



LEAM 2016

**Overcoming Controversies
in East Asia**

CONFERENCE BROCHURE

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University of
LODZ

Łódź, June 2nd 2016

Dear Participants, Guests, Friends,

On behalf of the Department of East Asian Studies I am pleased to welcome you to the **12th Lodz East Asia Meeting – Overcoming Controversies in East Asia**. This year's conference will continue the preceding conferences organized by our unit since 2004.

We, as the Department of East Asia Studies are one of the most dynamic Asian Studies units in Poland. We offer Bachelor degree in Asian Studies in English and we are planning to start Asian Studies at the Master level. Apart from teaching we develop our in-depth research in the field of Chinese and Japanese foreign policy. We have received several Polish National Science Centre's grants: on sovereign wealth funds in Asia, paradiplomacy in Europe, China, Russia and India, the issue of identity in China's foreign policy and institutional changes in Japan's foreign policy.

For the fifth time the Lodz East Asia Meeting becomes an important and international forum for cooperation and exploration of new ideas regarding the region of East Asia. We do hope the participants will enjoy friendly atmosphere and share their thoughts on the latest developments in the region.

This year's conference focuses on examination of political, economic and social controversies and dilemmas in East Asia as well as ways of overcoming them. I wish that it becomes an opportunity for the future cooperation between us and a place where one enjoys getting together with old friends and colleagues, as well as making new ones.

Enjoy your stay in Lodz! Welcome to our University!

Professor Małgorzata Pietrasiak

Head of Department of East Asian Studies

ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF EAST ASIAN STUDIES AND LODZ EAST ASIA MEETING

Department of East Asian Studies (DEAS) was established in 2005 as part of the Institute of International Studies, at the Faculty of International and Political Studies of University of Lodz.

The department is chaired by prof. Małgorzata Pietrasiak. Academic interests of the DEAS faculty concentrate on political, economic, and social processes that take place in East Asia, political systems of countries of the region, their relations with other international actors, and on issues of ethnic and religious minorities. The research is mainly focused on three countries: China, Japan and Vietnam.

Apart from research, the DEAS faculty also teach a wide variety of classes at the Faculty of International and Political Studies. Together with the Department of Middle East and North African Studies, graduate courses specializing in oriental studies are offered. Moreover in 2014/2015 we launched **Asian Studies B.A. degree**. This project is the starting point of our future activities in the field.

The Department also carries out numerous Asia-related projects. Among others, the annual **Lodz East Asian Meetings**, which is an academic conference for young and experienced scholars who deal with Asian affairs. There are study tours to different Asian countries as well. The Department closely cooperates with **Student's Associations of East Asia and Pacific**.

Moreover since its first edition in 2002, the **Lodz East Asian Meeting (LEAM)** gathers scholars, researchers, and students in all disciplines, specializing in East Asian studies. Being the first academic conference of its kind in Poland, gradually it has become one of the most important venues for academic exchange in the field. In the beginning it was directed at post-graduate and doctoral students from Polish tertiary institutions, and with time LEAM came to encompass young academics from various fields. The goal of these meetings is to contribute to the creation of a leading and internationally renowned study center at the University of Lodz, focusing on current East Asian problems. All of this culminated with the result that in 2012, for the first time, it was possible to invite international speakers as well as renowned specialists to take part in the conference.

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LODZ



DEPARTMENT
OF EAST ASIAN
STUDIES



Faculty of
International and
Political Studies
University of Lodz



12th Lodz East Asia Meeting
“Overcoming Controversies in East Asia”
2-3 June 2016

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



Ministry
of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Poland



**MARSHAL
OF THE LODZKIE REGION**
Witold Stepien



LODZ
SPECIAL
ECONOMIC
ZONE



12th Lodz East Asia Meeting
“Overcoming Controversies in East Asia”
2-3 June 2016

organized by the **Department of East Asian Studies**
with the **Students’ East Asian and Pacific Studies Association**

Co-organizer

The Marshal’s Office of the Lodz Region

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Europe-China Academic Network

Institute for Asian Studies (Bratislava)

Pulaski Foundation

The Polish Association of International Studies

JUNE 2, 2016 (THURSDAY)

VENUE: FACULTY OF INTERNATIONAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF LODZ

NARUTOWICZA 59A, LODZ

PLENARY HALL (SALA RADY WYDZIAŁU)

9:30-10:00	REGISTRATION
10:00-10:15	<p><i>PLENARY HALL</i> <u>Welcoming remarks</u></p> <p>Prof. Zofia Wysokińska Pro-Rector in Charge of International Affairs, University of Lodz</p> <p>Prof. Tomasz Domański Dean of the Faculty of International and Political Studies, University of Lodz</p> <p>Prof. Małgorzata Pietrasiak Chair of the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Lodz</p>
10:15-11:45	<p><i>PLENARY HALL</i> <u>Keynote speech</u></p> <p>Prof. Caroline Rose (University of Leeds)</p> <p><i>Turf Wars: Territories and Textbooks in Sino-Japanese Relations</i></p>
11:45-12:00	COFFEE AND TEA BREAK

12:00-13:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Plenary Hall Panel 1 – Sino-Japanese Relations: Challenges and Opportunities Moderator: Prof. Caroline Rose</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Room 112 Panel 2 – “One Belt and One Road” Initiative Moderator: Prof. Dominik Mierzejewski</p>
	<p>Prof. Zhang Hong (East China Normal University) <i>Perceptions of China’s Neighboring Diplomacy: A Case Study of Japanese Major Think Tanks (2008-2016)</i></p>	<p>Prof. Gao Xiaochuan (East China Normal University) <i>OBOR and CEE: Economic and Trade Cooperation from the Perspective of China and CEE under Project 1+16</i></p>
	<p>Ms Anna Voloshina (Russian Academy of Sciences) <i>Sino-Japanese Relations in the XXI Century: Problems and Prospects</i></p>	<p>Dr Łukasz Zamecki (University of Warsaw) <i>Impact of New Silk Road Initiative on the EU-China Relations: Perspective of World-Systems Theory</i></p>
	<p>Mr Roland Lewiński (University of Oregon) <i>The Reconstruction of the Axiological Basis of the Ideological Discourse in Sino-Japanese Relations Based on Analysis of the People’s Daily’s Articles in Regard to Yasukuni Shrine</i></p>	<p>Mrs Noémi Eszterhainé Szóke (University of Pécs) <i>One Belt One Road vs. Pivot to Asia: The Chinese View of Conflict in the Chinese School of International Relations Theory</i></p>
	<p>Dr Karol Żakowski (University of Lodz) <i>Failed Attempt at Sino-Japanese Security Cooperation</i></p>	<p>Mr Hongfei Gu (University of Lodz) <i>Summit Later. Opportunities amidst Uncertainties China-EU Security Cooperation in the context of “One Belt One Road” Initiative</i></p>

13:30- 14:30	LUNCH	
14:30- 16:00	Plenary Hall Panel 3 – Problems of Law and Democracy in East Asia Moderator: Dr Michał Zaręba	Room 112 Panel 4 – Regionalization in Asia: Processes and Obstacles Moderator: Dr Tomasz Kamiński
	Prof. Wichuda Satidporn (Srinakharinwirot University), Dr Stithorn Thananithichot (King Prajadhipok’s Institute) <i>Political Regime Dynamics and Social Security Reform: A Case Study of the Social Security Act Amendments during the Periods of Yingluck and Prayuth</i>	Prof. Sukru Inan (Inonu University) <i>From Geopolitics to Geoeconomics: The Transformation of Regional Integration in the South Asia</i>
	Dr Marta Kosmala-Kozłowska (Collegium Civitas) <i>Rule of Law and Rule by Law in Taiwanese Democracy</i>	Dr Mateusz Smolaga (University of Szczecin) <i>Asian Development Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank – Is Cooperation Possible?</i>
	Mr Michał Banaś (University of Wrocław) <i>Semi-presidentialism and Democracy in East Asia</i>	Dr Marcin Socha (University of Łódź) <i>Environmental Politics in North East Asia – Cooperation or Rivalry</i>
	Mr Mateusz Piątkowski (University of Łódź) <i>Vietnam War, the Bombardment of Hanoi and the Law of Armed Conflicts</i>	Ms Aihua Li (Leiden University) <i>Caught Between Two Fires: The Koguryeo History Debate as seen from the Korean Chinese Point of View</i>
16:00- 16:10	BREAK	

16:10- 17:40	Plenary Hall Panel 5 – China’s IR Theory and Foreign Policy Moderator: Dr Bartosz Kowalski	Room 112 Panel 6 – Economy and Business in Asian Context Moderator: Dr Marcin Socha
	Prof. Emilian Kavalski (Australian Catholic University) <i>Guanxi and the Nascent Origins of a Relational Theory of International Relations</i>	Prof. Nissa Sinlapasate, Ms Nattaya Nulong (Phuket Rajabhat University) <i>The Development of Business Cooperation in Thailand Regarding to The German Entrepreneur Opinion</i>
	Prof. Dominik Mierzejewski (University of Lodz) <i>China’s Identity Oriented Foreign Policy. IR Constructivist Discourse in Mainland China</i>	Mr Shingo Masunaga (University of Turku) <i>Japan as Number One: The Return of the Mercantile Realism</i>
	Ms Izabela Kujawa (Adam Mickiewicz University) <i>Challenging Immigration: Foreign Workers and Chinese Visa Policy</i>	Mr Artur Modliński (University of Lodz) <i>The Nature and Characteristics of the Economic Boycotts at the Asian Markets</i>
	Mr Miklos Horvath (Fudan University) <i>International Influence on Chinese Governance</i>	Ms Agnieszka Batko (Jagiellonian University) <i>Womenomics: The Assumptions and Effects of Abenomics Third Arrow</i>
20:00- 22:00	CONFERENCE DINNER VENUE: BIEDERMANN PALACE , Franciszkańska 1/3	

JUNE 3, 2016 (FRIDAY)

