

STRATEGIC IDENTITY AND REFORM IN THE PERIPHERAL AREA

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Using the social constructivism paradigm, this article displays the social consequences of development programs, which are subsumed to the concept of strategic identity, undertaken in Russia and China. When deeply embedded social practices are ignored by economic and political reforms tailored by elites that don't know or do not take into considerations local specificities, social chaos is very likely to emerge.

Key words: social constructivism, strategic identity, shock therapy, Friedmanianism.