China’s Belt and Road Initiative and a New Era of Transcultural Networks?

International conference

Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies

27-28 May 2019
PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Date: Monday, 27th May
Venue: Uppsala, University Main Building, Biskopsgatan 3, Hall IV

09:15 OPENING REMARKS

Linear Panels

09:30 PANEL 1: Addressing the BRI: inside and outside of China
- Zhao Huirong, Institute for Russian, East European and Central Asian studies (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), ‘The Belt and Road Initiative to benefit Eurasia’
- Roza Turarbekava, Centre of Eurasian and European Studies, Belarusian State University, ‘The BRI in Eurasia: an Updated Constructing of the Region?’

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 PANEL 2: The BRI-implied political and cultural affiliations in Eurasia
- Afrasiab Khattak, Pakistan-China Institute, ‘Socio-cultural connectivity between South and Central Asian regions in BRI framework’
- Bettina Ng’weno, University of California, Davis, ‘Demanding Space in the City: Chinese enclaves in Nairobi, Kenya’
- Special discussant: Oscar Almén, Department of Government, Uppsala University

13:00 LUNCH BREAK
14:00 PANEL 3: The BRI and regional security
- Veena Ramachandran, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulatur, ‘BRI: Neutralizing Xinjiang and Legitimizing Stability-Security Paradigm’
- Petr Topyckkanov, SIPRI, (TITLE: TBC)
- Dzmitry Shavialiou, Department of International Relations, Belarusian State University, ‘China’s Expansion in the Middle East: the BRI in Israeli Experts’ Assessments’

15:30 COFFEE BREAK

16:00 PANEL 4: The BRI in Eurasia: new rules, new networks?
- Maria Kobzeva, St. Petersburg State University, ‘China’s debates on the EAEU-BRI conjunction’
- Corine Wood-Donelly, IRES, Uppsala University, ‘Russian Arctic Cosmology and the Ice Silk Road’
- Nikolai Fedorov, Saint Petersburg State University, ‘The Greater Eurasian Partnership and the Interaction between the BRI and the ASEAN

DAY 2

Date: Tuesday, 28th May
Venue: Uppsala, University Main Building, Biskopsgatan 3, Hall XI

9:30 PANEL 5: The BRI and regional peace and development
- Neelima Jeychandran, Pennsylvania State University, ‘Road Blocks in the Belt Road Initiative: India’s resistant stance and other South Asian challenges’
- Roman Vakulchuk, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, ‘BRI’s Impact in Central Asia from a Project-Level Perspective’
- Igbal Abilov, Department of International Relations, Belarusian State University,
‘Implementing the BRI in a Fragile Region: China in the South Caucasus’

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 ROUDTABLE DISCUSSION, LAUNCHING OF THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES PLATFORM & CLOSING REMARKS