9:00-10:50	<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY HALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel 7 – Successes and Failures of Chinese Economy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: Dr Grzegorz Bywalec</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROOM 112</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel 8 – East Asian Security Dilemmas</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: Dr Michał Zaręba</p>
	<p>Dr Mikhail Karpov (Russian Higher School of Economics) <i>“Shadow” Banking vs. State Banking: Comparing Social and Institutional Controversies of Financial Deregulation in China and Taiwan</i></p>	<p>Dr Péter Klemensits (PAGEO Foundation, Central Bank of Hungary) <i>Defence Reform and Military Modernization in the Philippines in the perspective of the South China Sea Conflict</i></p>
	<p>Dr YiKe Zhang (China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong) <i>Problems and Prospects of China-Russia-Mongolia Economic Corridor</i></p>	<p>Mr Kahraman Suvari (Yildiz Technical University) <i>North Korea’s Fourth Nuclear Test</i></p>
	<p>Prof. James Reilly (University of Sydney) <i>Assessing China’s Economic Statecraft in Europe</i></p>	<p>Ms Kamila Stasiak (Jagiellonian University) <i>The Spratly Islands Dispute: Prospects for a Diplomatic Solution</i></p>
	<p>Dr Tomasz Kamiński (University of Lodz) <i>Sovereign Wealth Funds as Instruments of Chinese Foreign Policy</i></p>	<p>Mrs Celine Pajon (French Institute of International Relations) <i>“There Is No Alternative”: Japan and Its Alliance with the US to 2030</i></p>
	<p>Mr Jakub Jakóbowski (Warsaw School of Economics) <i>“16+1” Platform in the Context of China-Africa and China-Latin America Relations: Towards a Chinese Regional Cooperation Model</i></p>	

10:50- 11:00	COFFEE AND TEA BREAK	
11:00- 12:50	PLENARY HALL Panel 9: Analyzing Europe–Asia Relations Moderator: Dr Tomasz Kamiński	ROOM 112 Panel 10: Chinese Culture and Identity Moderator: Dr Bartosz Kowalski
	Prof. Zang Shumei (East China Normal University) <i>Regional Policy in China and EU: Comparison and Cooperation</i>	Prof. Thomas Gold (University of California, Berkeley) <i>Taiwan/Slovenia: Notes Towards a Comparative Study of National Identity Construction</i>
	Dr Lukas Las (University of Ostrava) <i>Bridging Visegrad Group and East Asia Through Cooperation</i>	Dr Joanna Wardęga (Jagiellonian University) <i>The Great Wall and Other Tourist Destinations in Textbooks on Teaching Chinese: Constructing a Desired Image of China</i>
	Dr Dorota Roszkowska (University of Białystok), Ms Emilia Radkiewicz, <i>How is EU Preparing for China’s Economic Involvement in Europe?</i>	Ms Denisa Hilbertova (Masaryk University) <i>The Never-ending Story of Taiwanese Identity</i>
	Ms Nguyen Trinh Thanh Nguyen (Corvinus University of Budapest) <i>The Impact of EU Development Aid on Economic Growth of Vietnam</i>	Ms Magdalena Stanisławska (University of Warsaw) <i>Nationalism in Chinese Society as an Effect of the External and Internal Influences</i>
	Ms Sylwia Matusiak (University of Lodz) <i>Japanese Capital Involvement in Visegrad Countries</i>	Mr Ian Lewis (Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences) <i>China’s Cocoon Culture?: Understanding the China Dream</i>
12:50- 13:50	LUNCH	

13:50- 15:20	PLENARY HALL Panel 11 – Evolution of Japan’s Security Policy Moderator: Dr Karol Żakowski	ROOM 112 Panel 12 – Geopolitical Competition in Asia Moderator: Dr Marcin Grabowski
	Dr Beata Bochorodycz (Adam Mickiewicz University) <i>Japan’s War on Terrorism</i>	Dr Bruno Surdel (Zirve University) <i>Russia and Issues of Peace and Security in South East Asia</i>
	Ms Gabriela-Alexandra Banica (University of Bucharest) <i>The Perception of Terrorism in Japan</i>	Dr Michał Zaręba (University of Lodz) <i>From Hegemony to Cooperation? China’s Hydropolitics towards the Lower Mekong Basin</i>
	Mr Michał Snopek (University of Warsaw) <i>Remilitarisation as One of the Manifestation of Nationalism – The Case of Japan during the Shinzō Abe Reign</i>	Mr Viktor Eszterhai (PAGEO Foundation, Central Bank of Hungary) <i>Towards an Asymmetric Strategic Situation in East and Southeast Asia</i>
	Mr Krystian Karolak (University of Lodz) <i>Japan Self Defense Forces between Past and the Future. Shinzo Abe’s New Security Bill and a “Peace and Security” Course in Japan’s Defense Policy</i>	Mr Ladislav Galo (Slovak Academy of Sciences) <i>China, India and Japan: Competition for Regional Primacy?</i>
15:20- 15:30	BREAK	

15:30- 17:00	PLENARY HALL Panel 13 – Dimensions of Chinese Politics Moderator: Prof. Dominik Mierzejewski	ROOM 112 Panel 14 – Dynamics of the US “Pivot to Asia” Strategy Moderator: Dr Beata Bochorodycz
	Prof. Junhua Zhang (Shanghai Jiao Tong University) <i>Technological Catch-up and Leapfrogging with Political Means – China’s Neo-Statist Approach and Their Implication</i>	Prof. Kamer Kasim (Abant Izzet Baysal University) <i>The impact of the US Rebalancing Policy toward Asia Pacific on International Relations in the Region</i>
	Dr Dmitry Kuznetsov (Blagoveshchensk State Pedagogical University) <i>The Chinese Nationalism and Foreign Policy Component Mass Consciousness of Inhabitants of People’s Republic of China</i>	Prof. David A. Jones (University of Warsaw) <i>Cooperation or Confrontation? Assessing the American “Pivot” to Asia in Context</i>
	Mr Maximilian Piekut (University of Warsaw / Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich) <i>Consolidation and Deconsolidation of Power Among CCP Leaders – Is Xi Jinping’s Presidency a Return to the Era of Paramount Leaders?</i>	Dr Marcin Grabowski (Jagiellonian University) <i>The Role of Sino-American Complex Economic Interdependence for the U.S. Pivot to Asia</i>
	Mr Mirosław Michał Sadowski (University of Wrocław) <i>Law, Power and Conflict at Variance on the Example of Hong Kong and Macau</i>	Dr Piotr Kozłowski (National Defence Academy) <i>Japan and the Emergent Maritime Axis in East Asia</i>
17:00	PLENARY HALL Closing remarks	

Keynote speaker: Professor Caroline Rose (University of Leeds)

Professor Caroline Rose is the President of the British Association for Japanese Studies, Executive Director of the White Rose East Asia Centre and Director of East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds. Her teaching and research focus on Sino-Japanese relations (with specific reference to the history problem), and various aspects of Japanese and Chinese foreign policy.

Major Publications

Books and Monographs

Sino-Japanese Relations: Facing the Past, Looking to the Future?, RoutledgeCurzon, 2004.

Interpreting History in Sino-Japanese Relations. Routledge, 1998.

Book Chapters and Articles

‘Reconciliation – the broader context’ in Dobson, H. and Kosuge Nobuko (eds) *The UK and Japan at War and Peace*, RoutledgeCurzon, 2009.

‘Sino-Japanese relations and the dangers of new era diplomacy’ in Dent, C.M. (ed.) *China, Japan and Regional Leadership in East Asia*, Edward Elgar, 2008.

‘Breaking the Deadlock: Japan's informal diplomacy with China, 1958-9’ in Iokibe, M, Rose, C., Tomaru J., and Weste, J. (eds) *Japan's Diplomacy in the 1950s: From Isolation to Integration*, RoutledgeCurzon, 2008.

‘The Yasukuni Shrine Problem in Sino-Japanese Relations: Facing a Stalemate’ in John Breen (ed) *Yasukuni, the war dead and the struggle for Japan's past*, Hurst & Co, 2007.

‘The Battle for Hearts and Minds: Patriotic Education in Japan in the 1990s’ in Shimazu, N. (ed.) *Nationalism in Modern and Contemporary Japan*, RoutledgeCurzon, 2006.

‘Japanese Role in PKO and Humanitarian Assistance’ in Inoguchi and Jain (eds). *Japanese Foreign Policy Today*. Palgrave 2001 pp.122-135

“‘Patriotism is not taboo’: nationalism in China and Japan and implications for Sino-Japanese Relations’. *Japan Forum* 2000 12(2) 169-181.

‘The Textbook Issue: Domestic Sources of Japan's Foreign Policy’. *Japan Forum* 1999 11(2) 205-216.

Abstracts (in alphabetical order)**Mr Michał Banaś (University of Wrocław)*****Semi-presidentialism and Democracy in East Asia***

According to the standard English-language definition of semi-presidentialism, it is a system of government where popularly elected fixed-term president exists alongside a prime minister and cabinet who are responsible to parliament. Most academics are convinced that if semi-presidential system would be constituted in countries without appropriate culture and experiences, it may cause a decrease in their level of democracy. It is due to several features rooted in the structure of this regime. Nevertheless such thesis requires empirical verification. The aim of this paper is to analyse the relation between functioning of semi-presidentialism and the level of democracy in four countries of East Asia – Mongolia, Taiwan, Timor-Lese (current semi-presidential countries) and South Korea (historic case of semi-presidentialism). Author will answer following research questions: (1) what were the characteristics of semi-presidential regime in selected countries; (2) how did the level of democracy change in those countries; (3) what were the reasons of possible decrease of democracy in selected countries? Consequently following thesis will be verified: Opposed to the beliefs of academics semi-presidentialism did not have a negative impact on the level of democracy of four selected countries of East Asia. In the research author will use system analysis and original index of democracy.

Ms Gabriela-Alexandra Banica (University of Bucharest)***The Perception of Terrorism in Japan***

The paper is set to analyse the validity of Japan's actions during the recent past years regarding the implementation of the international law when dealing with the topic of terrorism. Considering the fact that the Japanese society has often disregarded using the term terrorist when naming authors of acts of terrorism, that again it failed in labelling them as terrorist attacks, but rather as action taken by groups and people that view themselves as marginalized in order to draw attention to social inequalities the paper argues that terrorism is seen as phenomenon exterior to Japan's daily life. However, Japan proves to consider the threat of terrorism as an important matter and to be constantly working on keeping terrorist groups out of Japan, having international contributions in the field of counter-terrorism and improving security measures at home.

