











How to design (and maintain) an ill-functioning labor market

Players, regimes, and consequences

Public talk by Barbara Krug

China's labor market seems to be reform-resistant. Despite the success of workplace creation by private and middle-scale firms, we find some 100 million people outside regular employment next to a persistent shortage of professionals causing rapidly increasing labor costs for large and foreign firms. Besides the empirical question about the relative size of the forgotten, the nascent and the regulated labor market, the question that needs to be addressed is who (and how) contributes to the resilience of the ill-functioning labor market. The lecture will also try to link the problem of labor markets to the problem of employment and the identification of the 'weak' in the Chinese context.

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