

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC POLICY
SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS
LAU CHINA INSTITUTE

KING'S
College
LONDON



China Week

China and the new world order

20-24 October 2025

#ChinaWeek2025

China and the new world order

This year's China Week looks at China's rising influence in the world – from its economic power, innovation in technology to an expanding military presence.

And, amidst ongoing geopolitical tensions, how the world's second largest economy is reshaping, redefining and challenging a new world order.

Welcome

Welcome to the Lau China Institute's annual China Week – our flagship events series designed to engage you in deeper dialogue on modern China. We're delighted to welcome experts from across academia, industry and government to examine the most pressing issues on China today.

The SCO summit in Beijing in September was a significant moment in global diplomacy. China's military display highlighted its power both domestically and internationally.

With China making strides in technological innovation, particularly in areas like AI, green energy, and telecommunications, understanding China's role is crucial whatever the emerging new world order. This year's China Week explores that influence – economically, technologically, militarily and geopolitically.

China Week demonstrates the range of opinions and diversity of expertise within the Lau China Institute, and across our wider networks. Our ethos is critical engagement with the issues around China, based on a rigorous gathering of evidence and high-quality analytic frameworks.

This year's China Week offers something to stimulate, interest and inspire. Join us throughout the week for our diverse line-up of events as detailed in this programme.

Welcome to China Week.



View our events at:
kcl.ac.uk/china-week

About the Lau China Institute

Through high quality, high impact, innovative and multidisciplinary teaching and research, as well as engagement in public dialogue, we aim to increase knowledge and understanding of China in the UK, and beyond.

Established in 2011, the Lau China Institute is home to a community of core academics and postgraduate students dedicated to enhancing knowledge and understanding of contemporary China through multidisciplinary and innovative research. We also work with affiliations from across the King's community to facilitate their research interests in Greater China. Based within the School of Global Affairs, we seek research collaborations and deeper mutual understanding with the People's Republic of China, along with partners across the globe, ensuring we sit at the heart of King's strategic approach.

China's rise has had, and will continue to have, a significant impact on the world. The Lau China Institute conducts analytically rigorous research across a range of areas including China's political economy, Chinese international relations and Chinese elite politics.

Our projects include looking at the history and development of Britain's relations with China, the politics of internal migration, environmental governance and China's Belt and Road Initiative.



Opening panel **Seeking new momentum: The Chinese economy in a world of disorder**

Can China's economic growth model adapt to a rapidly and radically changing world (dis)order? What will emerge as the new drivers of growth and what are the implications for its trade and business partners?

13.00 – 14.30 BST

Online and in-person, KIN 214, King's Building,
Strand Campus

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Speakers:

- George Magnus, Research Associate, China Centre, Oxford University & SOAS
- Markus Hermann Chen, Co-Founder & Managing Director, China Macro Group
- Alicia Garcia Herrero, Adjunct Professor at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Moderator:

- Xin Sun, Senior Lecturer, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Opening keynote and reception **Eclipsing the West: China, India and the Forging of a New World**

Former politician, economist and author, Sir Vince Cable discusses his new book about the economic rise of 'superstates' China and India and what it means for the global economy and its governance. Join us for networking drinks as we celebrate the opening of China Week 2025.

18.00 – 20.30 BST

Online and in-person
8th floor North, Bush House

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Keynote:

- Sir Vince Cable, former politician, economist and author

Welcome:

- Professor Kerry Brown, Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London

For those unable to join us in-person, this event will be livestreamed.

The US, China and the changing geopolitics

Former Foreign Secretary of Britain, Sir Malcolm Rifkind and Professor Kerry Brown discuss the new geopolitics emerging, China's ambitions, the status of Taiwan and how the US will respond.

18.15 – 19.15 BST followed by drinks
In-person, 8th floor North & South, Bush House
kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Speaker:

- Sir Malcolm Rifkind, Visiting Professor, King's College London

Moderator:

- Professor Kerry Brown, Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Chinese language, culture and calligraphy tasters

Interested in learning Mandarin and the Chinese art of calligraphy? Don't miss our taster sessions hosted by King's Language Centre.