Ms Agnieszka Batko (Jagiellonian University)***Womenomics: The Assumptions and Effects of Abenomics Third Arrow***

In 2012, after being sworn as the Prime Minister of Japan for the second time, Shinzō Abe introduced his plan of reviving Japanese economy. This set of reforms, named Abenomics after the Prime Minister's name, was designed to secure the state's position within the region. Its agenda consists of the three so-called "arrows" that concern the changes in the fiscal policy, monetary policy and fundamental structural shift. One of the key concepts of the third arrow is Womenomics which concentrates on persuading Japanese women to act more actively on the job market and seek for the opportunities of advancing their careers. Despite being one of the most developed countries in the world, gender gap is apparent with regards to workforce and it does have a significant impact on the state of Japanese economy. The purpose of this article is to present the assumptions of Womenomics concept and to determine how it is being applied by the current Japanese government. This analysis will then focus on estimating the already perceptible effects of introducing Womenomics with regards to two aspects. Firstly, the study will evaluate the consequences for Japanese economy through applying the statistical data in quantitative research. Secondly, it will also contain references to the social level as this model poses a series of evident challenges to the traditional concept of the role of women in the Japanese society.

Dr Beata Bochorodycz (Adam Mickiewicz University)

Japan's War on Terrorism

Prime Minister Koizumi has been accredited with variety of policy achievements, both domestically and in diplomacy, during his long term in office (2001-2006). Having little foreign policy experience, Koizumi was able to introduce several controversial legislative proposals and implemented them in extremely short period of time. The Anti-terrorism legislation and dispatch of Self Defense Forces (SDF) for support to US forces in Indian Ocean were introduced and implemented in 2001. In 2003 the Contingency legislation and Special law on Iraq reconstruction were passed by the Diet, based on which the SDF were sent to Iraq in January 2004. As a strong supporter of the US-Japan alliance Koizumi was capable of achieving his goals under particular international situation of terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C. in September 2001 and the War on Iraq in 2003. Nevertheless, can those circumstances alone be accounted for Koizumi's policy success? What kind of strategies and tools the prime minister used? The paper will analyze the decision making process of the anti-terrorist related policies under Koizumi from the perspective of institutional tools introduced by administrative reforms in 2001. To what extent the reforms that were to strengthen the prime minister position vis-à-vis bureaucracy in fact contributed to Koizumi's success?

Mr Viktor Eszterhai (PAGEO Foundation, Central Bank of Hungary)

Towards an Asymmetric Strategic Situation in East and Southeast Asia

After the launch of the Reform and Opening Up Policy, China's position within the East and Southeast Asian region's security architecture has gradually become more dominant, and thus generated a shift in the balance of power, even though the naval and air supremacy of the United States still guarantees a quasi-equilibrium. In order to recover China's formal great power position, the Chinese government chose to pursue a low-profile, cooperative foreign

policy, while the behaviour of smaller regional actors has been far less modest, especially after the 2011 announcement of the United States' Pivot to Asia policy. Recent years China's asymmetric warfare strategy has shown great development (especially in the field of anti-ship ballistic missiles, such as the DF-21D), while the policeman role of the United States appears to be getting increasingly risky, creating a traditional asymmetric power balance in the region. The much less cooperative, increasingly assertive foreign policy China has been pursuing lately in the region (exemplified by the building of artificial islands and the deployment of military technology and personnel on disputed territory) may be interpreted as a clear evidence of regional power shift. The present study applies the theoretical approach of asymmetric theory in international relations to examine the changing nature of power politics in East and Southeast Asia, and to forecast the possible future behaviour of the region's actors.

Mrs Noémi Eszterhainé Szőke (University of Pécs)

One Belt One Road vs. Pivot to Asia: The Chinese view of conflict in the Chinese School of International Relations Theory

The One Belt One Road initiative (popularly known as the New Silk Road), officially announced in 2013 by Xi Jinping, President of the People Republic of China, is regarded by many Western scholars and politicians as a geopolitical strategy to counterbalance America's Pivot to Asia policy. Many think that the grand Chinese project which aims to link two of the three main economic centers of the World – namely Southeast Asia and Europe – through Central Asia could undermine the present global power structure resting on the supremacy of the United States, and could serve as the base for a new Chinese world order. This kind of interpretation of the One Belt One Road initiative fits well into Western taxonomical-dialectical thinking which assumes that China will inevitably try to demolish the present international system to build up a completely new one. This kind of interpretation, however, is too limited to comprehensively explain the Chinese initiative. This presentation is going to introduce a different approach, one that is rooted deeply in traditional Chinese thinking, to explain the notion of conflict itself in order to give a more levelled assessment of the changes in the international system.

Mr Ladislav Galo (Slovak Academy of Sciences)

China, India and Japan: Competition for Regional Primacy?

In last few years there have been visible some trends in global policy. The old division of the world into developed (mainly represented by USA, EU and Japan) and developing countries is slowly becoming more or less invalid. These tendencies are mostly visible in Asia: the economic growth of several countries (also called "emerging economies") creates conditions for the increase of the other factors of power: technology, military, policy and culture. The most significant states in South and East Asia in terms of mentioned factors – and according to geographical and demographic size – are China, India and Japan. These three countries represent today the only three civilizations in the world with continuous cultural development, which have also played key role in the history of South and East Asia for thousands of years. The evolution in last few centuries – especially in 20th century – brought

to each of these states different political orders. The character of national interests expressed in foreign policies of China, India and Japan depends on these political systems on one side, and on the historical experiences on the other. Especially after the deepening of globalization and growth of mutual interdependency we can see increasing cooperation also between these countries (mainly in economy and trade). But behind the shaking hands of politicians there is maybe more than common neighbourhood policy: a hard competition for regional hegemony in Asia.

Prof. Gao Xiaochuan (East China Normal University)

OBOR and CEE: Economic and Trade Cooperation from the Perspective of China and CEE under Project 1+16

Geographically, the OBOR initiative covers the Eurasian continent. One of its priorities aims to promote connectivity of Eurasia, establish and strengthen partnerships among the countries along the Belt and the Road. As “the world island”, the Eurasian continent has become focus of global political, economic, population and natural resources. Inherent advantages of economic development on the continent are based on integration of factors, such as market, money, resources and technology. China, EU, Russia and Central Asia are the main three economies on Eurasia, where the EU has advantages in capital, technology and unified market, China in manufacturing and market demand, while Russia and Central Asia in resources.

CEE countries, with ethnic and national diversity, is located in strategic position of the continent. Since the 1990s, this region has undergone two great historical processes, that is, transformation and accession to the EU, which led to changes of political and economic pattern on the Eurasian continent. With its unique geographical and economic competitive advantages, in recent years, CEE countries have become dynamic emerging economies in the world. The One Belt and One Road Initiative can reinforce strategic ties between China and CEE countries, thus enabling economic and trade cooperation among them become an important sub-regional fulcrum of the OBOR initiative.

Economic and trade cooperation between China and CEE is in favour of coordination of East Asian economic circle and the EU circle. The CEE countries, especially Poland and Czech, will play a critical role in building new Eurasian land bridge. In addition, as transition (or post-transition) economies, both China and CEE are dynamically developing regions, their cooperation can help promote economic recovery and prosperity on the Eurasian continent. However, presently their cooperation still faces some obstacles, both sides should make efforts to tap potentials, extend cooperation area and enhance cooperation level.

Prof. Thomas Gold (University of California, Berkeley)

Taiwan/Slovenia: Notes Towards a Comparative Study of National Identity Construction

During a visit to the history museums of Ljubljana, Slovenia, I was struck by the official presentation of Slovenian history, including all of the periods of its incorporation into larger entities, and then its independence from Yugoslavia. It drew on the light and dark sides to illustrate the elements contributing to the formation of contemporary Slovenian identity. Over the past few decades in Taiwan there has also been a societally-initiated effort to

articulate a Taiwan identity separate from that of China. There is no consensus on how to deal with the legacy of Japan and China. Based on the Slovenian example, I would suggest attention to: 1) ethnic composition; 2) history prior to incorporation; 3) process of incorporation; 4) policies to remake people as subjects of new overlords; 5) process of separation; 6) social movements to define local identity

Dr Marcin Grabowski (Jagiellonian University)

The Role of Sino-American Complex Economic Interdependence for the U.S. Pivot to Asia

The U.S. pivot/rebalancing to Asia, initiated by Barack Obama administration has often been perceived as a way of containing China, even though American politicians tend to deny. There is no doubt, however, China's rise is a crucial factor for increased U.S. activity in the Asia-Pacific Region. Dense economic interactions between two powers seem to be important factors preventing confrontation. The paper aims at analyzing economic relations between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China as a crucial factor shaping the so called "pivot" policy. Analysis is based on the complex interdependence theory of Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye. Two elements of the approach will be taken into account, namely sensitivity and vulnerability. Basing on the aforementioned, the research question if there is a complex economic interdependence, will be answered. For the sake of the paper, trade sector, investment sector, sovereign bond holdings, exchange rates problems, as well as political implications of such an interdependence will be analyzed. Relative change of power in global economic system, including new multilateral initiatives will also be presented.

Mr Hongfei Gu (University of Lodz)

Summit Later. Opportunities amidst Uncertainties China-EU Security Cooperation in the context of "One Belt One Road" Initiative

Over 40 years since China and the EU established the diplomatic relations, the close exchanges between the EU and China increasingly interconnected, even became the "focus" for the new generation of Chinese leaders. In 2013, China and the EU have adopted the China-EU 2020 Strategic Agenda during the 16th China-EU Summit, the peace and security have been made priorities in the four main areas. On the other hand, Europe aims to improve security and defence cooperation with China, especially in the Middle East and in the fight against human trafficking. China's "One Belt One Road" initiative focuses on connectivity and cooperation among countries primarily in Eurasia, it aims to enhance China's position and influence in global cooperation and economic development. At the same time, it will have a positive effect on stabilizing the situation and preventing security issues of extremism and terrorism. It would also create opportunities for closer cooperation between China and the EU. This paper aims to examine the following questions. In the context of the "One Belt One Road" initiative, what opportunities might enhance cooperation between China and the EU in the field of security? What are the responses to the member states for such cooperation? Is it possible that US and Russia's influence on the EU weakens in the context of China-EU security cooperation?

