

OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Yan Long

International Studies, IU Bloomington

“Domesticating a Dragon: The Contradictory Impact of Transnational AIDS Institutions on State Repression in China, 1989–2013”



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12:00 – 1:00 p.m. • Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park

Existing research suggests that external interventions may reduce the aggregate levels of repression in authoritarian regimes by pressuring recalcitrant national governments to comply with transnational rules. This article argues that transnational institutions may not only have corrective but also generative impact on authoritarian repression by shaping the cultural rules and organizational models that fashion the forms of repression in specific governance domains. The argument is grounded in an analysis of the transformation of repression against AIDS activism in China from 1989 to 2013. While the intervention of transnational AIDS institutions constrained the operation of traditional violent coercion, it mobilized and enabled Chinese government organizations to generate new repressive actors with innovative repertoires of covert and indirect strategies at both the transnational and domestic levels. Thus, external interventions must be considered as a multiple dimensional process, and its outcome is produced through interactions between transnational institutions and domestic organizations engaging in repressive acts.



Yan Long is an assistant professor at the School of Global and International Studies at IU. Her interests span the areas of global health, organizational studies, and community activism. Long currently works on the book project, *Side Effects: The Transnational Doing and Undoing of AIDS Politics in China*, based on her dissertation that won the 2014 American Sociological Association Best Dissertation Award. Previously, Long was a postdoctoral fellow at the Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society after receiving her joint PhD in sociology and women's studies from the University of Michigan ([website](#)).

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL and papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).