

Recalibrating the Global Compass: China and Shared Future in a Fragmented World

Belgrade, Republic of Serbia | October 15-16, 2025

DETAILED AGENDA

DAY 1 – OCTOBER 15

08.15 – 08.50	Registration of Participants	Crowne Plaza Foyer
09.00 – 09.50	Official Opening Ceremony <i>Conférencier:</i> TBA <i>Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prof. Dr. Branislav Đorđević, IIPE Director- CIIS representative- H.E. Mr. Li Ming, Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the PR China to the Republic of Serbia- MFA Serbia official (TBC)- Senior Official of the Serbian Government (TBA)	Grand Hall
09.50 – 10.20	Keynote Speech 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chen Bo, President, China Institute of International Studies, Beijing	Grand Hall
10.20 – 10.30	Group Photo	Grand Hall
10.30 – 12.00	Panel 1: China in Global Politics and Power Realignments Moderated by: Dr. Aleksandar Mitić <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gregory Simons and Aftab Hossain: Decoding the Rhetoric of Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy and the High Stakes Geopolitical Game• Andrei Korobkov: Donald Trump and the Evolving US-Russia-China Relationship• Alexander Lukin: China's Civilizational Narrative and the Concept of Civilization-State• Mikhail A. Molchanov and Fernando Lopez-Alves: The Middle Corridor of Eurasia: Transnational Connectivity and Regional Challenges• Ladislav Zemánek: China, Russia and the global security governance• Zeno Leoni: The rise of an anti-Western bloc?	Grand Hall
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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10.30 – 12.00	Panel 2: Multilateralism in the Era of Multipolarism	Baltic Room
	Moderated by: TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Duško Dimitrijević: China's Vision of "Community of Shared Future for Mankind"Ouadid Aness: Recalibrating the Global Compass: China and Shared Future in a Fragmented WorldVincent K.L. Chang: Securitizing ideology: Memory alliances and the problems of China's expanding mnemonic statecraftJelica Gordanić: China's Global Efforts to achieve UN Sustainable Development Goals: The case of Juncao TechnologyDragan Vitorović: Thucydides Trap: Looming Political Risks in the Era of China-US CompetitionMehreen Gul: Reimagining Global Governance: A Path to Inclusive Multilateralism	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

12.00 – 12.30	Coffee Break 1	Crowne Plaza Foyer
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12.30 – 14.00	Panel 3: China in International Economic Relations (A)	Grand Hall
	Moderated by: Dr. Katarina Zakić	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Junbo Jian: Sino-European Relations at a Crossroads: Navigating Economic Rivalry and Geopolitical FrictionsJörn-Carsten Gottwald, Steffi Weil, and Markus Taube: The Geopolitics of Economic Statecraft in EU-China RelationsMarjan Svetličić: Implications of self-defeating trade wars on the global economy and ChinaDragan Pavličević: Competing models of international infrastructure development in the context of great power rivalryKatja Kalkschmied and Ana Jeinic: North Adriatic Maritime Infrastructure Development and Intra-European Relations under US-China RivalryCarlos Abreo, Ignacio Silva Neira, and Jennifer Pédussel Wu: The Role of China in BRICS: Modern High-Tech Trade Networks	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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12.30 – 14.00	Panel 4: Green China – Sustainability, Energy, and Climate Leadership	Baltic Room
	Moderated by: TBA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nevena Šekarić Stojanović: China's Renewable Rise and Coal Conundrum: A Green Superpower's Energy Paradox• Swati Kanwar: China's State-Owned Enterprises and The Global Renewable Energy Supply Chain: Case Study of Tianqi Lithium in Australia• Mustafa Özçağ and Barış Gürsoy: Climate Security and China's Energy Policy• Chaoqi Wu and Xiang Li: Industrial Practices of the Green Silk Road: A Study on the Spillover Effects of Chinese New Energy Vehicle Enterprises on EU SDG7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)• Vesna Vučinić: Sponge Cities: Reviving Traditional Wisdom for Climate Resilience in the Belt and Road Initiative	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

12.30 – 14.00	Panel 5: China and the Global South in New Era	Adriatic Room
	Moderated by: TBA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bart Dessein: Towards a 'modular home'• Anastas Vangeli: Possibilism, Uncertainty and Globalization: Lessons from (post)Yugoslav-Chinese Normative Encounters• Maedeh Aeni: China and the Global South: Economic and Political Strategies in the New Era• Bruno Macciotta Pulisci: China's "True Multilateralism" and the Global South: New Non-Aligned Movement or Strategic Flexibility? The Case of Latin America• Jasminka Simić and Ako Abbah: Artificial Intelligence as a National Interest of China: Common Achievements with the Belt and Road Initiative Countries and South-South Cooperation• Dávid Györgyi: Japan's Regional Repositioning? – Japanese Involvement in Southeast Asia	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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12.30 – 14.00	Panel 6: New Chinese Initiatives Shaping the Global Agenda	Aegean Room
	Moderated by: TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jelica Stefanović-Štambuk and Slobodan Popović: How Does China Diplomatically Pattern the Futuring of Global Governance? • Vesna Shapkoski: China's Global Civilization Initiative in the context of the shifting global landscape – challenges and opportunities • Fahad Nabeel Ul Haque and Muhammad Ammar Atam: Mapping the Cyber Component of China's Global Security Initiative • Jana Marković: The Global Development Initiative: A China-led Approach to Addressing Climate Action (SDG 13) • Mirjana Đorđević: Global Security Initiative: The role of China in Afghanistan after U.S. withdrawal in 2021 	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

