

Understanding China's Evolving Role in Global Economic Governance

Thursday 21 November – Friday 22 November 2019

Leiden, The Netherlands

Almost four years since it was established, the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved 49 projects and proposed 28. The AIIB claims to be more efficient and less bureaucratic than traditional multilateral development banks (MDB's) which has threatened the existing model of multilateral development finance. At the same time, China's increased role in previously Western-led economic institutions, such as the WTO and IMF, has raised questions over the future of the international trade order. How will a rising China shape the international institutional order? Where are there opportunities for potential collaboration and what areas pose challenges? And how should other states and international organizations respond?

Thursday 21 November 2019

16.00-18.00 Public Roundtable: Understanding China's Evolving Role in the Global Economic Governance: What to Expect in the Future

- How have China's institutional needs shifted as its economic needs and political ambitions grow?
- How has China's role in international economic organizations evolved over the past 20 years?
- How can Western-led multilateral economic institutions effectively manage their relationship with a rising China?
- Can China fulfil the role of a responsible leader of global economic governance?
- What challenges does China face in fulfilling this role?

Speakers

Bert Hofman, Director, East Asian Institute, *National University of Singapore*; Professor of Practice, *Lee Kuan Yew School*

Huang Yanzhong, Senior Fellow for Global Health, *Council on Foreign Relations*; Professor, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, *Seton Hall University*

Michael Sampson, Assistant Professor of International Relations, Institute of Political Science, *Leiden University*

Wang Jue, Lecturer in International Political Economy, Institute for Area Studies, *Leiden University*; Associate Fellow, Asia-Pacific Programme, *Chatham House*

Chair: Champa Patel, Head, Asia-Pacific Programme, *Chatham House*

Friday 22 November 2019

09.45-10.00 Registration

10.00-12.00 Session One: China and Wider Global Governance

- How has China's role in the global governance of climate change, public health and cybersecurity evolved over the past 10 years?
- How do domestic political, economic and social needs shape China's approaches to global governance in the above-mentioned issue areas respectively?
- How do the Chinese government's policy preferences and governance approaches in these issue areas compare to those of developed economies and other emerging economies?
- Why is China reluctant to commit itself to a multilateral treaty establishing specific emissions reduction targets?
- What are its alternative approaches to global climate governance? Are they effective approaches?
- To what extent has China's involvement in global health governance resulted in changes in its own domestic health governance?
- Can China and the US reach a mutually constructive and cooperative relationship in the global governance of cybersecurity and information technology?

Speakers

Rogier Creemers, Assistant Professor of the Law and Governance of China, *Leiden University*

Thomas Hale, Associate Professor in Public Policy, Blavatnik School of Government, *Oxford University*

Huang Yanzhong, Senior Fellow for Global Health, *Council on Foreign Relations*; Professor, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, *Seton Hall University*

Chair: Champa Patel, Head, Asia-Pacific Programme, *Chatham House*

12.00-13.00 Lunch

13.00-14.30 Session Two: China's Role in the WTO and Global Trade Governance

- How has China's role in the WTO changed since its accession in 2001?
- What explains China's reaction to the recent trade dispute with the US? How should we expect this dispute to play out?
- Is China now a defender of the status quo at the WTO?
- How long will China retain its 'developing country' status?
- What are the implications of China's growing network of trade agreements for the multilateral trading system?

Speakers

Kristen Hopewell, Senior Lecturer in International Political Economy, *University of Edinburgh*

Michael Sampson, Assistant Professor of International Relations, Institute of Political Science, *Leiden University*

Hans Peter van der Woude, Deputy Director, International Trade Policy and Economic Governance, The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Clara Weinhardt, Assistant Professor in International Relations, *Maastricht University*; Fellow, *Global Public Policy Institute (GPPi)*

Chair: Matthew di Giuseppe, Assistant Professor of International Relations, Institute of Political Science, *Leiden University*

14.30-15.00 Coffee break

15.00-16.30 Session Three: China's Collaboration with International Development Finance Institutions

- How has China's collaboration with international development finance institutions, for example, World Bank, ADB, EIB, EBRD, IFAD etc., evolved over the past 20 years?
- How does China's approach to multilateral development finance compare to developed countries and other mid- to high-income developing countries?
- How do the AIIB's institutional and operational innovations influence the existing architecture of multilateral development finance?
- How do Chinese actors' (e.g. government, corporations and banks) approaches to infrastructure finance in Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) projects influence the architecture of international development finance?
- How does China deal with scepticism on its approaches?

Speakers

Bert Hofman, Director, East Asian Institute, *National University of Singapore*; Professor of Practice, *Lee Kuan Yew School*

Mickie Schoch, Deputy Director, International Affairs Directorate, *Ministry of Finance*, the Netherlands

Wang Jue, Lecturer in International Political Economy, Institute for Area Studies, *Leiden University*; Associate Fellow, Asia-Pacific Programme, *Chatham House*

Chair: Florian Schneider, Senior University Lecturer in the Politics of Modern China, Institute for Area Studies, *Leiden University*

16.30-16.45 Closing Remarks