Ms Denisa Hilbertova (Masaryk University)

The Never-ending Story of Taiwanese Identity

What is a Taiwanese identity? An answer to this question has been defined over and over, especially in last two decades after the democratization of Taiwan. Many researches base their findings on population surveys, specific Formosan historical development and the existence of Taiwanese indigenous people. But surveys' results shift as the People's Republic of China – Republic of China relation change. As well as historical interpretation varies and politicians modify the state's approach towards indigenous population. Nevertheless, the amount of scientific articles about this issue is striking. Which raises a question, does it really matter if Taiwan is able to define its identity, since P.R.C. recognises 55 unique ethnic minorities? Will finding the answer change P.R.C.-R.O.C. debate? And why Taiwan struggles so long and hard to find an answer to its question? The aim of this paper is to outline other possible methods to define a national identity based on historical comparison of European and American self-determination in the 19th century. And to framework what consequences might bring defining a Taiwanese identity in domestic and international affairs.

Mr Miklos Horvath (Fudan University)

Travelling Ideas, Changing Governance: What Motivated the Diffusion of the Action Learning Approach into the Chinese Training System?

This paper aims at offering a mechanism-based thinking on idea diffusion. It examines what motivated the Chinese central government to implement action learning into their training system. Action learning has been implemented in Chinese governance thanks to the Sino-Swiss Management Training Program (1994-1996). The project enjoyed the full financial support of the Swiss government and was carried out by the Centre for Socio-Economic Development. This research intends to account for a systematic description of what encourage the Chinese government to implement Western ideas by contrasting four mechanisms, including coercion, competition, social construction and learning in order to pick up the most suitable explanation for better understanding Chinese governance as existing literature does not fully study this field of inquiry. I will highlight the objectives of actors, institutional structures, the political-economic landscape of China, the opportunities for Switzerland in China from both micro- and macro- perspectives, the Chinese civil service reform, the foreign influences on Chinese training and path leading to the SSMTTP as well as the main features of action learning. Secondary sources as well as data from interview sessions (with Saner and Yiu providing a unique insight to understand the SSMTTP being started as a bottom-up initiative) will be used to support my conviction that it was a conscious learning process by which the Chinese acquired action learning.

Prof. Sukru Inan (Inonu University)

From Geopolitics to Geoeconomics: The Transformation of Regional Integration in the South Asia

The paper analyzes the regional integration motivations in the South Asia in terms of regional economic integrations. The political character of the regional integration in the geopolitical

era has shifted an economic and commercial character in the geoeconomic era and the rise of South Asia's commercial and economic share in the global economy has made these integrations more remarkable. Geopolitical and geoeconomic configuration of the world has mainly realized through the international organizations which are global or regional. During the cold war the USA and the USSR had exercised these organizations to expand the political sphere of influence with reference to the "trade follows flag". The ideological and political conflict between the two super powers and the "containment policy" of the USA against the Sino-Soviet Bloc had mostly determined the regional integrations among South Asian states. However great changes in the global political economy after 1990 has affected the regional integrations with reference to the "flag follows trade". Therefore the regional economic integrations in the South Asia are evaluated in terms of Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

Mr Jakub Jakóbowski (Warsaw School of Economics)

"16+1" Platform in the Context of China-Africa and China-Latin America Relations: Towards a Chinese Regional Cooperation Model

This article draws a comparison between China's cooperation with Central and Eastern Europe (China-CEE, 16+1) and two other regional cooperation platforms established by China in the 21st century: Forum of China and Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and China Latin American and Caribbean Countries Forum (China-CELAC). This sets a framework of 16+1 formula analysis, contributing to a broader discussion on EU-China relations. While existing literature concentrates on China's presence in each of aforementioned regions separately, giving little insight into a broader scope of PRC's activities in the international field, it seems valid to use a comparative approach. The study is based on an analysis of regional forums' key deliverables, published in a form of medium-term cooperation plans and cooperation implementation measures lists. Other related documents, country representatives' speeches and press coverage are used as a supplementary source. A conceptualization of China's regional cooperation model is presented, with an analysis of distinctive structural and institutional features shared by all three international cooperation platforms. However, the European Union's factor within the China-CEE relations, as well as the region's characteristics, lead to a distinctive institutionalization patterns and evolution of the 16+1 forum. This leads to a conclusion that while a coherent China's multilateral regional cooperation model can be observed, its use in the CEE region is limited.

Prof. David A. Jones (University of Warsaw)

Cooperation or Confrontation? Assessing the American "Pivot" to Asia in Context

Much attention has surrounded "America's Pivot to Asia," hyped in fanfare, castigated by China, welcomed by smaller Asian states in the context of maritime security, all involving a military pivot to Asia. Less attention has focused on a Western economic pivot to Asia that includes a significant American presence, including World Bank cooperation under American leadership with the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) under Chinese leadership. As announced initially by Chinese President Xi Jinping, the AIIB stood to become the antithesis of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund combined with their "Western" dominated

influence originating at the 1944 Bretton Woods Economic Conference that included a vocal presence from the Chinese Nationalist Party. More recently, AIIB changed course quietly, grounding its funding in United States Dollars instead of Chinese RenMinBi, and successfully structuring loans from the World Bank to the AIIB to support derivative loans from the AIIB to developing nations! This paper will address the significance of what appears facially to be a “carrot and stick” approach, focusing particularly on opportunities for Sino-American and Sino-European cooperation instead of confrontation, and also forecasting ways in which such cooperation is likely to diffuse the already existing confrontation in the South China Sea and elsewhere by progressive de-escalation. Is this financial cooperation a form of “Dollar Diplomacy” that will result in an American military pivot away from Asia?

Dr Tomasz Kamiński (University of Lodz)

Sovereign Wealth Funds as Instruments of Chinese Foreign Policy

Sovereign wealth funds (SWF) are widely perceived as politically biased. This paper argues that in China, they are not only “biased” but principally serve as instruments of foreign policy. The main aim is to answer the question, in what ways Chinese use their SWFs. In the first part I analyse Chinese SWFs investments in terms of value, geographical and sectoral distribution (on the basis of SWF Institute Transaction Database). In the second, I present four methods of use the SWFs to reach Chinese foreign policy goals: checkbook diplomacy, increase in influence and leverage on the third countries, access to sensitive information and building positive image of China in the world.

Mr Krystian Karolak (University of Lodz)

Japan Self Defense Forces between Past and the Future. Shinzo Abe’s New Security Bill and a “Peace and Security” Course in Japan’s Defense Policy

Self-Defense Forces as a unified “military” forces were established in 1954. Before the end of allied occupation, Japan government authorized a creation of National Police Reserve equipped with light infantry weapons. A few years later, it was reorganized into National Safety Agency and after that Self-Defense Forces were formed. Soon they participated in disaster relief actions, engaged in peacekeeping mission around the world and performed its duties according to Japanese defense policy. During the recent prime minister’s of Japan second term (more specifically it happened in July 2014), Shinzō Abe cabinet took decision to reinterpret Japan’s constitution to allow Self-Defense Forces the right for „collective self-defense”, granting them an ability to aid or defend allies that are under attack. In his speech, the author would like to concentrate on the recent development of Self-Defense Forces, shortly pointing out the passage of State Security Law and creation of Japanese National Security Council, analyse Shinzō Abe bill that focuses on expanding the role of SDF, public support or disapproval over the reinterpretation of Article 9, United States of America response to the new bill approved by the Japanese Diet, and Asian neighbours growing awareness (Chinese and Korean perception of Japan as a country returning to its militaristic past).

Dr Mikhail Karpov (Russian Higher School of Economics)

“Shadow” Banking vs. State Banking: Comparing Social and Institutional Controversies of Financial Deregulation in China and Taiwan

At the time of financial deregulation in Taiwan (1980-1990s) the so called “shadow banking” represented important social and institutional player in favour of financial deregulation, since its capital sources and mechanisms of allocation were fundamentally separated from the KMT-controlled state banking system. The latter also tended to support deregulation, being fed up sitting on strict financial “diet”, imposed on them by commanding Central Bank. In Mainland China “shadow banking” – with regard to capital sources – are continuation of the CCP-controlled state banking, which is swimming in the state money. Hence main Chinese institutional players in the fields of credit and investment – be them state or non-state – are far from eager to embrace financial deregulation.

Prof. Kamer Kasim (Abant Izzet Baysal University)

The impact of the US Rebalancing Policy toward Asia Pacific on International Relations in the Region

US President Obama is well known for giving priority to South and East Asia in the US foreign policy. The increasing importance of Asia-Pacific region is the main reason for the US declaration on the region as “pivot”. Asia-Pacific economically and politically is taking central place in world politics. China’s active involvement and growing influence in the region and its stand on East and South China Sea disputes are considered as challenged by the US administration. The US rebalancing strategy is aimed at strengthening the US ties with its regional allies and expanding the US military presence in the region. There are economic, political/diplomatic and military aspects of the strategy. Trans-Pacific Partnership that includes countries encompassing 40 % of global GDP is one of the most important economic aspects of rebalancing strategy. In the diplomatic field the Obama administration followed policy of deepening engagement with regional multilateral organizations like the ASEAN Regional Forum. The military aspect is an important part for rebalancing strategy. The US conducted joint military exercises with its allies and took serious steps to increase its naval presence in Asia-Pacific. In this paper the US rebalancing strategy will be analyzed, dealing with its shortcomings and the US relations with key regional actors. The US position regarding East and South China Sea problems will also be evaluated with the parameters of rebalancing strategy.

Prof. Emilian Kavalski (Australian Catholic University)

Guanxi and the Nascent Origins of a Relational Theory of International Relations

The rise of China troubles the taken-for-granted epistemological and ontological constitution of IR. The issue here is that IR theory lacks the language to explain and understand Beijing’s growing prominence. The Greek term “theoria” implied travelling to foreign locales with the aim of gaining illumination that can then simultaneously inform and transform the “home” of the traveller. Yet, instead of travelling, IR theory engages in silencing. This paper undertakes

an interpretative journey of China's IR concepts. In particular, it looks at the notion of guanxi – one of the two terms that goes into the Chinese phrase for International Relations (guoji guanxi). The contention is that “relationality” renders a more accurate translation of guanxi in English. In the process, the paper uncovers the practices of “international relationality” as an opportunity to redefine the “international” as a co-dependent space where two or more actors (despite their divergences) can interface into a dialogical community. The claim is that the critical travelling made possible by the emphasis on relationality engenders a rather gimballed view of the “international” – just like a ship's compass (or a gimbal), the patterns of global life are made up of multiple, interconnected, and constantly shifting spheres of relations.

