

ENLIGHT workshop, Göttingen, September 2023

**More than a Distant Relative:  
China and its Neighbours in an Increasingly Turbulent World**

**September 10<sup>th</sup>**

Informal dinner before the conference (at own expense): gathering at 18:30 in the hotel lobby.

**Day 1, September 11<sup>th</sup>**

09:00-09:15	Opening remarks:  Dominic Sachsenmaier, CeMEAS, Dean of the Faculty for Humanities, University of Göttingen  Maryia Danilovich, CeMEAS, University of Göttingen
09:15-09:45	Keynote speech (public): Julie Yu-Wen Chen, University of Helsinki, <b>Knowledge Production About China and Perception of the Rise of China in Central Asia: Oral History Interviews with Senior China Experts and Sinologists</b>
09:45-10:00	Coffee break
10:00-12:10	Session 1. <b>China and Central Asia</b>  Chair: Agnieszka Nitza-Makowska, University of Tartu Chi Zhang, University of St Andrews, <b>China's Development Challenges in Central Asia</b> ( <i>online</i> ) Roza Turarbekava, Justus Liebig University Giessen, <b>Kazakh-Chinese Relations: Challenges to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership'</b> Karolina Kluczevska, Ghent University, <b>Tajikistan's Engagement with China: Trends, Peculiarities and Perceptions</b> ( <i>online</i> ) Maryia Danilovich, University of Göttingen <b>Structuring its Power: China's Recent Engagement with the Central Asian States</b> Discussant: John Irgengioro, ENLIGHT PhD student, Ghent University
12:10-14:00	Group Picture & Lunch Break
14:00-16:00	Session 2. <b>China and Southeast Asia</b>  Chair: Ivan Francseschini, University of Botswana

	Wanjing Chen, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology <b>Riding the Wave: Chinese Entrepreneur Migrants and the Making of Belt and Road Initiative in Lao</b>
	Neil Loughlin, City University of London. <b>Is Chinese Investment Driving Authoritarianism? Evidence from 10 Years of the BRI In Southeast Asia.</b>
	Felix Heiduk, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) <b>Security in Southeast Asia: the 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific' vs. China's 'Circle of Friends'</b>
	Discussant: Thao Nghiem, ENLIGHT PhD student, University of Groningen
16:00-16:30	Coffee break
16:45-18:30	Recordings for CeMEAS conversations
19:30	Dinner: Deutsches Theater Bistro (Theaterplatz 11, Göttingen)

## Day 2, September 12<sup>th</sup>

09:15-09:45	Keynote speech (public): Ivan Francseschini, University of Botswana <b>Global China's Dark Side: The Role of Chinese Organised Crime in Asia's 'Scamdemic'</b>
09:45-10:00	Coffee break
10:00-12:10	<b>Session 3. China and its Neighbors: Lessons for Theory</b>
	Chair: Anastasia Sinitsyna, University of Tartu
	Anja Jetschke, University of Göttingen <b>China's Structural Power: the Need for a New Theoretical Perspective</b>
	Sascha Klotzbücher, Comenius University in Bratislava, <b>Reaching out with the United Front: a Policy-Cycle Approach</b>
	Agha Bayramov, University of Groningen, <b>Russia's war in Ukraine and the Rise of the Middle Corridor as an Alternative Route for Sino-Western Trade Relations (online)</b>
	Monique Taylor, University of Helsinki <b>Energy Security and the Indo-Pacific Concept</b>
	Discussant: Xiaoxu Wang, ENLIGHT PhD student, University of Groningen
	Final discussion
	Closing remarks: Andreas Fuchs, CeMEAS Director, University of Göttingen
12:10-13:30	Lunch
13:45-15:30	Recordings for CeMEAS conversations / Guided city walk for international participants