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

UPPSALA UNIVERSITY
PROGRAMME

DAY 1

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

09:15 OPENING REMARKS

09:30 PANEL 1: Addressing the BRI: inside and outside of China
- Xu Qinduo, China Media Group, the Pangoal Institution, ‘Behind the BRI: the Chinese culture’
- Roza Turarbekava, Centre of Eurasian and European Studies, Belarusian State University, ‘The BRI in Eurasia: an Updated Constructing of the Region?’
- Maria Kobzeva, St. Petersburg State University, ‘China’s debates on the BRI – EAEU conjunction’
- Special discussant: Oscar Almén, Department of Government, Uppsala University

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’
- Neelima Jeychandran, Pennsylvania State University, ‘Road Blocks in the Belt Road Initiative: India’s resistant stance and other South Asian challenges’

13:00 LUNCH BREAK

14:00 PANEL 3: The BRI and regional security
- Veena Ramachandran, Sri Ramaswamy Memorial Institute of Science and
Technology, ‘BRI: Neutralizing Xinjiang and Legitimizing Stability-Security Paradigm’

- 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’

15:30 COFFEE BREAK

16:00 PANEL 4: The BRI in Eurasia: new rules, new networks?

- Corine Wood-Donelly, IRES, Uppsala University, ‘Russian Arctic Cosmology and the Ice Silk Road’
- Nikolai Fedorov, Department of International Relations, Saint Petersburg State University, ‘The Greater Eurasian Partnership and the Interaction between the BRI and the ASEAN

DAY 2

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

9:30 ROUDTABLE DISCUSSION ‘Understanding the BRI-related Processes in Eurasia: Approaches and Assessments’

LAUNCHING OF THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES PLATFORM

CLOSING REMARKS

11:00 COFFEE BREAK
The conference is organized by the Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies (IRES) with the generous financial support of the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences and Uppsala Forum on Democracy, Peace and Justice.