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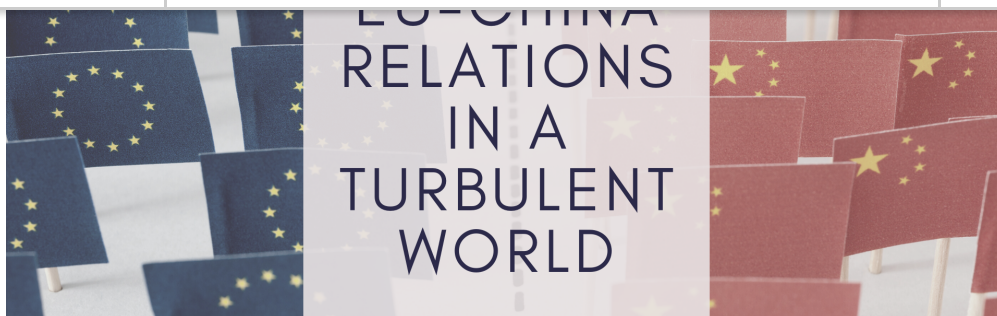
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## In this newsletter

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This panel will examine the evolving EU-China relations in the context of global uncertainties, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and China's Zero-COVID policy, the US-China trade war and rising tensions across the Taiwan Strait, as well as a perceived closeness between Russia and China.

How does all of this effect EU-China relations? What challenges does the EU face when it comes to China? To discuss this we have invited four leading experts on **September 21 from 16:00-18:00 at the Humanity Hub in The Hague**

*Moderator:*

**Philippe Le Corre** is a Research Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School and a Visiting Professor at ESSEC Business School. He is also an Affiliate with the French Institute for East Asia (IFRAE-CNRS) and the John K. Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard, and an Associate Fellow with Fondation pour la Recherche stratégique in Paris. He is the author of several books on China including *China's Offensive in Europe* (Brookings Institution Press, 2016), and contributed chapters to several edited volumes including "Does the Rise of China Threaten the Transatlantic Partnership?" in *The China Questions 2* (Harvard University Press, 2022) and "China's Belt and Road Initiative: Implications for Europe" in *China-US-Europe Relations in a New Era*, (Routledge, 2020).

*Speakers:*

**Miguel Otero-Iglesias** is Senior Analyst at Elcano Royal Institute and Professor and Research Director of International Political Economy at the School of Global and Public Affairs and the Centre for the Governance of Change at IE University in Spain. In addition, he is Senior Research Fellow at the EU-Asia Institute at ESSCA School of Management in France.

His main areas of expertise are: international and comparative political economy, international and European monetary affairs, the international financial architecture, global economic governance and the power triangle between the US, the EU and China and theories of money. He is the author of *The Euro, the Dollar and the Global Financial Crisis: Currency Challenges seen from Emerging Markets* (New York, Routledge, 2015).

and investigates how China's rise as a global power shapes norms and redefines the international distribution of power. She co-leads the Research Initiative [Mapping Global China](#) and is the author of *Sovereignty in China. A Genealogy of a Concept since 1840* (CUP 2019) and co-editor of *The China Questions 2 – Critical Insights into US-China Relations* (HUP 2022). Before joining NYU Shanghai, she was a recipient of a three-year Marie-Curie fellowship at KU Leuven.

**Marina Rudyak** is an assistant lecturer and doctoral researcher at the Institute of Chinese Studies, Heidelberg University. Her research focuses on China as a global development actor, specifically Chinese foreign aid and development lending policy, the implications of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and China in Central Asia and Africa. She is also interested in the political ideology of the Chinese Communist Party and coded communication in Chinese politics.

