

ENLIGHT workshop, Göttingen, September 2023

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

September 10th

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

Day 1, September 11th

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

	Wanjing Chen, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology Riding the Wave: Chinese Entrepreneur Migrants and the Making of Belt and Road Initiative in Lao
	Neil Loughlin, City University of London. Is Chinese Investment Driving Authoritarianism? Evidence from 10 Years of the BRI In Southeast Asia.
	Felix Heiduk, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) Security in Southeast Asia: the 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific' vs. China's 'Circle of Friends'
	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 12th

09:15-09:45	Keynote speech (public): Ivan Francseschini, University of Botswana Global China's Dark Side: The Role of Chinese Organised Crime in Asia's 'Scamdemic'
09:45-10:00	Coffee break
10:00-12:10	Session 3. China and its Neighbors: Lessons for Theory
	Chair: Anastasia Sinitsyna, University of Tartu
	Anja Jetschke, University of Göttingen China's Structural Power: the Need for a New Theoretical Perspective
	Sascha Klotzbücher, Comenius University in Bratislava, Reaching out with the United Front: a Magic Weapon of the Weak
	Agha Bayramov, University of Groningen, Russia's war in Ukraine and the Rise of the Middle Corridor as an Alternative Route for Sino-Western Trade Relations (online)
	Monique Taylor, University of Helsinki Energy Security and the Indo-Pacific Concept
	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