Monday, Thursday and Friday see timings below
In-person, KIN 214, King's Building, Strand Campus
kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Chinese language and culture

Monday 16.00 – 17.00 & Thursday 15.00 – 15.45

Chinese calligraphy and wellbeing

Friday 16.30 – 17.30

Navigating the Indo-Pacific: Insights on security, alliances, and regional stability

In this panel, academics and practitioners will examine the evolving security landscape in the Indo-Pacific and discuss the complexities inherent in defense strategy and international relations within the region.

10.00 – 11.30 BST

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building, Strand Campus

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Speakers:

- **Brendan Mulvaney**, Director, China Aerospace Studies Institute
- **Marc Marmino**, Squadron Commander, US Air Force

Additional speakers to be announced.

China and the new world economic and technological order

China and the US are competing to shape a new world economic and technological order. National champions and startups both play a key role. How are the two superpowers seeking to win this competition and what are its implications?

13.00 – 14.30 BST

Online and in-person – KIN 214, King's Building, Strand Campus

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Speakers:

- Ramon Pacheco Pardo, Professor of International Relations, King's College London
- Robyn Klingler-Vidra, Reader in Political Economy and Entrepreneurship, King's Business School
- Nikki Sun, Programme Manager, Oxford Martin AI Governance Initiative, University of Oxford
- James Kynge, Author and Journalist

Moderator:

- Xin Sun, Senior Lecturer in Chinese and East Asian Business, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Made in Ethiopia: by Xinyan Yu and Max Duncan

Film screening and panel

Filmed over four years with singular access, *Made in Ethiopia* lifts the curtain on China's historic but misunderstood impact on Africa, and explores contemporary Ethiopia at a moment of profound crisis.

18.00 – 20.30 BST

The Garden Cinema, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5PQ



Speakers:

- Max Duncan, Director
- Charlotte Goodburn, Reader and Deputy Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London
- Leung Wing-Fai, Reader, Department of Culture, Media & Creative Industries, King's College London

Moderator:

- Linda Calabrese, Senior Research Fellow, ODI Global & Leverhulme Doctoral Fellow, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Co-presented with The Garden Cinema's Chinese Cinema Project.

The Time Inheritors: How Time Inequalities Shape Higher Education Mobility in China

Can a student inherit time? What difference does time make to their educational journeys and outcomes? Cora Lingling Xu presents her new book.

10.00 – 11.30 BST

In-person – KIN 227, King's Building,
Strand Campus

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Speaker:

- Cora Lingling Xu, Associate Professor, Durham University

Moderator:

- Yanran Yao, Lecturer, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Bodies of control: Women, reproduction, and state power in Chinese dystopias

This talk explores how Chinese dystopian literature critiques the intersection of gender, reproduction, and authoritarianism, revealing the emotional and political toll of state control over women's bodies.

13.00 – 14.00 BST

In-person – KIN 227, King's Building,
Strand Campus

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Speaker:

- Tammy Lai-Ming Ho, Editor-in-Chief, Cha: An Asian literary journal

Harbouring influence: China, COSCO, and port politics in Piraeus

Konstantinos Tsimonis presents his research on the landmark investment of the China Ocean Shipping Company (COSCO) in the port of Piraeus, examining its political, social, economic, and environmental repercussions.

16.30 – 17.30 BST

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building,
Strand Campus

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Speaker:

- Konstantinos Tsimonis, Assistant Professor in Chinese Politics, Panteion University

Call Me Ishmaelle

Author Xiaolu Guo presents her new book *Call Me Ishmaelle* reimagining the epic battle between man and nature in Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* from a female perspective.

Day 4 Thursday 23 October (continued)

19.00 – 20.00 BST followed by drinks

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building,
Strand Campus

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Speaker:

- Xiaolu Guo, Author and Visiting Professor, Columbia University

Moderator:

- Yanran Yao, Lecturer in China, Gender, Politics & Civil Society,
Lau China Institute, King's College London

Copies of the book will be available to purchase on the day.



