

6th Annual Conference
***Strategic Interests, Security Implications:
China, Africa, and the Rest***

Online Zoom event
September 22 to October 2, 2020

[Register here](#)

PANEL 1 – Development-Security Nexus

Tuesday, September 22, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Welcome:

Deborah BRAUTIGAM, Director, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Discussant:

Joe SIEGLE, Director of Research, Africa Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University

Panelists:

Lina BENABDALLAH, Assistant Professor of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University/**Daniel LARGE**, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, Central European University

[China's Development-Security in Practice: The Case of Mali](#)

Ilaria CARROZZA, Senior Researcher, Peace Research Institute Oslo/**Nicholas MARSH**, Senior Researcher, Peace Research Institute Oslo

Caught in the Middle? An Assessment of Chinese Security Force Assistance to African Countries in an Era of Great Power Competition

April HERLEVI, Research Scientist, Center for Naval Analyses (CNA)

Competing or Colluding Commercial Interests in Africa? Ports and Industrial Clusters along China's Maritime Silk Road

PANEL 2 – Security Engagement, Military Exports & Arms Sales

Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Welcome:

Yoon Jung PARK, Associate Director, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Discussant:

Phillip SAUNDERS, Director, Center for the Study of Chinese Military Affairs, Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University

Panelists:

Jyhjong HWANG, PhD Student, Ohio State University

[Logics of Arms Deals: Multilevel Evidence from China-Zambia Relations](#)

Elijah MUNYI, Assistant Professor, International Relations, United States International University-Africa

Challenging Pax Americana: The Commercial Imperative in Chinese Arms Exports to Africa - A Case Study of Uganda and Kenya

Tom BAYES, Former Visiting Academic Fellow, MERICS

China's Growing Role in West African Peace & Security: Implications for Europe

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

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

Chair:

Yoon Jung PARK, Associate Director, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Keynote Speaker:

Chris ALDEN, Professor of International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and Director of LSE IDEAS; Senior Research Associate, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA).

Discussants:

Abiodun ALAO, Professor of African Studies, African Leadership Centre, School of Global Affairs, King's College London

ZHANG Chun, Professor, Institute of International Relations, Center for African Studies, Yunnan University

PANEL 4 – Emerging Technologies and Security Implications

Friday, September 25, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Welcome:

Kevin ACKER, Research Manager, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Discussant:

Judd DEVERMONT, Director, Africa Program, Center for Strategic Studies

Panelists:

Julie KLINGER, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Spatial Sciences, University of Delaware

[Development, Security, and South-South Satellite Cooperation](#)

Bulelani JILI, PhD Student, Harvard University; Research Associate for the China, Law, and Development Project, Oxford University

African Surveillance State: Chinese Investments and Surveillance Tools on the Continent

Connor FAIRMAN, Research Associate, Digital and Cyberspace Policy Program, Council on Foreign Relations

Transsion: a Chinese prodigy in Africa

PANEL 5 – Featured Roundtable: Chinese Sharp Power and Africa

Tuesday, September 29, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Opening Remarks:

Deborah BRAUTIGAM, Director, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Moderator:

David SHINN, Adjunct Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

Panelists:

Christopher WALKER, Vice President for Studies and Analysis, National Endowment for Democracy

Lina BENABDALLAH, Assistant Professor of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University

David SHULLMAN, Senior Advisor, International Republican Institute; Adjunct Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security

Gyude MOORE, Visiting Fellow, Center for Global Development

Jamie MONSON, Professor, Department of History and Director, African Studies Center, Michigan State University

PANEL 6 – Peacekeeping & Humanitarian Programs

Wednesday, September 30, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Welcome:

Marie FOSTER, Program Coordinator, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Discussant:

Patricia KIM, Senior Policy Analyst, China, U.S. Institute of Peace

Panelists:

Joel WUTHNOW, Senior Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Chinese Military Affairs, National Defense University

Not What, But How: PLA Operational Lessons from UN Peacekeeping

Hema NARANG, PhD candidate, Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Chinese and Indian Soft Power in Africa: A Comparative Study of Peacekeeping Operations

Jean-Pierre CABESTAN, Professor of Government and International Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University

China and Africa's Soft Security: The Case of China's Response to the 2014-16 Ebola Crisis in West Africa and the Role of the PLA

PANEL 7 – Commercial Interests and Private Security Companies

Thursday, October 1, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Welcome:

Kevin ACKER, Research Manager, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Discussant:

Marco BOGGERO, Author, *The Governance of Private Security*

Panelists:

Janet EOM, Associate, EY Parthenon

Economic and Security Impacts of Chinese Engagement in Djibouti

Alessandro ARDUINO, Principal Research Fellow, Middle East Institute (MEI), National University of Singapore

[*The Footprint of Chinese Private Security Companies in Africa*](#)

Shuwen (Ivy) ZHENG, MA Student, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies/**Ying XIA**, Assistant Professor, University of Hong Kong

Private Security Companies in Kenya and the Impact of Chinese Actors

PANEL 8 – Regional Actors, Multipolarity, & Comparative Perspectives

Friday, October 2, 2020, 9am to 10:30am EDT

Welcome:

Yoon Jung PARK, Associate Director, China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins SAIS

Discussant:

Paul NANTULYA, Research Associate, Africa Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University

Panelists:

Afa'anwi CHE, Deputy Director Higher Degrees and Research, Kampala International University
[Comparing the Effects of Chinese and Traditional Official Finance on State Repression and Public Demonstrations in Africa](#)

Georg LAMMICH, Research Associate, Institute for Political Science, University of Duisburg-Essen

China's Emergence as a Regional Security Actor in Africa

Jonah VICTOR, Adjunct Associate Professor, Center for Security Studies, Georgetown University
The Militarization of China's Africa Policy: Examining the Data

Joshua EISENMAN, Associate Professor, Keough School of Global Affairs, Notre Dame University
Building a more "Democratic" and "Multipolar" World: China's Strategic Engagement with Developing Countries