

## ISPP Eastern Hemisphere Virtual Seminar Series – April 2021

Organizers: Ying-yi Hong, Diwa Malaya Quinones, Peter Beattie

April 30 (Friday) at 2-4pm (Beijing Time)

Host/Moderator: Ying-yi Hong (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China)

Speaker: Prof. Hongna Miao (Nanjing University, China)

Title: **Children's Images of Government in China**

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### **Abstract**

Political psychology emphasizes that children's political cognition has the primacy effect on the formation of their political attitudes after adulthood, but this research has been ignored by the academic circle in China. In this study, the cognitive process theory in western political psychology is applied to the Chinese context, and the picture association test is used to analyze the core problem of how children form their political cognition. The research shows that, firstly, the police who live close to children and the most prominent political leaders in children's political images are the entry point for children to connect with the political system and the connection point for children to enter the political system. Second, children's political cognition has changed from the attention to authority and individual to system cognition, but Chinese children's leader cognition is deep-rooted and persistent in their political cognition. Third, children's political cognition is closely related to their cognitive level. Children have mastered the basic knowledge and principles of the political world in grade 7 and grade 8 (ages 13-14). Fourth, children's political cognition is not only related to their school education, but also plays a more important role in their subjective social experience.

**Speaker Bio**

Hongna MIAO is Associate Professor in the Political Science Department, Nanjing University, China. She holds a Ph.D. (2010) in Political Science, from Nanjing University, China. She has been a Visiting Scholar in University of British Columbia (2018-2019), Canada; National Taiwan University (Taipei, August-November, 2014); and a Visiting Student (September 2008-September 2009) in the Political Science Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. Her research interests focus on political culture and political psychology in cross-national contexts. Her publications in both English and Chinese include one book (Institution Transition and Workers' Choice: The Relations among State, Enterprises and Workers in Transition Period, Jiangsu People Press, 2015), and the co-editing of another book (E-Political Socialization, The Press and Politics: The Media and Government in the USA, Europe and China, Peter Lang, 2014). In addition, she is the author and co-author of 16 book chapters and journal articles.

