

# The third Ghent Russia colloquium

## *"Russia and China in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: Between Cooperation and Competition at the Regional and Global level"*

4 November 2019

Venue: Het Pand, Onderbergen 1, 9000 Gent

Ghent University

### Programme

08.30h – 09.00h: Registration and welcome coffee - Kloostergang

09.00h – 10.45h: Parallel Sessions 1

#### **Panel 1: What prospects for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation? – Room Vermeylen**

Chair: Dries Lesage (Ghent University)

- Liang Jingyu (Higher School of Economics Moscow): *"The China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination and Shanghai Cooperation Organization"*
- Natasha Kuhrt (King's College): *"An expanded SCO: reinvigorated, or on the road to redundancy?"*
- Katherine Elgin (Princeton University): *"China, Russia, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Cooperation, Competition, and Hedging"*

#### **Panel 2: The energy dimension of Sino-Russian cooperation – Room Prior**

Chair: Thijs Van de Graaf (Ghent University)

- Richard Wheeler (VUB, Ghent University): *"The Energy Silk Road within the Context of Security Communities"*
- Sophie Hou (Sorbonne University): *"The Sino-Russian Energy Partnership and the Geographical Shift of Russian Natural Gas Sector"*
- Lauren Hogan (University of Toronto), *via videoconferencing*: *"The Power of Siberia: Increasing economic ties between Russia and China through Russian gas pipelines?"*

10.45h – 11.15h: Coffee break - Kloostergang



11.15h – 13.00h: Parallel Sessions 2

**Panel 3: Towards a new international order: conceptualizations and reflections of the role of China and Russia as great powers – Room Vermeylen**

Chair: Timofei Bordachev (Higher School of Economics Moscow)

- Zachary Paikin (University of Kent): *“Through Thick and Thin? Russia, China and the Future of Eurasian International Society”*
- Yuval Weber (Daniel Morgan Graduate School): *“Conceptualizing Hierarchy and Resilience in Global Power Politics”*
- Mary Papageorgiou (University of Minho): *“Strategic partnerships 2.0? Balancing through partnership: The Sino-Russian relationship in the post-Cold War era”*

**Panel 4: Economic competition between China and Russia: what implications for Central Asia? Room Prior**

Chair: Jean-Christophe Defraigne (UCLouvain)

- Aibike Mamaiusupova (Central European University): *“How the Central Asian region is coping with economic risks of the Eurasian Economic Union and the Belt and Road Initiative: a case of Kyrgyzstan”*
- Lyailya Nurgaliyeva (Nagasaki University): *“Revealing Sino-Russian relations in Central Asia: view from Kazakhstan”*
- John Irgengioro (Brock University): *“The under-focused mechanics of China's Belt and Road Initiative: The potential of BRI's proposed transit corridors, its relationship with Russia's Eurasian Economic Union, and its implications on the significance of the Post-Soviet Central Asian space for China”*

**Panel 5: Narratives, images and metaphors: Local perceptions of China in Russia - Room Oude Infirmerie**

Chair: Fabienne Bossuyt (Ghent University)

- Anna Kuteleva & Dmitrii Vasiliev (Higher School of Economics, People's Friendship University of Russia): *“The framing of China's Belt and Road Initiative in Russian media: Politics of narratives, images, and metaphors”*
- Iacopo Adda (Global Studies Institute Geneva): *“Is the Nerchinsky treaty a problematic historical issue for Russia?”*
- Maxime Danielou (French Institute of International Relations): *“Intensive and illegal wood logging in the Russian Far East: How emerging representations on China hide Russian internal malfunctions”*

13.00h – 13.45h: Lunch

13.45h – 15.15h: **Keynote panel** moderated by Fabienne Bossuyt (Ghent University) – Room Vermeylen  
Introduction by Koen Schoors (director Russia Platform) and Luc Taerwe (director China Platform)



- Timofei Bordachev is Associate Professor at the Faculty of World Economy and International Affairs, Higher School of Economics (Moscow), and Programme Director of the Valdai Discussion Club.
- Yang Cheng is Professor of International Relations and Assistant Dean of the School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Shanghai International Studies University.

