This collection of pioneering papers investigates how economic modernisation and rising prosperity in the “Sinosphere” has affected its interactions with the “Anglosphere”. Its authors include social scientists from different cultural and academic backgrounds whose research collaboration demonstrates that the “Sinosphere” and “Anglosphere” are more than separate economic zones and represent two distinct human civilisations. These papers suggest, nevertheless, that convergences and divergences within the global economy are neither about rivalry nor about which economic zone will end up as the leading power. Their different socio-economic features have more to do with social advances and their consequences in terms of the individual’s well-being. These issues are explored in a variety of economic contexts and social settings. Variations in the use of social capital, the institutionalisation of family businesses and the localization of transnational migrants, for example, all help to reveal the social, political and economic undercurrents shaping the different cultural environments.