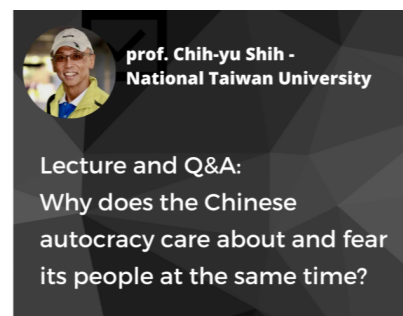
**Jakub Jakóbowski** is European China Policy Fellow at MERICS. He specializes in China's international political economy, China's economic footprint in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the post-Soviet space, as well as EU-China relations. Jakub is based at the Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), a public think-tank based in Warsaw, where he is coordinator of the Connectivity in Eurasia project and a Senior Fellow at the China Programme. He holds a PhD from Warsaw School of Economics (SGH).

[Click here for more information](#)

## Lecture and Q&A: "Why does the Chinese autocracy care about and fear its people at the same time?" with prof. Chih-yu Shih

***Note: this event will not be livestreamed. The lecture and Q&A will take place in-person in the Auditorium of Leiden University College.***

In the eyes of the western democracies the governance style of the Peoples Republic of China has taken the path towards autocracy. The communist party rule since 1949 has seen more and less autocratic eras and it is the firm conviction of many observers that the President and the Secretary General of the CCP, Xi Jinping, is now consolidating his power in order to finalize the process towards a full-fledged autocratic government. The XXth Party Congress, to be held this Fall should function as the platform for Xi to achieve this.



by their subjects or citizens of this undisputed form of reign. Does that render some kind of agency for the 'people' and how is that being reflected upon by the autocratic leader?

Professor Chih-yu Shih teaches China studies, anthropology of knowledge, and international relations theory in the Department of Political Science at National Taiwan University. Determined to recollect and re-present intellectual heritage in Asia, he has devoted his academic career for the past 30 years to researching, teaching, and writing on the cultural and political agency of human society. Shih's publications consistently challenge the mainstream views on the law of human behavior and gather evidence of human agency from ethnic communities, developing countries, people in poverty, and so on. In his writings, Shih pays attention to the cultural meanings of civilizational components such as religion, language, ecology, and institution. He practices a multi-sited methodology reified primarily through field interviews, oral history, and archive research.

[Click here for more information](#)

## Book Launch: The South Asia to Gulf Migration Governance Complex



### THE SOUTH ASIA TO GULF MIGRATION GOVERNANCE COMPLEX

EDITED BY  
CRYSTAL A. ENNIS  
AND NICOLAS BLAREL

The Gulf is a major global destination for migrant workers, with a majority of these workers coming from South Asia. In this book, a team of international contributors examine how global migration governance regimes unfold in this often-overlooked migration corridor.

Going beyond state-centric analysis, the contributors present a multi-layered account of the 'migration governance complex.' They offer insights not only into the actors involved at the different scales of migration governance, but

also into the varying ways of interpreting and explaining the meaning and value of these interactions. Together, they enable readers to better understand migration, labour mobilities, politics, and rights in this important region, while also providing a model for analysing global migration governance in practice in different parts of the world.

For more information on the book, please visit the website of Bristol University Press: <https://bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/the-south-asia-to-gulf-migration-governance-complex>

**AGENDA:**

17:10: Book roundtable

18:00 Audience Q&A

18:30 Reception sponsored by the Leiden Asia Centre

### SPEAKERS:

[Dr. Crystal A. Ennis](#) is University Lecturer of Political Economy at the Institute for Area Studies, Leiden University. She is one of the editors and authors of this volume. Her research examines labour and migration governance, and the political economy of dependency on hydrocarbon revenue and foreign labour in Gulf economies. Her other publications have appeared in *New Political Economy*, *Global Social Policy*, *Third World Quarterly*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, and *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, among others.

[Dr. Nicolas Blarel](#) is Associate Professor of International Relations at the Institute of Political Science, Leiden University. He is one of the editors and authors of the volume. His research focuses on foreign and security policy-making, the politics of migration governance, and the international politics of South Asia. He has also published books and articles with *Oxford University Press*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *Political Studies*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *International Politics*, etc...

