



CHIPS WAR? GLOBAL PRODUCTION NETWORKS AND GEOPOLITICS IN THE POST- PANDEMIC WORLD.

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Based on my forthcoming chapter in Global Value Chain Development Report 2023 and my recent monograph *Interconnected Worlds* (Stanford University Press, June 2022), this presentation offers some key empirical observations on the highly contested and politicized nature of semiconductor global production networks since the US-China trade war and the Covid-19 pandemic. In this capital-intensive manufacturing industry, governance and power dynamics are manifested differently from many other industries due to highly complex technology regimes, production network ecosystems, and, more recently, geopolitical imperatives. While some of these critical dynamics had been in play ahead of the 2020s, their intensity and significance became more apparent by the early 2020s. I then examine their most significant implications for macro-regional development in the post-pandemic 2020s: (1) continual significance of East Asia as a major centre and end market, (2) pro-ecosystem approach to capability development, supply ecosystems, and market access in regions, and (3) strategic partnership with technology leaders towards building national and regional resilience. I end with a discussion of some relevant future research agendas on technology, resilience, and politics for the geographical studies of global production networks and global value chains.

Professor Henry Yeung is Distinguished Professor at the Department of Geography, National University of Singapore. As a leading academic expert in global production networks and the global economy, his research interests cover broadly theories and the geography of transnational corporations, East Asian firms, and developmental states. He has received the 2018 American Association of Geographers Distinguished Scholarship Honors, the UK's Royal Geographical Society Murchison Award 2017 and the 2022 Sir Peter Hall Award for Lifetime Contribution to the Field by the Regional Studies Association in London. Professor Yeung's latest books are *Theory and Explanation in Geography* (RGS-IBG Book Series, Wiley, forthcoming late 2023) and *Interconnected Worlds: Global Electronics and Production Networks in East Asia* (Innovation and Technology in the World Economy Series, Stanford University Press, Stanford, June 2022). His previous monographs are *Strategic Coupling: East Asian Industrial Transformation in the New Global Economy* (Cornell Studies in Political Economy Series, Cornell University Press, 2016), and *Global Production Networks: Theorizing Economic Development in an Interconnected World* (with Neil Coe, Oxford University Press, 2015). For two decades since 2001, Professor Yeung has been editor of two top journals in Geography – *Economic Geography* and *Environment and Planning A*. He is also past editor of *Review of International Political Economy* (2004-2013) and serves on the editorial boards of 19 other journals.