

# Review of: "Beyond culture shock: entering the complex world of Global South expatriates' adaptation"

Xiaowen Chen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Florida Institute of Technology

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

1. There is a common issue throughout the paper: problematic definition and explanation of key concepts.

- Global South: the authors referred it to Latin America, Asia, and Oceania. It is not accurate, for example, east Asia is not Global South. I suggest finding a more accurate name to refer the specific groups you try to study. You could search WEIRD (by Henrich, Heine)
- intercultural competence: the definition is inaccurate. Please search the definitions with the key words such as intercultural competence, cross cultural competence, cultural sensitivity, or cultural intelligence
- You didn't distinguish expatriate and repatriate. They are associated but two different concepts involving different socio- or psychological factors and procedures
- Expatriate includes but doesn't equal those sent to foreign sites to work as a manager. Expatriate includes not only company sent managers, technical personnel/workers, labors, but also self-initiative persons who go to foreign countries for job opportunities.
- Expatriates usually is from developed countries to developing countries but there are also many expatriates is from developing countries to developed countries.
- The missions of expatriates are not only transferring knowledge.

To be noted, as a review paper it is of vital importance to accurately conceptualize and explain the key concepts.

2. There have been so many review papers regarding expatriate adaption. Although only a few have focused on reviewing expatriates from a particular region, the authors didn't clearly justify the significance of focusing on "Global South", not to mention that the authors' definition of "Global South" cover multiple, diverse, and distinctive regions.

3. Most the elements in the framework the authors offered have been repeatedly studied and discussed since 1980 and the rest have been discussed since 1990s. I could not see any new findings or innovative ideas.