Dr. Faisal Hamadah is Assistant Professor in Postcolonial Studies and Transnationalism at Maastricht University. He is one of the contributors to this volume. His research sits at the intersection of cultural studies and political economy, and he publishes on Arab cultural history, the political economy of the Persian Gulf, and the environmental humanities. He is also a researcher affiliated with the project 'Mapping Connections: China and Development in the Middle East', a three-year research project based at Exeter University.

### DISCUSSANTS:

[Dr. Vineet Thakur](#) is University Lecturer in History and International Relations at the Institute for History, Leiden University. His most recent book is titled *India's First Diplomat: V.S. Srinivasa Sastri and the Making of Liberal Internationalism* (Bristol University Press, 2021).

[Dr. Katharina Natter](#) is Assistant Professor at the Institute of Political Science, Leiden University. She researches migration politics from a comparative

### Roundtable



**Dr. Crystal A. Ennis**  
Institute for Area Studies -  
Leiden University



**Dr. Nicolas Blarel**  
Institute of Political Science -  
Leiden University



**Dr. Faisal Hamadah**  
Postcolonial Studies and  
Transnationalism -  
Maastricht University



**Dr. Vineet Thakur**  
Institute for History - Leiden  
University



**Dr. Katharina Natter**  
Institute of Political Science -  
Leiden University

*Review, Population and Development Review, Political Research Exchange, Comparative Migration Studies and the Journal of North African Studies.*

## SPONSOR:

This event is sponsored by the Leiden Asia Centre and the [Leiden University Centre for International Relations \(LUCIR\)](#).

## REGISTRATION

This is an in-person only event. Everyone is welcome. Please register here for the event:



[Click here to register](#)

# LAC shorts: With Fumio Kishida at the helm, Europe can no longer ignore Japanese security

LAC shorts are articles written by or interviews conducted with LeidenAsiaCentre researchers on important current developments in Asia. In this LAC short, LeidenAsiaCentre researcher [Anoma van der Veere](#) and Haruko Sato discuss the recent developments in Japan's foreign policy. They argue that Kishida has possibly taken the helm at the right time for Europe to deepen its security engagement in Asia, as there remain few countries in the region that share similar values and concerns.



With Fumio Kishida at the helm, Europe can no longer ignore Japanese security

By Anoma P. van der Veere and Haruko Sato

Only hours after Russia invaded Ukraine in the morning of February 24th, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told a group of reporters he is committed to keeping the international order and that Japan will coordinate its response in line with the international community, particularly the G-7 states. Subsequent response that Kishida rolled out was "surprisingly decisive and coherent"<sup>1</sup> considering he came to power only 6 months ago in October 2021. Kishida demonstrated that Japan not only stands firm with those condemning Russian aggression, and that it also would act in concert with them to prove its resolve.

Notably, the usually reticent Japan broke out of the habit of resorting to chequebook diplomacy (as it did in the 1993 Gulf War<sup>2</sup>) in assisting allies in on-going conflicts. By sending Ukraine materials such as "stones, bulletproof vests, helmets, winter battle dress uniform, tents, cameras, hygiene products, emergency rations, binoculars, flashlights, [and] medical equipment",<sup>3</sup> the country sent a clear signal of support for Ukraine, thereby allying itself with Europe and the US.<sup>4</sup> Japan also joined in when the G7 issued a joint statement that said, "we commit to phase out our dependency on Russian energy".<sup>5</sup> The commitment to wean the participants' economies of Russian energy symbolized a unified response to the Ukraine crisis. And, to an extent, Japan has attempted to coordinate its policies vis-à-vis Russia in accordance with the G7, even before this statement. By, for example, vowing to stop coal imports.<sup>6</sup>

For Europe, the country's current stance, one that is rare among Asian nations, signals an important point: Japan remains one of the few allies willing to directly cooperate on security issues, and will consequently become an increasingly valuable strategic partner in the region. Moreover, not since