About the author

Xiaolu Guo's novels include *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers* (shortlisted for the Women's Prize), *Twenty Fragments of a Ravenous Youth*, and *I Am China*. Her memoir *Once Upon A Time In The East* won the National Book Critics Circle Award 2017 and was shortlisted for the RSL Ondaatje Prize.

Her nonfiction *Radical* was published by Vintage 2023, followed by *My Battle of Hastings*. Named as a Granta's Best of Young British Novelist, she also directed a dozen films including the Golden Leopard winner *She, a Chinese*. Guo has been a visiting professor at Columbia University in New York, and a Samuel Fischer Professor at the Free University in Berlin. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

Ghosts in the city: Hong Kong poems of protest and memory

Tamara Lai-Ming Ho reads from her poetry collections, 'Hula Hooping' (2015), 'Too Too Too Too' (2018), and 'If I Do Not Reply' (2024), discussing Hong Kong voices of protest and memory.

09.00 – 10.00 BST

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building,
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Speaker:

- Tamara Lai-Ming Ho, Editor-in-Chief of *Chai: An Asian literary journal*

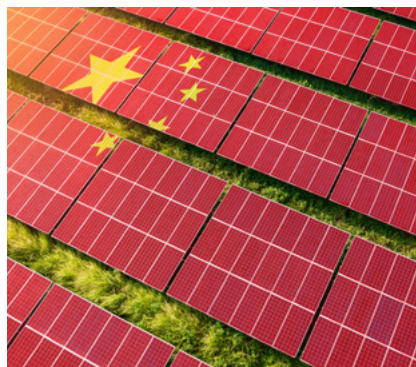
What does 'green China' look like on the ground?

Looking beyond the headlines, journalists and anthropologists examine the importance and challenges of understanding environment and climate issues in China from the ground up.

11.00 – 12.00 BST

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building,
Strand Campus

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Speakers:

- Andrea Pia, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, LSE
- Qiwen Cui, China Editor, Dialogue Earth
- Deng Yaowen, Independent Consultant

Moderators:

- Tom Baxter, Project Manager, Global China and learning programme, Dialogue Earth
- Thomas White, Lecturer, Lau China Institute, King's College London

The Policies and Power of Public Diplomacy – Wilton Park's Road

Nick Hopkinson provides an overview of a four-year project exploring Wilton Park's higher-level discussions since 1946 alongside Kerry Brown.

13.00 – 14.00 BST

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building,
Strand Campus

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Speakers:

- Nick Hopkinson, Former Director, Wilton Park
- Professor Kerry Brown, Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Studying at the LCI: An introduction to the China and Globalisation MSc

Find out what it's like to study at the Lau China Institute at King's College London in this introduction to the China & Globalisation MSc.

Closing keynote and reception – US-China relations

We're delighted to welcome Sinica podcast host, Kaiser Kuo, as our closing keynote for China Week 2025 for a conversation on the history and future for US-China relations, chaired by Dr Elizabeth Ingleson, LSE.

Day 5 Friday 24 October (continued)

15.00 – 16.00 BST

In-person – KIN 214, King's Building,
Strand Campus

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Hear from our recent graduates about their studies and how the MSc programme has helped shape their careers.

18.30 – 20.30 BST

8th floor Bush House North & South

kcl.ac.uk/visit/strand-campus



Welcome:

- Charlotte Goodburn, Reader and Deputy Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London

Keynote:

- Kaiser Kuo, Sinica Podcast Founder and Host

Moderator:

- Elizabeth Ingleson, Associate Professor, International History, London School of Economics



Join us for networking drinks as we celebrate the closing of China Week 2025.

About the speaker:

Kaiser Kuo is the host of the Sinica Podcast, a weekly discussion of current affairs in China that has run since 2010. He was Head of Podcasts and Editor-at-Large for The China Project, and previously served as Director of International Communications for Baidu. In his over 20 years in China, his career ran the gamut from rock music to tech journalism to corporate communications. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and holds an M.A. from the University of Arizona.

Thank you to our event partners

We would like to thank all of our supporting partners of China Week 2025



Lau China Institute

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