



Sino-Russian Relations in Central Asia and Beyond

Washington D.C., 6-7 May, 2009

Conference Venue:

Rome Auditorium
Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)
Johns Hopkins University
1619 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington D.C., 20036

Objective

China is today rapidly entrenching its presence throughout the Eurasian continent and in the post-Soviet space. Meanwhile, a resurgent Russia is seeking to preserve this space as its exclusive sphere of influence. These clashing interests have so far been mitigated by the shared ambition of balancing U.S. unipolarity and preventing its engagement in the wider Central Asian region. How will Sino-Russian relations unfold in context of this geopolitical uncertainty? This conference seeks to bring together scholars specializing on Sino-Russian relations to address the current status of this relationship, its historical drivers, and implications for the future. Five main questions are asked: Will the historical volatility of Sino-Russian relations continue into the 21st Century? Are they striving for a condominium in Central Asia? What lessons can be derived from China's and Russia's domination of Mongolia? To what extent are their interests in the energy and military spheres competitive/complementary? In what way is the Shanghai Cooperation Organization a manifestation of both old patterns and new realities in the Sino-Russian relationship? The conference is co-organized by the Departments of Russia and Eurasian Studies, China Studies, and the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program at SAIS, Johns Hopkins University, together with the Stockholm-based Institute for Security and Development Policy and University of Louisville.

AGENDA

6 May

8:45-9:30 Registration

9:30-10:00: Introduction

Bruce Parrott, Carla Freeman (tentative), Niklas Swanström and Robert Bedeski

10:00-12:00: Panel 1 *Historical Perspectives*

Chair: S. Frederick Starr

Lowell Dittmer

- Sino-Russian Relations in the 20th century

Bruce Parrott

- Russia and the Geopolitics of Eurasia in Historical Perspective

Coffee Break, 20 min

Marlene Laruelle

- China, Eurasianism and the Imperial Issue in Russia: Looking Toward the East

Q & A (30 min)

12:00-13:45 Luncheon, Beacon Hotel (by invitation only)

14:00-15:45 Panel 2 *Sino-Russian Relations in Central Asia and the Caucasus*

Chair: Lowell Dittmer

Sebastien Peyrouse

- Sinophilia and Sinophobia in Central Asia

Daniel Burghart

- The Eagle, the Bear, and the Dragon--a Modern Fable

Zhao Huirong

- Chinese Views of the Russia-Georgia Conflict

Q & A (30 min)

15:45-16:15 Coffee Break

16:15-18:00 Panel 3 *Mongolia, Japan, and Sino-Russian Relations*

Chair: Niklas Swanström

Robert Bedeski

- Hegemonic Executive Power: A Mongol innovation and formation of Russian and Asiatic States

Marina Romanova

-Russia - Mongolia relations: The Past in the Present

Shoichi Itoh

- Sino-Japanese Competition over Russian Oil Revisited: Has Moscow Scored its Own Goal?

Q & A (30 min)

20:00 Conference Dinner (by invitation only)

7 May

8:30-9:00 Registration

9.00-9:30 Keynote Address by Gilbert Rozman, Musgrave Professor of Sociology at Princeton University.

9:30-11:30 Panel 4 *Sino-Russian Energy & Military Relations*

Chair: David Finkelstein

Charles Ziegler

- Conflict and Cooperation in Sino-Russian Energy Relations

Gaye Christoffersen

- Sino-Russian Energy Relations (tentative title)

Coffee Break, 20 min

Stephen Blank

- The Military Dimensions of Sino-Russian Relations

Q & A (30 min)

12:00-14:00 Luncheon at Beacon Hotel and meeting for authors of book chapters (by invitation only)

14:15-16: 00 Panel 5 *The Shanghai Cooperation Organization*

Chair: Stephen Blank

Zhao Huasheng

- SCO and Sino-Russian Relations (tentative title)

Nicklas Norling

- SCO, Trade, and China's New Frontiers

Martha Olcott

- The SCO: Strengths and Weaknesses

Q & A (30 min)

16:00-16:15 Concluding remarks

Robert Bedeski and Niklas Swanström

Participants

Prof. Robert Bedeski, *University of Louisville*, United States.

Prof. Stephen Blank, *US Army War College*, United States.

Prof. Daniel Burghart, *The National Defense Intelligence College*, United States.

Prof. Gaye Christoffersen, *SOKA University of America*, United States.

Prof. Lowell Dittmer, *UCLA*, United States.

Dr. David Finkelstein, *CNA Corporation*, United States.

Prof. Carla Freeman, *Johns Hopkins University*, *United States* (tentative)

Prof. Zhao Huasheng, *Fudan University*, China.

Dr. Zhao Huirong, *China Academy of Social Sciences*, China.

Dr. Marlene Laruelle, *Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program*, United States/Sweden.

Dr. Martha Olcott, *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, United States.

Prof. Bruce Parrott, *Johns Hopkins University*, United States.

Dr. Sebastien Peyrouse, *Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program*, United States/Sweden.

Prof. Gilbert Rozman, *Princeton University*, United States.

Mr. Nicklas Norling, *Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program*, United States/Sweden.

Dr. Marina Romanova, *Russian Academy of State Service at the President of Russian Federation*, Russia.

Prof. Shoichi Itoh, *Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia*, Japan.

Prof. S. Frederick Starr, *Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program*, United States/Sweden.

Dr. Niklas Swanström, *Institute for Security and Development Policy*, Sweden.

Prof. Charles E. Ziegler, *University of Louisville*, United States.

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