<sup>1</sup> Bill Emmott, "The Assassination of Shinzo Abe", *The Asia Times*, 8 July 2022. <https://www.asiatimes.com/2022/07/08/assassination-of-shinzo-abe/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-19930724>

<sup>3</sup> The Government of Japan, "Japan stands with Ukraine", 29 June 2022. [https://www.kantei.go.jp/en/press/2022/06/29\\_japan\\_stands\\_with\\_ukraine.html](https://www.kantei.go.jp/en/press/2022/06/29_japan_stands_with_ukraine.html)

<sup>4</sup> European Council, "G7 Leaders' Statement", 8 July 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/07/08-g7-leaders-statement/>

<sup>5</sup> Kyohji Tatemura and Chang-Ran Kim, "Japan bans Russian coal imports, expects eight diplomats", *Reuters*, 8 April 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/japan-bans-russian-coal-imports-expects-eight-diplomats-2022-04-08/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.asiatimes.com/2022/07/08/assassination-of-shinzo-abe/>

[Click here to view the LAC short](#)

## China Café: Mijn bedrijf in China - verwachtingen in haalbaarheid toetsen aan de realiteit

Op **10 oktober 2022 om 17:00** zal weer een nieuwe editie van het China Café plaatsvinden in **Shandong Cocktails in Den Haag**. In deze editie zal **Albert van Pabst** van SDS Ventures aansluiten.

Wat laat je liggen wanneer je China's ondernemingsmogelijkheden niet op de juiste waarde inschat? Laat je je meeslepen door negatieve geluiden? Is dat wijs? Wat is er eigenlijk precies aan de hand? Wat speelt er? Waar moet rekening mee gehouden worden wanneer je in China onderneemt of overweegt te ondernemen?

### Moeilijker en complexer

Het ondernemersklimaat in China is lastiger geworden. De draconische lockdowns hebben de sentimenten over investeringsstrategieën van bedrijven negatief beïnvloed. En dat geldt ook voor de haperende goederenstromen en stijgende materiaalkosten. Daarnaast wordt er binnen bestuurskamers steeds meer rekening gehouden met scenario's die reputatieschade opleveren vanwege associatie met Xinjiang, de dreiging rond een conflict met Taiwan, de gebeurtenissen in Hong Kong en de huidige geopolitieke spanningen en krachtmetingen.



CHINA CAFE

### Onderbuik en realiteit

Met hun Business Confidence Survey uit juni 2022 bevestigt de EU-China Kamer van Koophandel dat Europese ondernemers het afgelopen jaar als problematisch hebben beschouwd. Van de respondenten overweegt 23% hun investeringsstrategie aan te passen, met eventueel een verhuizing uit China. En tegelijkertijd, terwijl ondernemers aangeven dat de sfeer sterk verpolitiseerd is, houden de meesten de lange termijn voor ogen. China's markt- en productiepotentie is nu eenmaal te groot. Met andere woorden: ondanks de negatieve geluiden over zakendoen in China, lijkt de werkelijkheid toch iets

## Verwachtingen en strategieën aanpassen aan China's realiteit

Ofschoon expats het land verlaten, vertrekken hun bedrijven niet noodzakelijkerwijs. Volgens een recent artikel (18-8) in de Financial Times blijven de meeste overzeese bedrijven China zelfs als hun primaire basis voor de productie van hun goederen zien, terwijl zij daarnaast alternatieve uitvalsbases optuigen in Zuidoost-Azië. Voor het geval!

In dit **China Café** praten wij met open vizier over de mogelijkheden, de kansen en de beperkingen die China mét en na Covid biedt. En, speculeren we over wat het 20ste Partijcongres van dit najaar voor het bedrijfsleven in petto heeft.

[Klik hier voor meer informatie](#)

## China Café Podcast: Aldo Spaanjaars over zijn nieuwe boek "Dragon Tactics"



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Podcasts





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