



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY  
**UNU-CRIS**  
Institute on Comparative  
Regional Integration Studies



## The EU, China and Central Asia: Global and Regional Cooperation in A New Era

UNU-CRIS, Bruges, Belgium, 7-8 June 2018

### Workshop program

7 June 2018		
12:00-12:45	Sandwich lunch	
12:45-13:10	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> by Madeleine Hosli (director of UNU-CRIS) and Fabienne Bossuyt (Ghent University)	
13:10-14:00	<b>Keynote speech</b> by <u>H.E. Mr Peter Burian</u> , EU Special Representative for Central Asia: "Opportunities for cooperation between the EU and China in Central Asia"	
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Panel 1a. Historical &amp; neighbourhood perspectives</b></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Richard Griffiths (Leiden University)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Jeremy Smith</u> (University of Eastern Finland): <i>Developmental Puzzles of the Silk Roads</i></li> <li>• <u>Bart Dessein</u> (Ghent University): <i>Central Asia between China and Europe: historical reflections on acculturation</i></li> <li>• <u>Ayaz Rzayev</u> (Center for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan): <i>China in the EU's Eastern neighborhood: Azerbaijan as a hub between the EU and China</i></li> <li>• <u>Ali Resul Usul</u> (Istanbul Medipol University): <i>Is a Turkic Silk Road between China and the EU possible?</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Panel 1b. Energy, trade &amp; technology dimensions</b></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Glenn Rayp (UNU-CRIS &amp; Ghent University)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Alberto Turkstra</u> (European Institute for Asian Studies): <i>New Potentials for Trade Connectivity in Central Asia</i></li> <li>• <u>Tamás Dudlák</u> (Corvinus University): <i>New Player in the Great Game: Chinese natural gas policy in Central Asia</i></li> <li>• <u>Robbert Bossuyt</u> (Ghent University): <i>Bringing Turkmen gas to the European market</i></li> <li>• <u>Rosen Dimov</u> (Etkin): <i>Innovation, Research and Technology Development as Areas of Cooperation between the EU and China in Central Asia</i></li> </ul>
16:00-16:30	Coffee break	
16:30-18:30	<p><b>Panel 2a. Geopolitical implications</b></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Fabienne Bossuyt (Ghent University)</p>	<p><b>Panel 2b. Socio-development impact and digitalization</b></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Jian Shi (Sichuan University)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Aleksey Asiryan</u> (York University): <i>Impact of the EU on the Belt and Road Initiative: The view from Central Asia</i></li> <li>• <u>Katherine Elgin</u> (Princeton University): <i>The Other Actor: Potential Russian Reactions to EU-China Cooperation in Central Asia</i></li> <li>• <u>Emil Kirchner</u> (University of Essex): <i>Will Central Asia provide a new horizon for EU-China cooperation?</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Lyailya Nurgaliyeva</u> (Nagasaki University): <i>The strategy of the Silk Road Economic Belt and its role for the development of Kazakhstan</i></li> <li>• <u>Marat Uraimov</u> (Budapest Business School): <i>Chinese investments' informal conditionality of using Chinese labor in implementation of infrastructure projects in Central Asia</i></li> <li>• <u>Angela Sarafian</u> (European Institute for Asian Studies): <i>Central Asia and the Digital Silk Roads. The rise of a new innovation hub</i></li> <li>• <u>Mara Gubaidullina</u> (Al-Farabi Kazakh National University): <i>Central Asia in trans-regional project "Western China – Western Europe" and Chinese information space on the New Silk Road</i></li> </ul>
19:00-21:00	Workshop dinner (paper-givers only)	
8 June 2018		
9:00-11:00	<p><b>Panel 3a. Comparative perspectives</b>  <b>Chair:</b> Madeleine Hosli (UNU-CRIS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Jiangtian Xu</u> (University of East Anglia): <i>Who Can Be the New Regime Maker in Central Asia? The EU's Liberalism or China's Regional Multilateralism?</i></li> <li>• <u>Zeren Langjia</u> (Sichuan University &amp; Ghent University): <i>Chinese and European Strategies towards Central Asia from a Comparative Perspective</i></li> <li>• <u>Assylzat Karabayeva</u> (International University of Japan): <i>Regionalization in Central Asia: the role of EU and China</i></li> <li>• <u>Domenico Valenza</u> (College of Europe) &amp; <u>Elke Boers</u> (UNU-CRIS and IES): <i>Assessing the Effectiveness of the EU's and Russia's Cultural Diplomacy towards Central Asia</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Panel 3b. Soft power perspectives</b>  <b>Chair:</b> Bart Dessein (Ghent University)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Anton Ikhsanov</u> (Higher School of Economics): <i>The approaches of the «soft power» by Turkmenistan and the development of its transit potential</i></li> <li>• <u>John Irgengioro</u> (Brock University): <i>Han Chinese Confucian Culture and Chinese Soft Power in Central Asia</i></li> <li>• <u>Zhuyu Li, Jian Shi &amp; Dan Yi</u> (Sichuan University): <i>The Macro Communication and Micro Infiltration of BRI in China: A Case Study from the Perspective of WeChat</i></li> </ul>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break	
11:30-12:30	<b>Plenary session:</b> Summary of breakout sessions (by Diana Potjomkina and Laura Luciani) and Conclusion (by Fabienne Bossuyt and Bart Dessein)	