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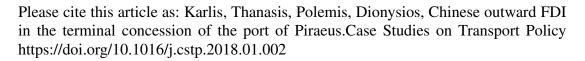
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Chinese outward FDI in the terminal concession of the port of Piraeus.

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Highlights

- The Piraeus port concession is founded on the "latecomer" disadvantage of the Chinese shipping companies.
- The concession process was heavily dependent on the governmental influences of the two countries.
- Business deals between State owned enterprises require political support and determination in order to be completed within a reasonable time frame.
- The enforcement of political will on SOEs can lead to an unbalanced business deal, which will face adversities when business realities will supersede political ones.
- There is an indication that the host country provides political support in international matters and the Chinese state undertakes additional strategic investments against this continuous political support.

Business literature has broadly identified four main perspectives in motivating and affecting Chinese outward foreign direct investment (OFDI). In particular (a) the latecomer perspective, (b) the Chinese state and government influence perspective, (c) the liability of foreignness and (d) the dynamics of firms and institutions perspective. In this paper, we focus on the concession of the container terminal of Pier II of the port of Piraeus as a case study of Chinese OFDI. Our analysis indicates that in the concession of the port of Piraeus, most of the drivers of Chinese OFDI are present. We support the view that the process was necessitated by the "latecomer" disadvantage of the Chinese shipping companies but was primarily driven by the influence of the Chinese and Greek State. In the case of the concession of the Piraeus container terminal, the governmental influences on the process affected the longevity and application of the contractual arrangement and include political deals alongside the business one.

Keywords: Chinese Outward FDI; port concession; port policy.

1. Introduction.

Foreign direct investment arising from emerging economies has been given considerable attention (Ramasamy et al, 2012; Mathews 2006). International firms pursuing a global strategy, defined as

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