14.00 – 15.00	Lunch Break	Hotel Restaurant
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15.00 – 16.30	Panel 7: China-CEE Relations and the Future of Regional Cooperation / Project PERSPECTIVES 2030	Grand Hall
	Moderated by: Dr. Katarina Zakić	
	<p><i>Introductory remark: Nenad Stekić, PI of the Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teodora Peneva: China's Role in the CEE Regional Integration Processes • Öncel Sencerman: China, a friend or a foe for the Baltics? • Gönül Tezcan and Arzu Güler: Geopolitics over Trade: From "17+1" to "14+1" – Lithuania's Withdrawal and the Future of the Initiative • Valentin Katrandzhiev: Reviewing China-CEEC Initiative and Three Seas Initiative (3SI) from a Comparative Perspective • Miklós Sebők, Andrea Élterő, and Elena Jovičić: Network Centrality and China's Economic Partnerships in Central and Eastern Europe: A Comparative Study of Hungary and Serbia 	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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15.00 – 16.30	Panel 8: China in International Economic Relations (B)	Baltic Room
	Moderated by: Dr. Sanja Jelisavac Trošić	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ilker Gündogan, Jörn-Carsten Gottwald and Niall Duggan: The Geopolitical and Geoeconomic Implications of China's Central Bank Digital Currency e-CNY for the European Union• Sinem Ünaldirar: Great Rivalry: The Impact of China's Technological Superiority in the Automotive Sector on the EU Automotive Industry• Miljan Radunović and Jiehan Zhou: Improving BRI affiliated infrastructure projects in Europe by using modern project management methodologies• Jovana Nikolić: The EU-China Trade Relations amid Tariff Conflicts and the WTO Crisis• Zoltán Vörös: The Downsizing of USAID: Impacts on International Aid and Geopolitical Consequences• Kozhobaev Samat: China's Economic Growth Through the Lens of Rostow's Development Model: Navigating the Challenges of Maturity and Beyond• Elena Safronova: Probable Impact of China's Economic Slowdown on Chinese-Latin American Relations	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

15.00 – 16.30	Panel 9: Connectivity in the Era of Belt and Road	Adriatic Room
	Moderated by: TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stefano Valente: China's Role in Central Asia-Europe Connectivity: Infrastructure Challenges and Opportunities for Synergies with Italy and Turkey• Fábio Colombo and Carla Costa: Connectivity Strategies and Structural Power Amid Changing World Orders: Evidence from the Belt and Road Initiative• Nicola Casarini: The future of the Belt and Road in Europe in light of Trump 2.0 and post-war Ukraine• Mengsi Li, Jing Cai, and György Iván Neszmélyi: The Impacts of Regional Integration on Industrial Transformation and Upgrading in China's Yangtze River Economic Belt• Gokhan Tekir: China and the Development Road Project	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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15.00 – 16.30	Panel 10: Technology, Digital and Smart Power: China's Model of Development	Aegean Room
	Moderated by: TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stanislav Myšička: China's Space Program and Cooperation with Africa and Latin American Countries Om Ranjan: China at the cusp of Tech-politics: An Assessment of how China aims to reform global tech norms Jovana Dubonjac: Classrooms of Influence: China's Educational Diplomacy and Soft Power in Serbia Jelena Milićević-Proroković: China's rapid population aging: ways to solve the problem and opportunities for bilateral cooperation with Serbia on population policy Marta Nešković: Embodied Traditions, Shared Futures: Health-Oriented Intangible Heritage in Contemporary China 	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

