

Social Innovation Public Lecture

China and the Nordic Welfare Model

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Abstract

The presentation will raise and discuss the following topics: Is the "Nordic model of welfare" relevant to China on its way to a "harmonious society"? What distinguishes the Nordic welfare model from other models of welfare? Given certain values of equity, welfare and efficiency, what are the achievements of the Nordic model? The Nordic model is of considerable relevance to policy-makers in Hong Kong and China at a time of concern about combining social equity and economic efficiency and growth, a combination which in turn may be beneficial for social and political stability. The talk will give examples of how the Nordic countries perform compared to other Western welfare states. It will also briefly present a comprehensive new volume on the Nordic welfare state, co-edited by Professor Kuhnle, which was published in Chinese by Fudan University Press in May 2010.