

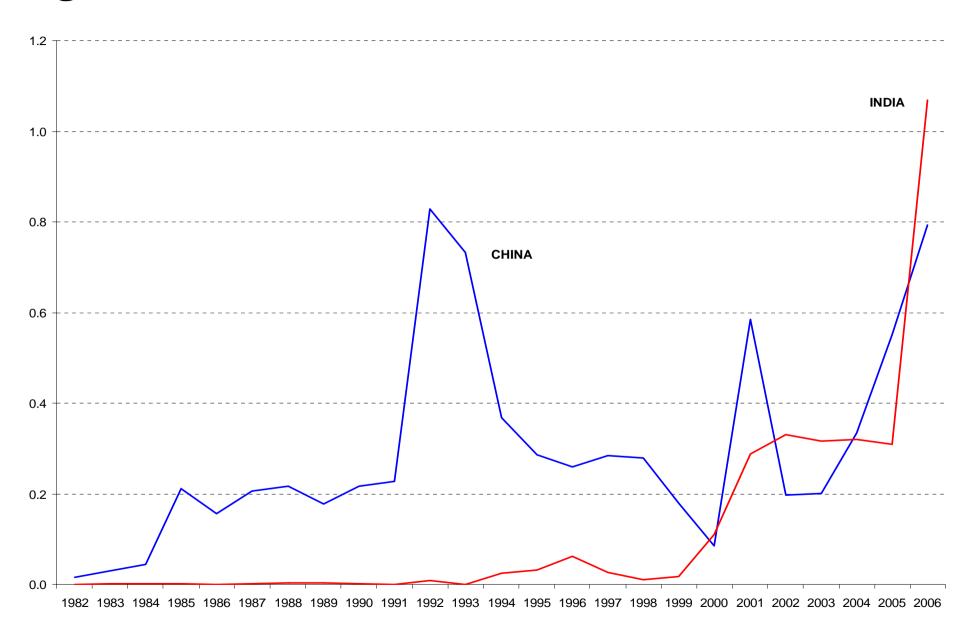
## THE OUTWARD EXPANSION OF CHINESE AND INDIAN FIRMS: A NEW CHALLENGE FOR EUROPE

Stephen Thomsen Associate Fellow, Chatham House

Paper prepared for the conference "Thrust and Parry in the Global Game: Emerging Asian Corporate Giants and the World Economy"

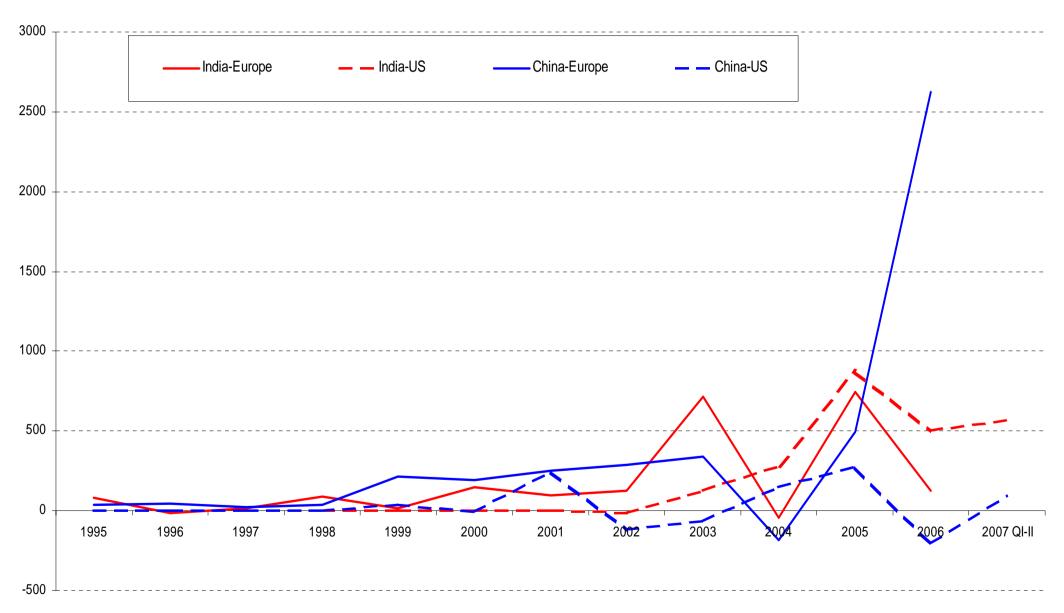
> Tokyo Club Foundation for Global Studies Tokyo, 13-14 November 2007

Figure 1. Chinese and Indian ODI as a share of GDP



Source: UNCTAD

Figure 2. Chinese & Indian ODI in Europe and the US \$\\$\\$ million



Source: OECD, Eurostat, US Bureau of Economic Analysis

# Prominent sectors for Chinese & Indian ODI in Europe & the US

#### China

- Finance, petroleum
- Electronics, automobiles and white goods

#### India

- Metals, food & beverages, hotels, chemicals, motor vehicles, electronics, other manufacturing
- Pharmaceuticals, business process outsourcing, information technology

## The internationalisation of Chinese & Indian firms

1. ODI as a reward for ownership advantages or intangible assets developed in the home market

2. ODI as a means of procuring intangible assets (technology, brand names, know-how) in foreign markets

## Examples of technology sourcing strategies by Chinese & Indian firms in the US & Europe

Brands TCL: Thomson (RCA), Schneider, Alcatel

Lenovo: IBM's computer business

Haier: Maytag (failed bid)

Nanjing auto: Rover

Technologies Indian pharmaceutical companies

Know-how CIC: Blackstone

CITIC: Bear Stearns

China Development Bank: Barclays

#### Ownership advantages of Chinese & Indian firms

- Satisfying undifferentiated demand at lowest cost
- Overcoming regulatory hurdles, infrastructure bottlenecks, etc.
- Management techniques and production processes adapted to local conditions

### Push factors behind Chinese & Indian ODI in Europe

- 1. Foreign exchange reserves
- 2. Corporate liquidity
- 3. Oligopolistic rivalry
- 4. Government support

#### The political reaction in Europe

- 1. State ownership or control
- 2. Technology leakages
- 3. Deindustrialisation
- 4. Reciprocity

#### **Conclusion**

- Boldness does not change everything: cross-border M&As have a high failure rate and mistakes can be costly.
- Emerging market ODI in Europe and European ODI in China and India are two sides of the same coin.
- As emerging markets grow in size relative to Europe, the incentive for European firms to trade a share of their ownership for access to the Chinese and Indian markets will increase.
- Europe has faced such challenges before. Then as now, European firms will emerge stronger from the experience, with improved prospects in the most promising markets.