15.15h – 17.00h: Parallel Sessions 3

### **Panel 6: Russia and China in Eurasia: between partnership and rivalry – Room Vermeylen**

Chair: Tony Van der Togt (Clingendael Institute)

- Maria Lagutina (St. Petersburg State University): *“Russia and China in ‘Greater Eurasia’: strategic partners or unequal rivals?”*
- Aleksandra Bolonina (University Paris 2): *“The Russia-China ‘geopolitical power’: reformist or revisionist?”*
- Elena Soboleva (Higher School of Economics St Petersburg): *“China’s Leadership Initiatives in Central Asia: Resources and Limitations”*
- Anna Kireeva (MGIMO University): *“Connecting China’s Belt and Road Initiative with the Eurasian Economic Union and Russia’s Greater Eurasian Partnership: Opportunities and challenges”*

### **Panel 7: The connectivity dimension of Sino-Russian cooperation – Room Oude Infirmierie**

Chair: Marcin Kaczmarski (University of Glasgow):

- Alexandra Dienes (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Vienna): *“EAEU between EU and China – Chance for more Connectivity in Eurasia?”*
- Natalia Leskina, Emma Sabzalieva (Ural Federal University, University of Toronto): *“Educational Dimension of Eurasian Project and OBOR in Central Asia: between cooperation and competition”*
- Thomas Kruessmann (University of Kent): *“Expectations towards a level playing field and rule-basedness in the BRI: the case of the Polar Silk Route”*

### **Panel 8: The economic dimension of Sino-Russian cooperation – Room Prior**

Chair: Koen Schoors (Ghent University)

- Jean-Christophe Defraigne (UCLouvain): *“To what extent can BRI affect the EAEU and the capacity of Russia to act as a regional economic centre vis-à-vis its periphery?”*
- Jiayi Zhou (Stockholm International Peace Research University): *“Food security and grain giants: Russia and China trade complementarity and geopolitical risks”*
- Riikka Nuutilainen (BOFIT, Bank of Finland): *“Future of China-Russia economic relations”*
- Boris Vinogradov (Sorbonne University): *“Chinese-Russian cooperation in the automobile field, experience and prospects 2000-2019”*

17.00h – 17.30h: Coffee Break - Kloostergang



17.30h – 19.15h: Parallel sessions 4

**Panel 9: Identity, discourse and narratives: Elite and expert perceptions of Russia-China relations Room Vermeylen**

Chair: Anna Kireeva (MGIMO University)

- Radityo Dharmaputra (University of Tartu): *“Limited at Best? Changing Discourses on China in Russia's Identity Structure before and after the Crimean Crisis of 2014”*
- Anastasia Vishnevskaya-Mann (Freie Universität Berlin): *“Russian Foreign Policy Thinking and the Concept of Greater Eurasia: is there Room for China?”*
- Marcin Kaczmarek (University of Glasgow): *“Theoretical orthodoxy or heuristic tools? Russia-China relations and the gap between scholarly and analytical communities”*

**Panel 10: Comparative perspectives on elites and rent extraction in Russia and China Room Prior**

Chair: David Szakonyi (George Washington University)

- John Reuter (University of Wisconsin): *“Staying out of Trouble: Criminal Cases Against Russian Mayors”*
- Noah Buckley (Higher School of Economics Moscow): *“Responsiveness of Public Opinion to Economic Performance under Authoritarian State Capitalism”*
- Thomas Remington (Harvard University, Higher School of Economics Moscow): *“Elite Rent-Sharing and Income Inequality in the United States, Russia and China”*
- Michaël Rochlitz (University of Bremen): *“Anti-Corruption Campaigns as Tools of Authoritarian Regime Consolidation: A Comparison of Russia and China”*

19.15h – 21.30h: Conference dinner *(paper-givers and chairs only)*