Dr Péter Klemensits (PAGEO Foundation, Central Bank of Hungary)

Defence Reform and Military Modernization in the Philippines in the perspective of the South China Sea Conflict

Presently the Philippines has the weakest armed forces in Southeast Asia. For the past 5 decades, the Philippine military has had to fight and contain communist insurgents and Islamist groups alike, and thus the army has long been focused on internal defence. However, after several incidents with China in the South China Sea, the presidency of Benigno S. Aquino III brought about significant changes, and serious steps have been taken to reform the defence establishment and upgrade the military. This presentation will start off with a review of the main aspects of the defence reforms introduced since 1990. The presentation will then discuss the present state of the AFP, the results of the modernisation programmes initiated after 2010, and the medium- and long-term politico-military aims of the Aquino administration relating to the South China Sea with the possible options as well. I will argue that the rather limited capabilities of the AFP, combined with the international and domestic security situation, leave the government no other option but to try to transform the national defence system so that it becomes more efficient and capable in the future. However, due to the resources being limited, and also taking the economic and political factors into consideration, upgrading the services requires a cautious balancing act between the procurement of alternative weapons and the pursuit of different strategic directions.

Dr Marta Kosmala-Kozłowska (Collegium Civitas)

Rule of Law and Rule by Law in Taiwanese Democracy

Taiwan is one of the most democratised political and legal systems in East Asia. Democratisation started in Taiwan no earlier than the late 1980s, but the progress has been rapid ever since. Claims for political liberties of the Taiwanese derived from the economic success which had significantly improved their well-being in the postwar period, allowing for the emergence of middle class, who demanded change. Still, Confucian (and more broadly – East Asian) political culture and the “rule by law” approach to justice, historical illiberal experiences and external threats to its existence may lead to a conclusion that full democratisation is hardly possible in Taiwan. However, its approach to democracy, the rule of law and human rights is significantly different from that of the PRC or Singapore. In case of Taiwan one can observe a pluralisation of the political scene and genuine party, coalition and

electoral politics, allowing for government rotation. As for the relation between state security protection measures and human-centered security, there is advanced accountability of police and judicial procedures in Taiwan (e.g.: extrajudicial killings or arbitrary detention procedures are illegal and have not been registered in recent years), but still a lesser protection of civil liberties like freedom of speech and association (of political and religious character) than e.g. in Japan.

Dr Piotr Kozłowski (National Defence Academy)

Japan and the Emergent Maritime Axis in East Asia

While the US rebalance to Asia and China's One Belt One Road strategies are capturing most of public imagination about geopolitical shifts in the region, it is the practical realisation of what Japan's prime minister Abe Shinzo has dubbed "Confluence of the Two Seas" that requires more attention. Deeply rooted in Japan's past foreign policies toward Southeast Asia and Asia's maritime perimeter in general, since 2012 the agenda of the Abe governments has been revolving around an ambitious endeavour of forging a robust maritime axis in East Asia, comprising, among others, Japan and ASEAN and reaching beyond economic ties, into the realm of closer political, security and defence cooperation. The paper shall assess to what extent this geopolitical realignment is vindicated by recent developments in Japan's relations with ASEAN and its constituent states.

Ms Izabela Kujawa (Adam Mickiewicz University)

Challenging Immigration: Foreign Workers and Chinese Visa Policy

It has been a long time since China has been recognized as a country of emigration. At the same time however, the state with its opening up, intensified international cooperation and economic growth has become attractive to numerous groups of foreigners. Their presence there has already been officially acknowledged (in media, national population census), nevertheless the country follows an unambiguous stance: China is not a country of immigration. This state of the affairs makes it difficult to gain Chinese citizenship, hinders receiving working visas and pushes the migrants into the area of illegal/semi-legal work and state of temporality as they constantly prolong their stay without being sure if the new allowance will be granted or improper visa controlled. This paper will focus on the state's response to the challenge of immigration and reasoning beyond it. To do so it will predominantly examine the situation of two groups of foreign workers: African entrepreneurs and Western English teachers, on whom data were collected due to in-depth interviews and participant observation in Wuhan (10 months, 2010-11) and Shenzhen (12 months, 2014-15).

Dr Dmitry Kuznetsov (Blagoveshchensk State Pedagogical University)

The Chinese Nationalism and Foreign Policy Component Mass Consciousness of Inhabitants of People's Republic of China

In the 1990s-2000s there was a significant rise of nationalism in China. A characteristic feature of Chinese nationalism is that it proliferates far outside of China. Currently, its main content is a growing anti-American and anti-Japanese views. An important feature of Chinese nationalism is a sense of national superiority. The ideas of Chinese nationalism have become most prevalent among the younger generation of Chinese citizens. These processes are partially controlled by the PRC authorities, who need the population to have certain ideological orientation. The national spirit is largely supported by Chinese mass media. The role that nationalism played in Chinese history can be generally evaluated as positive. Throughout the twentieth century appeal to the ideas of nationalism was a powerful source of mobilization for the Chinese society. However, there is a danger that the development of Chinese nationalism can get out of control and eventually turn into a destructive factor that might destabilize the situation in China and beyond, and complicate relations with surrounding countries. This may adversely affect the status of regional security, and at the most negative scenario, this may push China to conduct a hard foreign policy in the international arena, and even (if members of the general Chinese public show dissatisfaction with the promotion of China's interests in the world) turn against the country's leadership.

Dr Lukas Las (University of Ostrava)

Bridging Visegrad Group and East Asia Through Cooperation

Within the European Union (EU), the Visegrad Group (V4) developed promising cooperation with Japan, Republic of Korea (ROK) and China over the last few years. There is an active history of relations with Taiwan and Vietnam. Czechia, Hungary, Slovakia and Poland developed their bilateral relations with East Asian states in their own contexts. With the V4 format some larger opportunities for cooperation have emerged. Japan and the V4 celebrated a decade of cooperation in 2014, the ROK with the V4 morphed cooperation into a Joint statement in 2015. China has been active within the 16+1 platform of "uncertain shape" and emerged as an attractive partner. China has potential in 2016 to score, with a vision to make a "bridge" connecting EU with China across Eurasia. China is trying to catch up with her neighbouring countries from East Asia in deepening cooperation with the V4. In Chinese territorial projects Japan is excluded, while Russia is "in" and ROK is interested. Given recent crises in Ukraine and Syria with participation of Russia, elections in the USA and general socio-political situation in the EU, the idea of bridging East Asia and the V4 through cooperation obtains a deeper sense. It appears meaningful to cooperate in areas of economy and security. The aim is to contemplate on development of relations of V4 and China. ROK, Japan, and to reflect on recent diplomatic efforts of the East Asian countries in comparative and constructive ways.

Mr Roland Lewiński (University of Oregon)

The Reconstruction of the Axiological Basis of the Ideological Discourse in Sino-Japanese Relations Based on Analysis of the People's Daily's Articles in Regard to Yasukuni Shrine

This paper concentrates on the partial reconstruction of the axiological basis at the core of the ideological – nationalistic disputes between China and Japan. Starting from the comparison of the evolution of the concept of state, nation, and nationalism in China and Japan at the turn

of the twentieth century, the recent history of Sino-Japanese international relations is analyzed in order to show how nationalistic incentives became the rational political choice in domestic policy of both countries. The research, concerned primarily with history, memory, and historical memory, is based on the argumentation used by the People's Daily, an extension of the People's Republic of China's political line, in regard to Yasukuni shrine and Japanese prime minister Abe Shinzo's visit to the shrine in 2013. The final purpose of this paper is to analyze the dialectical argumentation, and by comparing both country's sentiments, to explain the role of nationalism in their current bilateral relations. Recent growth of nationalism in East Asia has become the subject of academic polemics. Mainstream theories of international relations usually undermine the importance of nationalism in policy-making, treating it as a variable of minor importance; however, the modernist theories overshadow the international, systemic factors, concentrating predominantly on the social aspects.

Mr Ian Lewis (Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences)

China's Cocoon Culture?: Understanding the China Dream

As with all countries and societies, China is no different than any other in a constant battle to protect both its territory and way of life. China views the world through historical perspectives of the dynastic centuries, foreign interference, and a communist party rule, underpinned by the three teachings of Taoism, Buddhism and Confucianism and the traditions of family. This unique combination provides insight into the China of today and how it defines "self" and that "self" in the world. "If a minister makes one's own conduct correct, one will have no difficulty in assisting in government, but if one cannot rectify oneself, how can one possibly rectify others?" (Confucius). This paper seeks to provide a path towards understand the cultural construction through which the Chinese political elite makes their decisions and goals for the country. The paper aims to discuss if the middle kingdom is self focussed, cocooned in its own self, thereby reacting to the world outside, or outwardly focussed, and wanting to influence and rectify others. Taking the China Dream concept put forward by Xi Jinping and using the discourse of government statements, new laws, and extracts of speeches, this paper seeks to analyse these against the historical and cultural influences. This approach should help to better understand the context of China's own view of its position in the world.

Ms Aihua Li (Leiden University)

Caught between Two Fires: The Korean Chinese Position in the Koguryeo History Debate

In 2003, South Korea and China entered into an increasingly tense stand-off over contested historical territory, which continues to this day. China launched a lavishly funded, explicitly revisionist Northeast Asian History Project to claim territory previously considered Korean by international consensus. South Korea mobilized its academics into a large, well-funded institute, the Koguryŏ Research Foundation, soon renamed the Northeast Asia History Foundation, to rebut the Chinese claims. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent in this ongoing dispute, on the employment of hundreds of professional historians, domestically and abroad, for academic book and journal publications, and general publicity campaigns. Especially in comparison to Europe, East Asian states have a long history of territorial

boundedness, which created strong links between nation, state, and territory. Their origin stories and genealogies of the nation tend to be historical rather than mythological. That is, state / nation / territory narratives rely on historical traditions, and often refer to verifiable historical facts. In this paper I will first introduce the history of the controversy surrounding Koguryŏ history in contemporary China and Korea. I will focus specifically on how the Chinese scholars have claimed Koguryŏ to be part of China's history. Then I will show what strategies Korean-Chinese scholars use to make their own claims, separate from the Chinese and Korean scholars' claims.