16.30 – 17.00	Coffee Break 2	Crowne Plaza Foyer
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17.00 – 18.00	Panel 11: Executive Panel Dedicated to the 75th Anniversary of the RIA Journal	Grand Hall
	Moderated by: Dr. Nenad Stekić	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebecca Nadin: Building International Development Policy Engagement in a Post USAID world: the Global Development Initiative and China's 'new era' approach to development and humanitarian assistance Jasna Plevnik: Connectivity between the European Union and China faces the new geopolitical and protectionist trends in the world order Diego Cagliolo: The growth of the commercial aviation industry in China and its impact on global competition: the COMAC case Huseyin Bagci: Turkey and China in the Middle East Central Asia in the new era of Donald Trump: New wine in the old bottle? Zhidas Daskalovski: Struggle for World Dominance - The Realm of Values Stefan Vladislavljev: Small Countries' Role in the Great Powers' Trade War – An Opportunity for Facilitation 	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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17.00 – 18.00	Panel 12: Foreign Policy of China – Strategy, Interests, Influence	Baltic Room
	Moderated by: Murat Necip Arman	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rukiye Kesler: Between Principle and Pragmatism: The Evolution of China's Foreign Policy Toward the Israel-Palestine Issue• Bülent Sarper Ağır and Barış Gürsoy: A Comparative Analysis of Soft Power Policies of Turkey and China Towards the Balkans• Ivica Bakota and Zvonimir Stopić: Development of Modern Chinese Foreign Policy Thought: The Great Return• Danilo Lorenzo Delos Santos: Re-establishing China's Foreign Policy Strategy in the ASEAN Under a Multipolar World• Tugrul Keskin: China and Central Asia Under Xi Jinping: Strategic Engagement and Regional Implications• Orazio Maria Gnerre: Civilizational Dialogue between Europe and China during and after Multipolarization• Nikola Rajić: Geopolitics of the Arctic: Where Do Chinese and Russian Interests Overlap?	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

17.00 – 18.00	Panel 13: China and Global Security Dynamics	Adriatic Room
	Moderated by: TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roozbeh (Rudy) B. Baker: Customary International Law and the South China Sea Dispute• Dejan Stojković: Militarizing the Future: Emerging Technologies, Global Security, and Geopolitical Shifts• Noela Mahmutaj: Geopolitical Rivalries in the Western Balkans: Case of China• Marcin Składanowski: China in the Security Policy of the Russian Federation: Current State and Prospects for Development in the Context of the New US Foreign Policy• Jizhou Zhao: NATO's Roles in the Arctic and Cybersecurity and Implications to a Shared Future: A Chinese Scholarly Perspective• Xu Ruojie: The accession of Finland and Sweden to NATO and its geopolitical implications on China	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

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对话 中国
DIALOGUES ON CHINA

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17.00 – 18.00	Panel 14: TBA	Aegean Room
	Moderated by: TBA	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	
18.00 – 18.10	Day 1 Conclusions	Grand Hall
	Moderated by: TBA	
18.10	Solemn Cocktail Reception / All Participants & Guests	Crowne Plaza Foyer
08.30 – 14.00	Exhibition – The 70 th Anniversary of the friendship between Chinese and Serbian peoples	Crowne Plaza Foyer

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DAY 2 – OCTOBER 16

10.00 – 10.05	Opening Remarks	IIFE Solemn Hall
	<i>Conférencier</i> : TBA	
	Welcome Note & COMPASS Project Presentation Ivona Lađevac , IIFE Deputy Director and COMPASS Project PI	

10.05 – 10.15	Group Photo	IIFE Library
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10.15 – 10.40	Keynote Speech 2	IIFE Solemn Hall
	Dr. Ivona Lađevac : Shared future in fragmented world: how to reconcile it?	
	Moderated by : TBA	

10.40 – 12.00	Panel 15: COMPASS Panel – Guiding Perspectives on Risks for Serbia's Foreign Policy	IIFE Solemn Hall
	Moderated by : TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Katarina Zakić: The Scope and Limitations of the Sino-Serbian Free Trade Agreement• Aleksandar Mitić: Reality check: EU's evolving framing of China's presence in the Balkans• Sanja Filipović: The Effects of Geopolitics on Foreign Trade Goods• Nenad Stekić: Media portrayals of China in Central and Eastern Europe: A tone analysis of public broadcasters in 2024• Pavle Nedić: Hedging in Uncertain Times: Serbia's Foreign Policy in the Era of Trump and Global Realignment• Dragan Trailović: Instrumental and Normative Dimensions of the Sino-Serbian Partnership: Between Transactional Cooperation and Ironclad Friendship	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

12.00 – 12.30	Coffee Break	IIFE Small Hall
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12.30 – 13.50	Panel 16: China and Bilateral Ties in a Changing World	IIPE Solemn Hall
	Moderated by: TBA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dejan Vuletić: China's geopolitical influence on Serbia: Perspectives and challenges • Jelena Gledić: Mechanisms of fragmentation: Analyzing media representations of Xi Jinping's visits to Serbia in 2016 and 2024 • Muamer Hirkić: Crisis Partnership with China? Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Bosnia and Herzegovina • Ljiljana Stević, Nina Sajić, and Min Zhang: The Republic of Srpska: The Linchpin of China-Bosnia and Herzegovina Diplomatic Engagement • Levent Odabaşı: Rivalry or Need?: China-India Tensions, Security Discourse, and the Rise of Authoritarian Populism • Bahar Özsoy: The Future of China-Russia Cooperation in the Arctic 	
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

12.30 – 13.50	Panel 17: TBA	IIPE Solemn Hall
	Discussion & Panel Closure	

13.50 – 14.00	CONFERENCE CLOSURE	IIPE Solemn Hall
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14.00 – 15.00	Lunch /all participants/	IIPE Small Hall
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SCAN FOR THE LATEST AGENDA

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