

# ENGAGING CHINA

UiB Academic China Forum – Symposium 2022

Time: **Wednesday 11 May 2022**

Place: The University Aula in Bergen

**Public debate on China and relations between Western democracies and the People's Republic have become more tense and polarized in recent years. China is ascending to become the world's leading economic power and its global political influence is on the rise. What challenges does this pose for academia?**

Increasing tension in political and diplomatic relations between China and the West appear to have negatively affected academic cooperation on research and teaching, with adverse consequences for mobility and exchange of scholars and students. How do we manage to cope with deteriorating relations? How do we assess current Chinese political and social developments? And how can we improve our knowledge and insight on China to further build and develop competence?

*The Academic China Forum of the University of Bergen invites to a discussion on the status and prospects of academic cooperation with Chinese institutions.*



UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

# Panellists



ANNA LISA AHLERS  
Max Planck Institute for  
the History of Science



BO WANG  
Peking University



STINE JESSEN  
HAAKONSSON  
Copenhagen Business  
School / Sino-Danish  
Center



TIM SUMMERS  
Chinese University of  
Hong Kong



HAUN SAUSSY  
University of Chicago



METTE HALSKOV  
HANSEN  
University of Oslo



CHUNRONG LIU  
Fudan-European Centre  
for China Studies,  
University of Oslo



PETER C. PERDUE  
Yale University



TOMMY SHIH  
Lund University



GØRILD MERETHE  
HEGGELUND  
Fridtjof Nansen  
Institute



ULF SVERDRUP  
Norwegian Institute  
of International Affairs  
(NUPI)



CAMILLA BRAUTASET  
University of Bergen



SHENGPING HE  
University of Bergen



JULIA CHRISTINE  
MARINACCIO  
University of Bergen



PHOTO: LI YANG VIA UNSPLASH

**Public debate on China** and relations between Western democracies and the People's Republic of China have become more divided and polarized, especially during the recent two years. Communications between China and the West have been further constrained by the COVID-19 pandemic, building steadily since early 2020. More tense political and diplomatic relations appear to have negatively affected academic cooperation on research and teaching, with adverse consequences for mobility and exchange of scholars and students. How do we manage to cope with deteriorating relations? Is academic cooperation threatened, and if so, what do we do about it? Is it important to maintain and develop academic cooperation? Why? How do we assess current Chinese political and social developments? And how can we improve our knowledge and insight on China and further build and develop competence?

**China has almost 20 per cent** of the world's population. China's position in world politics and the global economy has rapidly become far-reaching and of great importance. There is a general consensus among governments and scientists that international cooperation is necessary to solve global problems. Cooperation of some scope is obviously necessary for mutual development of knowledge and competence. But cooperation between academic institutions and scholars across democratic and authoritarian states is not unproblematic and not without risks, especially in the current global political atmosphere. How can scientific collaboration be developed to our mutual benefit in challenging political times?

**The Academic China Forum** of the University of Bergen invites to a discussion of the status and prospects of academic cooperation with Chinese institutions through four distinct thematic sessions at the symposium:

- *Mitigating Climate Change: On Academic Cooperation on Climate Change and Policies.*
- *Transreading Chinese Literature as World Literature*
- *Understanding China: Sociopolitical Changes in China and Implications for Academic Cooperation*
- *Knowing China: How to Build and Develop Competence on China?*

# Symposium moderators



TORE FUREVIK  
NERSC / University of  
Bergen



HUIWEN (HELEN)  
ZHANG  
University of Bergen



HANS JØRGEN  
GÅSEMYR  
NUPI / University of  
Bergen



MARTIN PAULSEN  
University of Bergen



# Programme

**10 May**

**Arrival**

Arrival of speakers/participants

**18:00–20:00: RECEPTION** (by invitation)

**11 May**

**SYMPOSIUM**

**08:15–09:00**

Registration

**09:00–09:10**

**Opening address**

**Margareth Hagen**, Rector of University of Bergen

**Introduction to symposium**

**Stein Kuhnle**, Chair of Academic China Forum, University of Bergen

---

**09:10–10:40**

**SESSION I: Mitigating Climate Change: On Academic Cooperation on Climate Change and Policies**

MODERATOR: **Tore Furevik**, Director of Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center, and Professor of Physical Oceanography, University of Bergen

Description:

China is by far the largest emitter of climate gasses, but also the world's leader in renewable energy and electric transportation. It has the second largest and fastest rising scientific production and is expected to be number one in few years. What can Norway learn from collaboration with China on climate change and climate policies? And can they learn from us?