Mr Shingo Masunaga (University of Turku)

Japan as Number One: The Return of the Mercantile Realism

Ever since its return to power, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Japan has promoted drastic policy changes. The controversial security legislation is one example, but as a whole, it is a recurrence of the old traditional "Mercantile Realism". Regardless of mentioning Japanese stance on South African apartheid in the 1980s, such economic-centric policy causes not only domestic but also international problems. Hereby, correlations between Abe's mercantile realism and the current Japanese exports is critically analyzed from the perspective of Neo-liberalism of International Relations.

Ms Sylwia Matusiak (University of Lodz)

Japanese Capital Involvement in Visegrad Countries

Foreign direct investment is regarded as the most advanced method of accessing foreign market. For host country the inflow of investment is a source of new technology, new workplaces and as a consequence leads to economic growth. That is why, countries are trying to attract as many investors as possible. Countries from Visegrad Group are no exception in this matter. This paper is focused on researching the involvement of Japanese capital in countries from Visegrad Group. The aim of this paper is to identify investment interrelation between V4 and Japan; to name the main host country for Japanese FDI as well as to show current trends in the inflow of Japanese FDI to East-Central Europe.

Prof. Dominik Mierzejewski (University of Lodz)

China's Identity Oriented Foreign Policy. IR Constructivist Discourse in Mainland China

The IR community debates over China's foreign policy behavior became more and more intensive. The paper discusses the issue of Chinese IR community approach towards China's foreign policy. Needless to say that constructivism became one of more popular school among Chinese scholars. Through the discourse analysis the paper presents the basic characteristic of Chinese approach and discuss the uniqueness of China stance in IR. More to the point one of the most important thing is to show the limitation of Chinese community approach. In this regards the paper follows the opinion made by Beijing-based professor Yan Xuetong who argues that in the globalized World there is no place for cultural and national oriented

theoretical approach. This assumption leads to the conclusion that both Chinese government and the Chinese IR community hope to replace universal theory sponsored by the American community. More to the point, Chinese scholars Yan Xuetong (Qinghua school), Zhao Tingyang (CASS) use the Ancient concept of tianxia to explain China's approach in international relations. Going further in the paper the variables of domestic changes (foreign policy under Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao, Xi Jinping), international environment (US as a point of reference) and relations between government and scholars in China will be set apart and discussed.

Mr Artur Modliński (University of Lodz)

The Nature and Characteristics of the Economic Boycotts at the Asian Markets

The main purpose of the paper is to present the nature and mechanisms of the economic boycotts which are developing at the Asian markets. The presentation will include the details concerning the reasons why Asian companies were boycotted by both local and international customers – what were the main motives and conditions of such the actions. To present this phenomenon from the interdisciplinary perspective, I used the most up-to-date case studies which illustrate how economic boycotts are connected to social and political problems from this region of the world. The analysis of the contemporary boycotts will be provided also upon the most frequently used methods and instruments used by organizers to demonstrate their dissatisfaction with particular action of each company. In the paper, there will be compared the differences between Chinese and Japanese boycotts, which will provide much more holistic presentation of the nature of these phenomena from the Asian perspective. The other purpose of the paper will be to provide precise information for investors about particular behaviors, values and norms that can be perceived as not welcomed by the Asian customers and for this reason should be avoided by international companies in this part of the world to escape from potential customer boycott.

Mrs Celine Pajon (French Institute of International Relations)

“There Is No Alternative”: Japan and Its Alliance with the US to 2030

The Japan-US alliance is enjoying a particularly favorable period today as it benefits from the synergy between the acceleration of the Japanese military normalization led by Shinzo Abe and the US rebalancing towards Asia. In April 2015, new Guidelines for cooperation were adopted to allow the alliance to cope with the security challenges of the time, namely, the geostrategic risks (of military, but also normative nature) attached to the rise of China. For the first time in the alliance history, Tokyo initiated the revision of the Guidelines. Japan is indeed investing a lot in its relationship with the US, as it considers that only a strong alliance embedded in a web of like-minded Asian partners will allow its strategy autonomy, as well as a favorable balance of power to 2030 – the year when China is supposed to reach strategic balance with the US. However, if the alliance is now an overwhelming norm among Japanese domestic actors, there are still debates regarding the Japanese military contribution to the alliance beyond East Asia, the reality of the US commitment to defend Japan and the price paid by Tokyo to maintain the politico-military partnership (diplomatic alignment, burden of US military presence). As a result, misperceptions and expectation gap between the allies

could cause some serious frictions and should be reduced to ensure a sustainable partnership on a longer term.

Mr Mateusz Piątkowski (University of Lodz)

Vietnam War, the Bombardment of Hanoi and the Law of Armed Conflicts

The United States involvement in Vietnam War is sparking controversies concerning the legal aspects of conduct of combat. In 1972, during a stalemate of the peace negotiations in Paris, President Richard Nixon ordered US Air Forces to extend the aerial campaign to the previously avoided area of Hanoi. The operations “Linebacker I and II” are reviewed by the military experts as a successful effort, however the Vietnam historiography are underlining the possible violations of the law of armed conflicts indicated by the discriminate bombing of Hanoi urban areas. The aim of the presentation is cross – examine the circumstances the Linebacker I and II operations, then turned to the both viewpoints of Vietnam and U. S experts with the relevant legal background.

Mr Maximilian Piekut (University of Warsaw / Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich)

Consolidation and Deconsolidation of Power Among CCP Leaders – Is Xi Jinping’s Presidency a Return to the Era of Paramount Leaders?

The paper fits in the topic “Dealing with Domestic Problems in East Asian Countries” in the part concerning “Leadership issues within the Communist Party of China” Paramount leader (最高领导人) in Chinese modern politics refers to prominent politicians who have the capability to wield power without necessarily holding a formal position or an office unto itself. The paper analyzes the past leaders of People’s Republic of China in order to define the characteristics of paramount leaders, and thus tries to answer following two questions: 1) What political factors led previous leaders of PRC to consolidation of power? 2) What actions were put in motion by each of them and how they affected their position as country’s leaders? First part concentrates on the era of two most prominent political leaders of PRC i.e. Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping. The starting point is the way underlying their consolidation of power and actions taken afterwards (undertaken reforms, lost of power). Second part focuses on showing the differences between era of single leaders and era of collective leadership. The last part of the paper aims to analyze Xi Jinping as a person striving to achieve the position of paramount leader through his internal policies (Anti-corruption campaign), foreign policy (One belt, One road), military and territorial policy (military expenditure, conflict on the South China Sea), economic reforms (Chinese Dream).

Prof. James Reilly (University of Sydney)

Assessing China’s Economic Statecraft in Europe

Since the 2008 onset of the global financial crisis, China has dramatically expanded its economic presence in Europe. Has Beijing effectively utilized its economic engagement to advance its foreign policy objectives? This paper is the first academic study assessing the

effectiveness of China's economic statecraft in Europe. I first address several methodological issues and then specify my five hypotheses, designed to evaluate explanations for the effectiveness of China's economic statecraft. I then test these hypotheses across four case studies: European public opinion of China, European leaders' willingness to meet the Dalai Lama, the EU's decision to either retain or abrogate its arms embargo toward China, and the EU's pending decision to acknowledge China as a 'market economy' within the World Trade Organization.

Dr Dorota Roszkowska (University of Białystok), Ms Emilia Radkiewicz

How is EU Preparing for China's Economic Involvement in Europe ?

One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative is considered as the most important China's foreign economic policy instrument nowadays. Presumably it will strongly influence EU countries, but the impact on individual countries can vary. Also 16+1 group plays an important role in that initiative. The official EU response to OBOR strategy is not clearly defined. The paper analyzes the impact of One Belt One Road initiative on the EU economic policy, as well as main objectives of OBOR, in the light of EU economic development plans. Article encompasses the analyses of China's official documents on OBOR strategy, the results of official meetings between UE and China representatives, official EU statements about OBOR initiative. The main goal of the article is to present how OBOR strategy can influence China's economic activity in Europe and European economic policy. The paper also aims to answer the question, if all EU countries are able to develop a consistent plan of the effective implementation of OBOR in Europe.

Mr Mirosław Michał Sadowski (University of Wrocław)

Law, Power and Conflict at Variance on the Example of Hong Kong and Macau

The purpose of this article is to investigate the idea of conflict in general, and in particular to analyse the conflicts which may and do arise in the clash between the government's power, the rule of law and the will of people, on the example of the two China's Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau. In the first part of the article, M. M. Sadowski tries to investigate the nature of conflict from a variety of perspectives: linguistic, cultural, psychological and sociological, trying to understand how conflicts arise, what their course is, and what short- and long-term effects they have, both on individuals and the society. In the second part of the article, the author describes, analyses and compares the shape of the legal systems of Hong Kong and Macau, which, interestingly, are at the same time different — Macau's belongs to the civil, and Hong Kong's to the common law family — and similar — at their cores lie analogous Joint Declarations. In the third part of the article, M. M. Sadowski reflects on the changes that have been introduced in the two cities since the transition of power over Hong Kong and Macau, examining the legal and social controversies which arose because of them. He focuses on the ones that ultimately led to conflicts: the Hong Kong constitutional crisis over the right to abode case; the case of the article 23; the two Special Administrative Regions problems with housing, cultural heritage and ecology; and Macau's labour shortage crisis.

