

## 6th Annual Conference – September 22-October 2, 2020

### Speaker Biographies

#### PANEL 3 – Keynote speech: China's Changing Role in African Security

Thursday, September 24, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT



**Yoon Jung PARK** is the Associate Director of the SAIS China Africa Research Initiative. An international scholar and a leader in the growing field of China/Africa studies, Dr Park is the author of *A Matter of Honour. Being Chinese in South Africa* (Jacana/Lexington Books). Her research focuses on ethnic Chinese in southern Africa and perceptions of Chinese people by local communities, centering on migration, race/ethnicity/identity, race/class/ power, gender, affirmative action, and xenophobia. Dr Park has affiliations at the Sociology Department at Rhodes University (South Africa) and African Studies at Georgetown University (Washington, DC). In addition to her research, writing, and

teaching, she is a co-founder and Executive Director of the Chinese in Africa/Africans in China (CA/AC) Research Network, an international China-Africa network.

**Chris ALDEN** is Professor in International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and Director of LSE IDEAS. He holds positions as a visiting professor at PSIA (Sciences Po - Paris) and is a Research Associate, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) and the University of Pretoria. He is author/co-author or editor/co-editor of numerous books, including *New Directions in Africa-China Studies* (Routledge 2018), *China and Africa – Building Peace and Security Cooperation on the Continent* (Palgrave 2017), *Foreign Policy Analysis – new approaches* (Routledge 2017, 2nd edition), *China and Mozambique: From Comrades to Capitalist* (Johannesburg: Jacana 2014), *Emerging Powers and Africa* (LSE IDEAS 2013), *China Returns to Africa* (Hurst 2008), *China in Africa* (Zed 2007), *Land, Liberation and Compromise in Southern Africa* (Palgrave/Macmillan 2009), *The South and World Politics* (Palgrave 2010), *Mozambique and the Construction of the New African State* (Palgrave 2003), *South Africa's Post-Apartheid Foreign Policy* (Adelphi Paper IISS 2003) as well as having written numerous articles in internationally recognised journals. Professor Alden has held fellowships at Cambridge University, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo; Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto;



Ecole Normale Supérieure (Cachan), Paris; and University of Pretoria. He is co-editor of the Routledge Series on Foreign Policy Analysis. He regularly teaches courses at University of Cape Town and Peking University and was a Senior Lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand from 1990-2000.



**Abiodun ALAO** is Professor of African Studies and the Programme Director of the African Leadership Centre, School of Global Affairs, King's College London. Abiodun was educated at the Universities of Ibadan, Ife and King's College London and held teaching and research positions at the Universities of Ife. He was also a Visiting Research Associate at the University of Zimbabwe and a Visiting Professor at the Nigerian Defence Academy. He has published extensively on African affairs. His books include: *Natural Resources and Conflict in Africa: The Tragedy of Endowment*, Rochester: University of Rochester Press., (2007), *Mugabe and the Politics of Security in Zimbabwe*, Montreal: McGill-Queens

University Press (2012); *China and African Security*, London: Palgrave Macmillan (Co-edited with Chris Alden and Zhang Chun) (2017); *A New Narrative for Africa: From Problem to Agency*, London: Routledge Publishers (2020) and *Killing and Holy Anger: Religion and Violence in Nigeria*: Forthcoming Duke University Press.

**ZHANG Chun** is Professor and Director of the Academic Committee at the Center for African Studies at Yunnan University. He is also an Adjunct Senior Researcher at the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS). His research focuses on Sino-Africa relations, African politics and security, international relations theory, and development studies. He obtained his Doctorate (IR) in 2006, MA (IR) in 2001, and BA (Vietnamese) in 1995. His monograph *American Think Tank's Influences on 'One China' Policy* (Shanghai People's Publishing House, 2007) was rewarded with a First Class Award at the 2008 Ninth Excellent Philosophy and Social Science Publications Award of Shanghai, and *On International Contributions of China-Africa Relationship* (Shanghai People's Publishing House, 2013) was rewarded with a Second Class Award at the 2014 Tenth Excellent Deng Xiaoping Theoretical Publications Award. He has participated in the translation of three books from English to Chinese, and has published more than 120 academic papers and more than 100 op-eds domestically and internationally. He was previously a Visiting Fellow at the Chatham House in London, UK in 2009, at the South Africa Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) in Johannesburg in 2011, at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, D.C. in 2011, at the Foreign Service Institute (KFI) in Nairobi, Kenya in 2012, and at the Southern African Research and Documentation Center (SARDC) in Harare, Zimbabwe in 2014.

