the environmental, labor, and indigenous movements in the region influence and change Chinese investors’ behaviors and discuss the implications for China’s government and companies.

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