Prof. Wichuda Satidporn (Srinakharinwirot University), Dr Stithorn Thananithichot (King Prajadhipok's Institute)

Political Regime Dynamics and Social Security Reform: A Case Study of the Social Security Act Amendments during the Periods of Yingluck and Prayuth

Previous studies on social security policy in Thailand have consistently demonstrated that the initiation and implementation of social security policy occurred more frequently and more successfully when the country was under a democratic political regime, defined in those literature as a liberal democracy with universal suffrage. However, this claim appears problematic when brought to bear on the most recent cases of social security reforms that have occurred, especially during the period under Yingluck's government when the attempt to amend the 1990 Social Security Act proposed by the organized labour and 14,264 public petitioners was rejected by the directly-elected House of Representatives; and the period under Prayuth's government when the Social Security Act Amendments of 2015, which included many requests from organized labour mentioned in the rejected bill, was passed by the appointed National Legislative Assembly. Relying on the state as a social relation approach, this paper claims that the changes and continuities in the social security policy in each particular period did not occur as simply a result of the different types of political regime but were part of a broader effort to deal with the tensions and conflicts between and within different sections of the bourgeoisie, political parties, state agencies, and working class over policy problems, solutions, and directions that have emerged as a result of Thailand's capitalist transition during the past decade.

Prof. Nissa Sinlapasate, Ms Nattaya Nulong (Phuket Rajaphat University) *The Development of Business Cooperation in Thailand Regarding to The German Entrepreneur Opinion*

This research is qualitative research of 17 German entrepreneurs' opinions by in-depth interview methodologies. The study area in Germany is The Regional of Economic region Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region in Baden-Württemberg. The results were as follows: German entrepreneurs are focused on the development of business partnerships with established companies who have legally registered and on the stability of the business. The general overview of Thailand is commonly very well known to the business travel industry, more than any other business. Thailand's political situation recently looks unstable and therefore lack of confidence to invest or develop business cooperation. The recommendations to the Thai entrepreneurs who expect to maintain or create business cooperation with German entrepreneurs are to prepare for legal business registration according to Germany investment law and policies and to make understanding that German entrepreneurs are interested in such informal business cooperation as Research and Development Cooperation or Sourcing and Purchasing Cooperation rather than the officially business cooperation like Contractual Agreement Cooperation or Joint Venture Cooperation.

Dr Mateusz Smolaga (University of Szczecin)

Asian Development Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank – Is Cooperation Possible?

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a well known financial institution operating in the Asia-Pacific region since 1966. The rise of this multilateral organization was sponsored mainly by Japan, for which, no doubt, it is still an important instrument of external policy. However, nowadays the ADB constitutes 67 members, including PR China. With an impressive budget (ca. \$20 billion) and focus areas ranging from social development to information technologies, the ADB is an important source of development funding. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a rather new initiative, only opening up for business in January 2016. Based in Beijing, it is a multilateral organization comprising 57 founding members, excluding Japan and the USA. The creation of the AIIB is a reaction to the fiasco of the transformation of global financial institutions like the IMF and the World Bank Group. China's intentions on initiating the AIIB are clearly something other than altruism. It might be seen as part of a win-win economic cooperation strategy that could benefit both regional and national development processes. Like the ADB, the AIIB focuses on the development of infrastructure and other productive sectors in the Asia-Pacific region. The question is, should we anticipate strong rivalry between these two institutions, as political realism would suggest, or will the ADB and the AIIB find a way to offer their best to the Asia-Pacific countries without any major interference?

Mr Michał Snopek (University of Warsaw)

Remilitarisation as One of the Manifestation of Nationalism – The Case of Japan during the Shinzō Abe Reign

The aim of the paper is a synthesis of changes in the perception of the role of military forces in Japan. With the seizure of power by Shinzō Abe there could be seen attempts to strengthen the position of the army. The result of these attempts was the adoption of the law that increased privileges of the Japanese military. To understand how significant event it was, we must trace the historical evolution of the current system. I will begin with a brief description of the model that collapsed with the defeat of Japan in Second World War. Even now it is a main component shaping the internal policies of successive governments. After the loss, Japan has moved away from attempt to build a power of the country based on military force, and focused on economic development. Afterwards, I will present the reason for which Japan Self-Defense Forces were established and the unrealized ideas of successive governments about gradual remilitarisation. In the last part I will describe paradigms of the fear of neighboring countries from the remilitarisation of Japan. I will try to explain why countries of the region accused Japan of returning to nationalism. The reasons are divided into three categories: history, geopolitical conditions and aspects of internal and external policies of Japan. I will also try to describe the differences between the remilitarisation and a state implementing military doctrine. As a result, it will be possible to understand the policies pursued by Shinzō Abe.

Dr Marcin Socha (University of Lodz)

Environmental Politics in North East Asia – Cooperation or Rivalry

In order to deal with environmental degradation and to abate the economic costs of pollution China, Japan and South Korea had to launch a number of domestic policies and regulations. Each of the countries is a member to various global and regional environmental agreements.

Even though the region is facing some serious threats related to trans-boundary pollution, the environmental cooperation in Northeast Asia is almost exclusively limited to information sharing. Despite numerous attempts to launch a transition toward regulatory regime both the institutionalization of cooperation between China, Japan and North Korea as well as bilateral ecological agreements remain undeveloped. The paper presents the analysis of previous attempts to form regional environmental cooperation network paying attention to particular issues present in each negotiation round. The aim of the paper is to identify the main obstacles, driving forces and possible directions in negotiating environmental agreements among Northeast Asian countries.

Ms Magdalena Stanisławska (University of Warsaw)

Nationalism in Chinese Society as an Effect of the External and Internal Influences

Nowadays the phrase “nationalism” is negatively perceived by the countries of the Western Hemisphere because of the severe remembrances after both World Wars 1st and 2nd. These experiences are visible in current strivings for integration in the European Union. However, globally it is possible to observe such trends in Asian countries. Especially, it is worth focusing on China where the tradition and culture are deeply ingrained in Chinese nation. This society arose holding common values for thousands years. The political thoughts, rules and virtues were reflected in philosophical concepts like Confucianism, Taoism and Legalism. Unfortunately, on account of the history, these features of Chinese society were meaningfully undermined during Opium Wars, westernization and Mao Zedong era. That precise destruction, lasted approximately two hundred years, made visible loss for China and transformed the simple values, tradition, culture into ideology. Following rulers after the Cultural Revolution were trying to reconstruct Chinese society and indicate them the only relevant path. Currently, these political endeavors in combination with the cultural remains result in peculiar formation called “Chinese nationalism”. This lecture will focused on the signs of this occurrence, show the reasons why China is going this way and how it is used in politics.

Ms Kamila Stasiak (Jagiellonian University)

The Spratly Islands Dispute: Prospects for a Diplomatic Solution

The South China Sea has recently drawn the attention of diplomats, politicians and scholars due to a strategic importance of these waters to many countries from and outside of the region and due to the rise of tension caused by territorial disputes. The Spratly Islands dispute is considered as a potential source of instability mainly because of China’s vast land reclamation in the Spratly archipelagos and the USA’s “freedom of navigation patrols.” This dispute over sovereignty plays a vital role in national interests of all six claimants because the Spratly archipelago’s close localization to the sea lanes of communication (SLOCs). Moreover, they are close to oil and gas deposits in the seabed, and rich fishery grounds. Concerning strategic importance of the Spratly Islands, a break out of a military conflict over sovereignty of this archipelago would have profound impact on oil supplies and consequently on destabilization of the entire region. Therefore finding a peaceful solution to this dispute is crucial from the point of view of all of the countries whose interests are intertwining in the South China Sea region. In my presentation I will compare two treaties which ended two

different territorial disputes, namely the Antarctic Treaty and the Svalbard Treaty, both of which can serve as a model for negotiating an arrangement that resolves the Spratly dispute.

Dr Bruno Surdel (Zirve University)

Russia and Issues of Peace and Security in South East Asia

This paper discusses Russia's role in security architecture in South East Asia in the context of its geostrategic ties with China. I argue that though Russia's share in overall ASEAN trade is rather insignificant, the ongoing geopolitical shift in East Asia has created a favorable climate for more engagement on the part of Russia in this region. With American "pivot to Asia" and more assertive Chinese foreign policy, some South East Asian nations seek a level of diversification in their external relations. Russia's "aggressive" actions in Ukraine have not closed that "window of opportunity". Russia has maintained and expanded its bonds with Vietnam and this relationship continues to negotiate Russia's presence in South East Asia. I would claim, however, that there are visible prospects for Russia's role in other countries of the region. Vladimir Putin's "Back to the East" catchphrase is more related to the strengthened Russian-Chinese strategic partnership as Russia has seen its trade opportunities in the West much reduced, and China is asserting its "core interests" in South China Sea. Russia's relationship with Vietnam, and Vietnam's maritime border dispute with China as well as its new "ties" with the USA, make the whole picture more complex. In this paper, I will try to evaluate how Russia and selected ASEAN nations perform their "balancing act" in the region between the world's superpower – USA, and China – an emerging Asian power with a global outreach.

Mr Kahraman Suvri (Yildiz Technical University)

North Korea's Fourth Nuclear Test

North Korean state media announced on January 6, 2016 that North Korea successfully conducted its fourth underground nuclear test. Most importantly, it was also claimed by the North that it was a hydrogen bomb test. It is already known that North Korea previously performed three underground nuclear tests in 2006, 2009 and 2013. Despite all the pressure from the international community, why did North Korea conduct the fourth nuclear test? The main aim of this study is to examine North Korea's 2016 nuclear test. The study consists of three parts. Firstly, the four nuclear tests performed by the North since 2006 will be analyzed. Although it is highly controversial that North Korea's fourth nuclear test was a hydrogen bomb test, as a matter of fact it was a test of nuclear explosive device. But, how was the last nuclear test different from previous tests? In the second section, the possible reasons behind the fourth nuclear test will be discussed. Different factors might drive the North to perform the nuclear testing. However, in this study, it is argued that North Korea's leadership carried out the fourth nuclear test mainly because it wants to strengthen its nuclear deterrent against the perceived threats to itself. Lastly, the study will be ended with a general assessment about main findings.

Ms Nguyen Trinh Thanh Nguyen (Corvinus University of Budapest)

The Impact of EU Development Aid on Economic Growth of Vietnam

My research focuses on the impact of EU development aid on the Vietnam economy and proves that providing trade-related assistance is the main form of EU development aid to Vietnam combined with the Vietnam Socio-Economic Development Strategy. This aid has a positive impact on Vietnam economic growth and expanding trade for both sides. I show the interaction aid and trade by collecting and presenting the trade policies and aid policies between EU and Vietnam then I make a summary about the changes in the amounts of aid flows and aid for trade flows from EU to Vietnam by annual periods. I analyze the ways of EU Aid for trade allocation preferences based on detailed issues which include the main actors (Vietnam, EU) involve in Aid for trade. Over three decades of development aid for Vietnam, EU got more and more understanding and experience to enhance effectiveness of aid to this recipient. I prove the accomplishment by analyzing some cases studies of EU aid for trade with Vietnam.

