From Silk Road To Super Highway
A Decade of the Belt and Road Initiative

Conference Program

NYU Shanghai
N107, New Bund Campus
Webinar ID: 99034861332  Passcode: 720146

28-29 May 2024
Day 1  
Tuesday, 28 May 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM-9:30AM</td>
<td>Welcome Coffee and Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30AM-9:45AM</td>
<td>Opening Remarks by Tansen Sen (NYU Shanghai)</td>
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<td>9:45AM-10:00AM</td>
<td>Briefing on Mapping Global China by Jiayong Liang (NYU Shanghai)</td>
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Panel 1: China's Evolving Strategy on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Risk Management

Chair & Discussant: Tansen Sen (NYU Shanghai)

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00AM-10:20AM</td>
<td>Ziwei Fan and David A. Palmer (The University of Hong Kong), and Chun</td>
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<td>Kai Leung (City University of Hong Kong)</td>
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<td><em>Chinese ESG, Green Finance, and Community Engagement on the BRI</em></td>
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<td>10:20AM-10:40AM</td>
<td>David Landry (Duke Kunshan University and University College London),</td>
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<td>and Yuan Wang (Duke Kunshan University and University of Oxford)</td>
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<td><em>Iron fist or invisible hand? The drivers of ESG activities among</em></td>
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<td><em>Chinese mining companies</em></td>
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<td>10:40AM-11:00AM</td>
<td>Maria Adele Carrai (NYU Shanghai) (online), Ammar A. Malik (William &amp;</td>
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<td>Mary) (Online), and Jiayong Liang (NYU Shanghai)</td>
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<td><em>Is China greening the Belt and Road Initiative?</em></td>
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<td>11:00AM-11:20AM</td>
<td>Comments by the Discussant</td>
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<td>11:20AM-11:40AM</td>
<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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Panel 2: The BRI and Infrastructure Development

Chair: David A. Palmer (The University of Hong Kong)
Discussant: Hong (Stella) Zhang (Harvard Kennedy School) (online)

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<tr>
<td>13:00PM-13:20PM</td>
<td>Jingying Sun (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)</td>
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<td><em>Financing Strategies for BRI Infrastructure: A Closer Examination of</em></td>
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<td><em>Mombasa-Nairobi Railway in Kenya</em></td>
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13:20PM - 13:40PM
David E. Kiwuwa (University of Nottingham Ningbo China)
“Brick and mortar” as peacebuilding: The impact of Chinese Infrastructure Investment in Africa

13:40PM - 14:00PM
Yang Wang (The University of Hong Kong), and Ziqi Xuan (City University of Hong Kong)
Localizing Chinese Modernity on the BRI: The Baoshan - Mandalay Cross - Border Industrial Zones

14:00PM - 14:20PM
Comments by the Discussant

14:20PM - 14:50PM
Q & A

14:50PM - 15:20PM
Coffee/Tea Break

Day One Discussion

15:20PM - 16:30PM

Day 1
Tuesday, 28 May 2024

Keynote Address

17:00PM - 18:30PM
David A. Palmer  (Professor of anthropology jointly appointed by the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the Department of Sociology of the University of Hong Kong)
The Religious Factor in the Belt and Road

Introduction by Tansen Sen, Professor of History and Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

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Day 2

Wednesday, 29 May 2024

9:30AM-10:00AM Coffee/Tea

Panel 3: Trade and Commercial Interactions

Chair: Bhagya Senaratne (NYU Shanghai)
Discussant: Jingying Sun (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

10:00AM-10:20AM Keren Zhu (The New School) (online)
The Rise and Fall of Economic Centered Coalitions in China’s Belt and Road Initiative: Case Study of the Kenyan Standard Gauge Railway

10:20AM-10:40AM Muhammed Tayyab Safdar (University of Virginia) (Online)
Structural transformation within a neo-liberal state architecture: Evidence from the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

10:40AM-11:00AM Yana Pak (The University of Hong Kong)
Crossing Central Asian steppes: Transport, Trade, and Cultural Connectivity between China and Kazakhstan

11:00AM-11:20AM Nicola Casarini (Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome)
A decade of the Belt and Road in Europe: Assessing China’s connectivity project and how it is being reconfigured across the old continent

11:20AM-11:40AM Comments by the Discussant

11:40AM-12:10PM Q & A

Panel 4: Discourse Dynamics of Belt and Road Initiative

Chair & Discussant: David E. Kiwuwa (University of Nottingham Ningbo China)

13:30PM-13:50PM Joseba Estevez (The University of Hong Kong)
The Laos–China Railway (LCR) in 2023-2024: Local Perceptions and Impacts

13:50PM-14:10PM Ivan Willis Rasmussen (NYU Shanghai)
Strategic and Rhetoric Variation with Regards to BRI Ports: The Case of the Melaka Gateway
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<tr>
<td>14:10 PM</td>
<td>Rundong Ning (The University of Hong Kong)</td>
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<td>14:30 PM</td>
<td>Technology entrepreneurs as cultural mediators between China and Africa: A preliminary study from Kenya</td>
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<td>14:30 PM</td>
<td>Bhagya Senaratne (NYU Shanghai)</td>
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<td>14:50 PM</td>
<td>BRI Infrastructure in Sri Lanka: Examining the Vernacular</td>
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<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:40 PM</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break</td>
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<td>16:00 PM</td>
<td>Day Two Discussion</td>
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**List of Speakers**

- Maria Adele Carrai (NYU Shanghai) (online)
- Nicola Casarini (Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome)
- Joseba Estevez (The University of Hong Kong)
- Ziwei Fan (The University of Hong Kong)
- David E. Kiwuwa (University of Nottingham Ningbo China)
- David Landry (Duke Kunshan University and University College London)
- Chun Kai Leung (City University of Hong Kong)
- Jiayong Liang (NYU Shanghai)
- Ammar A. Malik (William & Mary) (online)
- Yana Pak (The University of Hong Kong)
- David A. Palmer (The University of Hong Kong)
- Ivan Willis Rasmussen (NYU Shanghai)
- Ning Rundong (The University of Hong Kong)
- Muhammad Tayyab Safdar (University of Virginia) (Online)
- Tansen Sen (NYU Shanghai)
- Bhagya Senaratne (NYU Shanghai)
- Jingying Sun (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)
- Yang Wang (The University of Hong Kong)
- Yuan Wang (Duke Kunshan University and University of Oxford)
- Hong (Stella) Zhang (Harvard Kennedy School) (online)
- Keren Zhu (The New School) (online)