

Invitation - Workshop on *EU-China-US Trilateral Relationship in an Uncertain World*

28 September 2017, Egmont Palace, Place du Petit Sablon 8bis, 1000 Brussels

Given the importance of the EU, the United States and China for the global system what are the prospects for trilateral cooperation in different policy areas? It might have seemed strange to consider such a question just a few years ago when the transatlantic relationship was unquestionably closer than either EU-China or US-China relations. But the swift rise of China as a global actor and especially the advent of Donald Trump as President of the US have brought about some fundamental changes.



Trump has openly avowed an 'America First' approach and rejected multilateral solutions to key issues such as trade and climate change. He has shown disdain for the UN and only reluctantly endorsed NATO after describing it as 'irrelevant'. Meanwhile the EU and China have become the prime defenders of the Paris climate change agreements. In his Davos speech, President Xi defended free trade just as President Trump was pulling the US out of TPP. The EU and the US are the two biggest markets for Chinese exports but both have complained about access to the Chinese market.

There is already trilateral cooperation in some foreign policy issues, notably the DPRK, although the US-China relationship on this dossier is clearly critical. The conference will address three main themes:

1. Global Issues (climate change, migration, multilateral institutions)
2. Political/Security Issues (DPRK, Middle East, Afghanistan, Iran, Africa, Russia)
3. Economic/Trade Issues (economic globalization, market access, investment negotiations; trade defence instruments, the Belt and Road Initiative)

AGENDA

08:30-09:00 Registration

09:00-10:30 Panel I. Global Aspects

- Prof. Dr. Yinhong SHI, Renmin University of China
- Prof. Dr. Nicola Casarini, Italian Institute for International Affairs, Italy
- Prof. Dr. Weiping HUANG, Renmin University of China
- Ms. Isabel Hilton, editor of ChinaDialogue.Net (TBC)

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:45 Panel II. Security Aspect

- Prof. Dr. Yong DENG, US Navy Academy, USA
- Prof. Dr. Canrong JIN, Renmin University of China
- Prof. Dr. Emil Kirchner, Essex University, UK
- Prof. Dr. Yongjun GUO, China Institutes of Contemporary International Studies
- Prof. David Fouquet, CERIS

12:45-13:45 Lunch

13:45-15:30 Panel III. Economic Aspect

- Prof. Dr. Chun DING, Fudan University, Shanghai
- Prof. Dr. Gunter Heiduk, Warsaw School of Economics, Poland
- Prof. Dr. Hua XIN, Shanghai International Studies University
- Dr. Duncan Freeman, College of Europe

15:30-15:45 Conclusion

- Prof. Dr. Sven Biscop, Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations
- Dr. Fraser Cameron, EU-Asia Centre, Brussels
- Prof. Dr. Xinning SONG, Vrije Universiteit Brussel & Renmin University of China

REGISTRATION, before 21 September 2017

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