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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Webinar Tuesday January 11
(12:00-13:00 CET):
**The BRI and (post-)Covid
connectivity competition**



On January 11 from 12.00-13.00 (CET), the [Belt and Road Research Platform](#) organises a Zoom webinar on the future of the Belt and Road Initiative in relation to two important developments.

diplomatic and economic interactions with the rest of the world and what does this mean for BRI project around the globe?

Secondly, in June US President Biden announced his BRI-alternative 'Build Back Better World', while the European Commission President von der Leyen has announced the 'EU Global Gateway' – Europe's new connectivity plan. How do the US and EU envision competing with the BRI? And what are the consequences for China's grand initiative?

Join us for this online webinar, where three experts will reflect on these developments and discuss with the online audience how they shape the BRI in different regions around the world.

Speakers

Speakers during this event:

- Ed Kronenburg (Former Dutch ambassador to China);
- Cheng-Chwee Kuik (Head of the Centre for Asian Studies, National University of Malaysia);
- Yuan Mengqi (Tsinghua University Institute for International and Area Studies)

Registration

Register for the event via the red button below. You will receive more information a few days before the event.

This is an event organised by the [Belt and Road Research Platform](#), an initiative by LeidenAsiaCentre and the Clingendael China Centre to make academic research on the BRI from global perspectives more accessible.

[Click here to register for the event \(mandatory & free\)](#)

Webinar Tuesday January 25
(14:00-15:00 CET):
China and Green Energy



EVENT



In 2020, President Xi Jinping announced that China aims to hit the peak of its CO2 emissions before 2030, committing to net-zero emissions before 2060. In the coming decade carbon emissions will therefore continue to rise. At the same time, the country invests in renewable green energy, has committed itself to support no more new coal-fired power projects abroad, and tries to increase the environmental sustainability of the BRI with the Belt and Road Initiative International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC).

In this Zoom webinar, we will take a look at the way China positions itself internationally when it comes to the green energy sector. We have invited three speakers to discuss different aspects of China and the green energy sector. There will also be time for the online audience to ask questions.

Speakers:

- [Dr. Mohamedbagher Forough](#) will discuss China's increasing influence in the renewable energy sector of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA-region) and the challenges cooperation in this sector brings for the MENA-countries involved.
- Dr. Susann Handke will discuss the geopolitical impacts of State Grid (国家电网) and other Chinese electricity and transmission companies' activities abroad, as well as the challenges for the EU low-carbon power transition in this respect.
- David Harmon, Huawei. What role do Chinese technological companies play in the transition to green energy? Huawei wants to play an active role in the transition to renewable energy. What does this in practice entail?

[Click here to register for the event \(free & mandatory\)](#)

New: LAC Shorts

LeidenAsiaCentre researchers on important current developments in Asia. For this new series, LAC researcher [Friso Dubbelboer](#) wrote an article on AUKUS, a new security partnership between Australia, the UK and the US. What does this partnership entail? How did countries in Southeast Asia and Europe respond to the announcement of AUKUS? And what does the partnership mean for Europe?

Read the article by clicking the red button below, and watch the interview with Friso on our [YouTube channel](#):



[Click here to read the article](#)

New: Belt and Road Research Platform interview series

In 2022, the Belt and Road Research Platform launches a new interview series with academics who work on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). This series aims to make academic research about BRI more accessible to a broad audience.

In the first episode we talk to Dr. Alvin Camba who works on Chinese investments in Southeast Asia. He explains that Chinese firms look for 'strong leaders' to invest in. Click the image below to watch the interview to find out how this has played out in the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia.



The [Belt and Road Research Platform](#) is an initiative by LeidenAsiaCentre and the Clingendael China Centre to make academic research on the BRI from global perspectives more accessible.

[Click here to watch the video](#)

New Podcast Episodes

[#3 Smart Cities - Xiong'an New Area](#)

This month on the China Smart State Podcast, Rogier Creemers and co-host Linda van der Horst chat to Fatoumata Diallo about Chinese smart cities. Fatoumata Diallo is a project manager and research fellow at ISDP's Stockholm China Center and her research focuses Chinese domestic politics, digital urbanization and China's foreign policy. Today they discuss the Xiong'an New Area in Hebei province, perhaps the most well-known and biggest smart city project that is currently in development in China.



[Click here to listen to the China Smart State podcast!](#)

[第六十四集 HOE GROOTSTE CO2-UITSTOTER CHINA KLIMAATNEUTRAAL WIL WORDEN](#)

China is verantwoordelijk voor een kwart van de CO2-uitstoot van de wereld. Met grote gevolgen voor de eigen bevolking. Daarom heeft president Xi Jinping

bereiken, komt er nog wél een enorme CO2-piek rond 2030.

Hoe is het gesteld met de Chinese milieupolitiek? Lukt het China inderdaad om in 2060 klimaatneutraal te zijn? En wat zie je van die ambities al terug in de Chinese steden?



Te gast:

- Ardi Bouwers, oprichter van ChinaCircle en universiteitsdocent journalistiek en media in China
- Ruan Xiaocun, stedenbouwkundige en directeur East & West Urban Consultancy

[第六十四集 HOE GROOTSTE CO2-UITSTOTER CHINA KIJKT NAAR DE NATUUR](#)

China is verantwoordelijk voor een kwart van de CO2-uitstoot van de wereld. Met grote gevolgen voor de eigen bevolking. Daarom heeft president Xi Jinping het doel gesteld dat China in 2060 klimaatneutraal is. Maar om dat te bereiken, komt er nog wél een enorme CO2-piek rond 2030.

Hoe is het gesteld met de Chinese milieupolitiek? Lukt het China inderdaad om in 2060 klimaatneutraal te zijn? En wat zie je van die ambities al terug in de Chinese steden?

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[Beluister de China podcasts hier!](#)

Podcasts



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