Panel participants:

**Shengping He**, Researcher, University of Bergen and the Bjerknes Centre

**Gørild Merethe Hegelund**, Research Professor, Fridtjof Nansen Institute

**Julia Christine Marinaccio**, Postdoctoral Fellow in China Studies, University of Bergen

**10:40–11:00**

*Tea/Coffee break*



---

**11:00–12:30**

**SESSION II: Transreading Chinese Literature as World Literature**

MODERATOR: **Huiwen (Helen) Zhang**, Associate Professor of Chinese Studies (Literature and Philosophy), University of Bergen

Description:

How has ancient Chinese literature inspired and influenced cultural developments in our modern multilingual societies? What motivated certain Western and Chinese writers to respond to each other's traditions and new trends in modern times?

Panel participants:

**Peter C. Perdue**, Professor of History, Yale University

**Haun Saussy**, Professor of East Asian Languages & Civilizations, University of Chicago

**Bo Wang**, Professor of Philosophy, Vice President of Peking University

**12:30–13:30**

*Light lunch in the Aula*

---

**13:30–15:00**

**SESSION III: Understanding China: Current Political Development in China and Implications for Academic Cooperation**

MODERATOR: **Hans Jørgen Gåsemyr**, Senior Researcher, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and University of Bergen

Description:

The conditions for academic work in China are changing. The Chinese state is investing ambitiously in more and better research and education, creating greater incentives for some forms of research, but also introducing stricter regulations, delimiting the spaces for other activities. How do active, experienced and China-focused researchers assess and deal with the changing conditions?

Panel participants:

**Anna Lisa Ahlers**, Research Group Leader, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Berlin)

**Stine Jessen Haakonsson**, Associate Professor, Copenhagen Business School, and Sino-Danish Center

**Chunrong Liu**, Associate Professor of Political Science at Fudan University, Managing Director, Fudan-European Centre for China Studies at University of Oslo

**Tommy Shih**, Associate Professor, Lund University

**Tim Summers**, Assistant Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong

---

**15:00–16:00**

**SESSION IV: Knowing China: How to Build and Develop  
Competence on China?**

MODERATOR: **Martin Paulsen**, Head of Department of Foreign Languages,  
University of Bergen

Description:

Without doubt China will be a crucial geopolitical actor in the 21st century. What kind of knowledge and skills does the Norwegian society need to meet this situation? How shall the required competences be developed, and who shall provide this capacity building? What should be the role of institutions of research and higher education in this process? How can different actors work together with the aim of strengthening research, teaching and academic cooperation?

Panel participants:

**Camilla Brautaset**, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Bergen, and  
Professor of Modern Economic History

**Mette Halskov Hansen**, Vice-Rector for Climate & the Environment and Cross-Disciplinary,  
University of Oslo, and Professor of China Studies

**Ulf Sverdrup**, Director of Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

---

**16:00–16:05**

**End of Symposium**

**Stein Kuhnle**

Professor of Comparative Politics,

Chair of Academic China Forum, University of Bergen



PHOTO: ALY SONG/REUTERS





# Speakers' biographies

**ANNA L. AHLERS** *Lise Meitner Research Group leader at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin.*

Anna Lisa Ahlers is Head of the Lise Meitner Research Group “China in the Global System of Science” at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. Trained in sinology and political science, her research areas include Chinese domestic politics and administrative reforms, the interactions of science and scholarship and the political regime in China, as well as the comparative analysis of modern authoritarianism. She is a member of the Junge Akademie of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities & the Leopoldina and is part of the editorial teams of the *Journal of Chinese Governance* and *Soziale Systeme*.

