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**SHIFTING STATES: THE CONSTITUTIONAL RISKS OF EXTRACTIVE
DEVELOPMENT**

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This article argues that development strategies based on natural resource extraction make the apparatus of the state vulnerable to new ‘constitution-like’¹ constraints which depoliticise development governance. Economic globalization in the extractives sector generally exposes states pursuing extractive models of development to new dynamics of legitimacy and accumulation which have re-constitutionalizing potential for the state, albeit with different results depending on each context. The author argues that the “pressure points” associated with extractive development are located at constitutional interstices in national states, related to processes of accumulation, territorial administration, and the legal politics of redistribution and recognition. Drawing on materialist and socio-legal approaches to constitutionalism, it advocates for the adoption of a critical constitutional perspective to more fully comprehend the political and legal stakes of integration in the global extractives sector.

¹ See Schneiderman, D. 2008. *Constitutionalising Economic Globalisation: Investment Rules and Democracy’s Promise*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp 4.