



Asia
Research Centre



The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA

The 4th International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies (IFCCS4)

China: Prospects and Challenges to 2020

11 – 13 Sept 2011

Sir Clive Granger Building, University of Nottingham, UK

Organiser:

School of Contemporary Chinese Studies (with its China Policy Institute and Nottingham Confucius Institute), University of Nottingham (UoN)

Co-organiser:

Asia Research Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
School of Sociology and Anthropology (SSA), Sun Yat-sen University, China

Sponsors:

The Leverhulme Centre for Research on Globalisation & Economic Policy (GEP)
The Office of the Chinese Language Council International (HANBAN)
China in Comparative Perspective Network (CCPN) and Confucius Institute for Business
London, LSE

1. Aims and Objectives

China's 12th Five Year Plan (2011-2015) represents a possible turning point in its economic policies from a growth-driven to a more balanced development strategy, paying serious attention to the country's structural changes, equality and the population's quality of life. China is aiming to become an 'all-round *Xiaokang Society*' by 2020, meaning that everyone will be able to enjoy the comfortable lifestyle of a middle-income economy. By that time, China may overtake the US to be the world's largest economy as well.

Serious questions remain regarding China in the context of the world economy. On the one hand, the world community is highly uncertain, even anxious, about how China will use its increasing influence as a leading great power. On the other hand, China itself is often frustrated by the Western mistrust of its intention to 'develop peacefully'. Internal developments in China's trade, finance and monetary policies, food security, energy consumption, environmental protection and population movement can have a tremendous impact on the global economy, while changes and disruptions in the rest of the world could



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seriously destabilise China's domestic dynamics or even threaten its sustainable growth.

Hence, today we have to analyse China's development in a global context, and we have to take the China factor into account when considering global issues. China and the world need to strive towards a mutual understanding if we are to see a sustainable peace and development globally, but to do so, great challenges exist. How should the world understand the domestic and international challenges China now faces? How can the world reach an understanding of China's values and core interests? What should China do to promote such an understanding? How should China shoulder more global responsibilities as its power and capacity increase? How can China solve its domestic problems without having a negative impact on other countries? How can China take on more international obligations as it struggles to solve its own domestic problems? How should the world engage a China that is contributing to the global imbalances of trade and finance?

The fourth annual conference of the International Forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies (IFCCS4) invites scholars to address all these critical issues. Our main objectives are:

- To exchange views on the challenges that China faces and its relations with the international community;
- To facilitate critical a review of the experiences and lessons learned regarding China's reform and development;
- To develop interdisciplinary communication, interaction and cooperation in the areas of China's rise and international relations, low-carbon economy, internal and international migration, civil society and governance;
- To explore the methodological issues behind the development of Contemporary Chinese Studies;
- To build collaborative networks in the study of contemporary China.

Each of the previous IFCCS conferences, held at the Nottingham in 2008 and 2009 and in Xi'an in 2010, attracted around 200 delegates from 18 countries, including Chinese State Councillor LIU Yandong at the 2008 event and Mr MA Jiantang, Commissioner of the National Bureau of Statistics of China at the 2010 event. The organiser of the IFCCS conference series is the University of Nottingham's School of Contemporary Chinese Studies, the most dynamic centre for research, teaching and policy analysis on contemporary China in Europe.

With the cooperation of the Asia Research Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science, and the School of Sociology and Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University, the fourth annual conference of the IFCCS will be held on 11th – 13th September 2011 at the University of Nottingham, UK.

2. Themes and panels

Scholars are invited to submit papers on the following themes:

- *China's Economic Performance and Challenges to 2020*
- *China's Contribution to Global Environmental Protection*
- *Citizenship, Civil Society and Government Reform*
- *Accommodating China as a Global Power*

The above themes will be addressed by a combination of plenary sections for keynote speeches, roundtable and parallel discussions in the following topics:

- "China experience" or "China model" – economic, political or social-culture?

- Civil society and good governance
- Chinese data, fieldwork and comparative perspective
- Soft power and EU-China relationship
- Publication in top international journals
- Network and relationship studies on China
- Public goods, policies and management
- University engagement with Chinese community
- ECRAN PhD student form

3. Guest Speakers

The following leading figures and prominent scholars will be invited to address the conference, including:

- Mr Xiaoming Liu, H.E. Chinese Ambassador to the UK
- Professor Yanjie Bian, University of Minnesota; Xi'an Jiaotong University
- Professor Stephan Feuchtwang, London School of Economics and Political science
- Professor Carsten Herrmann-Pillath, Witten/Herdecke University & Frankfurt School of Finance and Management
- Professor Xueyi Lu, Chinese Sociological Association; Beijing University of Technology
- Professor Manoranjan Mohanty, University of Delhi; Institute of Chinese Studies, India
- Professor Peter Van der Veer, Max Planck Institute
- Professor Tiejun Wen, Renmin University
- Professor Yang Yao, Peking University

4. ECRAN PhD student forum

The Europe China Research and Advice Network (ECRAN) will hold a Young Researchers' Forum on Tuesday, July 13th for 20 PhD students as a linked event organised by the University of Nottingham China Policy Institute on behalf of the European Commission.

Participation in the ECRAN Young Researchers' Forum is open to PhD students who study in an educational or research institute in any of the 27 EU members states. Those whose papers are selected will be entitled to support from ECRAN towards their travel expenses.

Furthermore, the three best papers as selected by the Selection Panel, will be published in the Working Paper Series on the ECRAN website, and will each receive an ECRAN Young Researchers Award. For the details of the selection, funding and award of this forum, a separate call for papers will be issued shortly. In the meantime expressions of interest, with abstracts, should be sent to Dr Jing Zhang, the organiser of the Young Researchers' Forum.

5. Conference Organising Committee:

Chair: Professor Shujie Yao, Head of School of Contemporary Chinese Studies, (SCCS), University of Nottingham (UoN)

Members:

Professor Athar Hussain, Director of Asia Research Centre, LSE
 Professor Daming Zhou, Deputy Director of SSA, Sun Yat-sen University
 Professor Steve Tsang, Director of China Policy Institute, UoN

Dr Bin Wu, Senior Research Fellow, SCCS, UoN
Dr Zhengxu Wang, Deputy Director of China Policy Institute, UoN
Dr Xiangqun Chang, Research fellow and Coordinator of China in Comparative
Perspective Network (CCPN), LSE
Dr Jing Zhang, Lecturer, SCCS, UoN.

Conference secretary General, Dr Bin WU (bin.wu@nottingham.ac.uk)
Conference coordinator, Dr Xiangqun Chang (x.chang@lse.ac.uk)
ECRAN younger researchers forum, Dr Jing ZHANG (j.zhang@nottingham.ac.uk)
Conference administrator, Jenny Hall (jenny.hall@nottingham.ac.uk)

6. Outcomes

The Academic Advisory Committee will be in charge of selecting suitable topics and papers prior to the conference. Selected papers will be published as working papers as part of the China Policy Institute's online *Discussion Paper Series*, considered for compilation into edited volumes by a leading publisher such as Routledge, and for special issues of leading international journals such as *Asian Survey* and the *Journal of Contemporary China*.

7. Registration and Sponsorship

The standard registration fee is £80. A discounted rate of £60 is available for external scholars who register before 15 July 2011. The registration fee for PhD students is £40 (please indicate PhD status on the application form).

8. Deadlines

Submission of abstracts	31 May 2011
Notification of acceptance	30 June 2011
Early registration (online or by email)	15 July 2011
Submission of full papers	31 July 2011
Draft programme issued	31 August 2011

9. Contact

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