Political Economy of Innovation: Direction vs. Pace of Innovation Policy Change

The primary goal of this article is to provide an analytical framework to explain the emergence and development of small-and-medium size enterprise (SME)-oriented innovation policy in large developing countries. The article’s point of departure relies on the observation that explanations provided in literature mainly focuses on structural and economic factors that led to the emergence of SME-oriented innovation policy in large developing countries. These explanations, however, do not take the political-economy dimension of the process into account, and equally importantly, do not distinguish direction of policy change from its pace. By focusing on Technopark policy as a particular domain of SME-oriented innovation policy, and Turkey as a single-case study, this article aims to provide such a framework by equipping itself with the analytical repertoire of political-economy literature.