Ms Anna Voloshina (Russian Academy of Sciences)

Sino-Japanese Relations in the XXI Century: Problems and Prospects

Despite a number of factors drawing China and Japan together such as close economic cooperation, geographical proximity, mutually beneficial relations in social sphere (concerning education, ecology, humanitarian aid, etc.), there are serious underlying problems that will continue to cause contradictions in the long term: the territorial disputes and controversy on the historical past. Due to the changes in the regional balance of power, the tensions between the countries repeatedly intensified in the past decade and affected the East Asian security environment. The last serious confrontations over the Japanese Government's purchase of the several disputed Diaoyu/Senkaku Islands in 2012 and the declaration of a Chinese air defense identification zone in the East China Sea in 2013 showed the risk of conflict escalation in the absence of the effective crisis management mechanisms. The author analyses the efforts for improvement of the bilateral relations in the light of the mutual agreement to resume political, diplomatic and security dialogue reached on 7th of November 2014 and also offers possible scenarios for taking under control and diminishing existing risks and contradictions. The annual publications of "China's International Status Report", "International Situation and China's Foreign Affairs" of CIIS (China), "East Asian Strategic Review" of the National Institute for Defense Studies (Japan), SIPRI's policy briefs and other materials were used for this study.

Dr Joanna Wardęga (Jagiellonian University)

The Great Wall and Other Tourist Destinations in Textbooks on Teaching Chinese: Constructing a Desired Image of China

Nationalism, from the constructivist point of view, requires a nation's elite to create a particular image of the nation. In the case of China, since the end of the 19th century we have been observing an evolution of describing the Chinese nation by integrating or excluding certain parts. To understand how the Chinese nation and its territory are perceived nowadays, we can refer to the tools of socialization addressed to its own people, as well as those

addressed to other nations. There are many components used to build the soft power of a country, such as education and tourism. Some tourist destinations can also be used to build the desired image of a nation – as we can observe in China. Two centuries ago, foreigners were not only isolated in restricted areas, but they were not even allowed to learn Chinese. Today China is open for tourists and the Chinese government spends substantial funds on the promotion of Chinese language teaching. How can we describe this particular soft power tool, a result of the combination of language education and tourism promotion? The analysis covers the most popular contemporary textbooks published in the People’s Republic of China. Which tourist destinations are particularly important and often exploited for the purpose of creating its symbolic territory? How are the geographical features described? Is it possible to observe any variation over time? These questions will be answered in this article.

Dr Karol Żakowski (University of Lodz)

Failed Attempt at Sino-Japanese Security Cooperation

The aim of this paper is to analyze the reasons for failure of establishing a stable framework for Sino-Japanese security cooperation after the end of Cold War. Since the 1990s both countries many times have tried to strengthen mutual trust, institutionalize military exchange or create a telephone hotline for emergency situations, but so far these efforts have remained futile. While in 2006-2010 it seemed that China and Japan started overcoming mutual prejudices, situation deteriorated after the two East China Sea incidents in 2010 and 2012. The article argues that while there were several opportunities at strengthening mutual security exchange in the past, they were spoiled by political circumstances in both countries as well as external factors. Due to rise of nationalisms in Japan and China, contradictory national interests and random incidents in the East China Sea, both sides were unable to overcome mutual prejudices in order to institutionalize the security dialogue.

Dr Łukasz Zamecki (University of Warsaw)

Impact of New Silk Road Initiative on the EU-China Relations: Perspective of World-Systems Theory

Above all “New Silk Road” Initiative will influence not only economic but also political Europe-China relations. Goal of the speech is the discussion if the Initiative can change position of European countries in global politics. CEE countries mostly seen as a semi-periphery or even periphery countries can boost their economy due to relations with the PRC. Quite controversial but stimulating can be a question if those countries can change its economy (thanks to transport connection with China) into higher skill and capital-intensive production.

Dr Michał Zaręba

From Hegemony to Cooperation? China’s Hydropolitics Towards the Lower Mekong Basin

The Mekong is one of the longest transboundary river in Asia. It traverses China and five Southeast Asia countries, Myanmar/Burma, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Its

significance is amplified with the fact that over 80 million people depend on it for their livelihoods. The Mekong is one of the largest inland fishery and crucial transportation route. In the Lower Basin water is mostly used for irrigation in agriculture but river also comprises main source of fresh water. It also has a huge hydropower potential and rapid development of hydroenergy, mostly in China, poses a threat for integrity of the Mekong system. This paper will examine China's large-scale development projects, including construction of dams cascade in the Upper Basin and their political implications for the other riparian countries. It will also focus on China's strategy toward Lower Basin states over water resources, reasons for misunderstanding between PRC and Indochinese countries and attempts and possibilities of potential cooperation.

Prof. Zang Shumei (East China Normal University)

Regional Policy in China and EU: Comparison and Cooperation

Regional policy plays a core role in the economic, social and territorial cohesion/harmonization for China and also for European Union (EU). As large territories with wide economic and social disparities, China and the EU face many similar challenges and share similar goals in achieving more balanced regional development. The differences between the EU and China make it unlikely that techniques for regional policy implementation can be easily transplanted from one to the other, but their shared characteristics are sufficiently numerous to suggest ways in which the EU and China may be able to learn from each other.

Against this background, on 15 May 2006, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on regional policy cooperation was signed between the European Commission and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of the People's Republic of China to exchange information and best practices on experiences in setting up and implementing cohesion policy. Several high level meetings and seminars have taken place, alternately in China and in the European Union on key policy issues such as the classification and definition of regions, multi-level governance, cooperation between regions, regional innovation strategies, sustainable urban development, urban-rural partnerships and regional internationalisation strategies.

In this presentation, we will focus on two aspects: Comparison and Cooperation. Firstly, before the comparison of EU's and China's regional policy, we need to make a simple overview on their respective evolution since the 1950s. Secondly, we will summarize the main characteristics of each part: similarities and differences. Thirdly, we will try to find the main potential aspects for cooperation and resume historical and actual cooperative activities between two parts. Finally, we will launch a broad thought and discussion for the European integration and cohesion, China's harmonization and development and a future Sino-Europe relationship in the international and global stage.

Prof. Zhang Hong (East China Normal University)

Perceptions of China's Neighboring Diplomacy: A Case Study of Japanese Major Think Tanks (2008-2016)

Against the backdrop of globalization and regionalization, China's relationship with neighboring countries is closely related with China's future development. Especially, since

2008, with the global financial crisis, China's more dynamic development in addition to the U.S. "Pivot to Asia" strategy, there appear more problems and challenges facing China's neighboring areas. Neighboring challenges have become an imperative and significant topic for China's growth. In fact, China's neighboring challenges have not only attracted attention of China's political elites, but also become focus of think tanks of main countries regionally. Considering Japan's political, economic importance and the fragile Sino-Japanese relationship, this article takes the case study of Japanese major think tanks' perceptions from 2008 till 2016. It firstly reviews and summarizes Japanese major think tanks' perceptions towards China's neighboring diplomacy. Secondly, it adopts the theoretical framework of "structure-interest-perception" to analyze the rationales behind the evolution of Japanese think tanks' related perceptions. Main paradigms, characteristics, future trends and factors influencing perceptions will be drawn accordingly. Meanwhile, two different kinds of governance philosophy and traditional culture of these two countries will be compared, such as China's worldview of "Tian Xia" (Under Heaven) v.s. Japan's worldview of "nationalism"; China's revolution in "awareness of potential dangers" v.s. Japan's reform in "sense of crisis"; China's tributary system v.s. Japan's construction of East Asian order etc. Thirdly, based on the analysis, it aims to provide policy recommendations for China's neighboring diplomacy especially towards Japan, proposing feasible paths to promote China's everlasting cooperation and harmonious development with Japan and other neighboring countries.

Prof. Junhua Zhang (Shanghai Jiao Tong University)

Technological Catch-up and Leapfrogging with Political Means – China's Neo-Statist Approach and Their Implication

For some time state-owned enterprises (SOEs) have been subjected to the conventional wisdom that they are inefficient in comparison to other types of enterprises and therefore incapable of technological innovation. This view is sustained by many well-established economists and political scientists. This paper argues that SOEs' problems with regard to innovation in China are not due to state ownership per se, but rather determined by the country's policy design and its institutional arrangement. At least in a Chinese context, SOEs in the key sectors are still being regarded as pioneers of innovation. Through two case studies both on China's High Speed Rail and the big plane project, this paper aims to draw attention to the emerging Neo-Statist development in the country, something which has been insufficiently elaborated upon in academic circles thus far. China's Neo-Statism relies on selected SOEs which are being bred as national and global players. More importantly, "secondary innovation" through mega projects commissioned by the government has become a trend which runs counter to a neo-liberal approach.

Dr YiKe Zhang (China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong)

Problems and Prospects of China-Russia-Mongolia Economic Corridor

The demise of the Soviet Union didn't change the geopolitical fragmentation of Northeast Asia. The revival of economic, energetic and touristic links among China, Mongolia and Russia's Far East didn't mitigate the distrust. At the beginning of the new century, Chinese government successively launched the domestic policies such as Northeast Area Revitalization

Plan meant to boost the economic growth. On the regional stage, in consideration of practical demand of regional economic development China proposed to create China-Russia-Mongolia Economic Corridor that would invite Mongolia as the new role in the infrastructure and trade cooperation. The proposal is in line with individual policies in all three countries – China’s One Belt One Road initiatives, Russia’s Trans-Eurasian Belt Development and Mongolia’s Prairie Road program. This paper explores the incentives for and obstacles to the trilateral economic cooperation. It also analyzes the non-economical implications for the limited success of regional economy in the context of the political struggle of dual powers. It argues that despite the willingness and the urgency of strengthening the trilateral economic cooperation the trilateral Economic Corridor plan will be largely restricted at the practical level due to a series of historical, strategic and commercial factors.

MAP

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