<https://www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/users/alahlers>

**PUBLICATION:** Ahlers, Anna, and Thomas Heberer. “More Exchange At Eye-Level: European Research Cooperation With the People’s Republic of China.” *Global Cooperation Research - A Quarterly Magazine*, no. 2/21 (July 2021): 19–23. <https://www.gcr21.org/publications/gcr/gcr-quarterly-magazine/qm-2/2021-articles/qm-2-2021-ahlers-and-heberer-more-exchange-at-eye-level-european-research-cooperation-with-the-peoples-republic-of-china>.

**CAMILLA BRAUTASET** *Dean, Professor of Economic History, University of Bergen.*

Professor Camilla Brautaset is the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Bergen. The Faculty of the Humanities is a modern and multidisciplinary faculty with around 500 academic and administrative members of staff and over 4000 students. Brautaset is Professor of Modern Economic History. She has previously led the project “Merchants and Missionaries. Norwegian Encounters with China in a Transnational Perspective, 1890-1937” which was funded by the Norwegian Research Council, as well as led the interdisciplinary research group: “Transnational History and Cultural Encounters, 1850-present”. Brautaset has held several posts of academic service, including chairing the University of Bergen’s Advisory Board for Academic Cooperation with China.

<https://www.uib.no/personer/Camilla.Brautaset>

**PUBLICATION:** Brautaset, Camilla, Skeie, Karina Hestad og Malin Gregersen, eds. *Møter med Kina. Norsk næringsliv, diplomati og misjon, 1890-1937*. Bergen: Fagbokforlaget, 2018.

**TORE FUREVIK** *Director of Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center.*

Director of Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center (NERSC) and Professor in physical oceanography at the Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen. Former Director of the Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research. Research focus on climate modeling, large-scale variability in the atmosphere and ocean, air-sea-ice interactions and teleconnection. Initiated and coordinated the Norwegian research school in climate dynamics (2009-2017) as well as several international partnership programs. Has 20 years' experience with Norway-China cooperation at the Nansen-Zhu International Research Centre in Beijing and has coordinated several Norwegian-Chinese research projects and programs, as well as a series of joint summer schools.

<https://www.uib.no/personer/Tore.Furevik>

**PUBLICATION:** He, Shengping, Xinping Xu, Tore Furevik, and Yongqi Gao. "Eurasian Cooling Linked to the Vertical Distribution of Arctic Warming." *Geophysical Research Letters* 47, no. 10 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020gl087212>.

**HANS JØRGEN GÅSEMUR** *Postdoctor and Senior Researcher, NUPI.*

Hans Jørgen Gåsemur (PhD) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen, and a Senior Researcher at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI). Gåsemur's background includes social science and extensive Chinese language and area studies from Norwegian and Chinese universities. His PhD and MA degrees are in Political Science (Comparative Politics). Gåsemur has previously worked for the United Nations in Beijing, and he has experience from national broadcasting. His primary research focus is Chinese politics, including social and economic reforms and state-society relations, and Chinese foreign and development policy.

<https://www.uib.no/personer/Hans.Gasemyr>

**PUBLICATION:** Gåsemur, Hans Jørgen. "Chinese Digi-Tech Politics: Steering Growth, Spurring Innovation, and Reinforcing Control." *NUPI*, Policy Brief, November 30, 2021. [https://www.nupi.no/nupi\\_eng/Publications/CRIStin-Pub/Chinese-digi-tech-politics-Steering-growth-spurring-innovation-and-reinforcing-control](https://www.nupi.no/nupi_eng/Publications/CRIStin-Pub/Chinese-digi-tech-politics-Steering-growth-spurring-innovation-and-reinforcing-control).

**STINE HAAKONSSON** Associate Professor, Department of Organization, Copenhagen Business School.

Stine Haakonsson's research relates to the increasingly global organization of innovation. In this she looks into research and knowledge collaborations between actors in Denmark and China. Some examples are technology transfer and technology transmission between countries, mega-projects and science parks, networks and professions, foreign direct investments. Last year a special issue was published on green windows of opportunities, looking into the catch-up of China in green energy technologies. She is also heading the Social Sciences part of the Sino-Danish Center in Beijing with two double degree master programmes and a number of PhDs.

<https://www.cbs.dk/en/research/departments-and-centres/department-of-organization/staff/shioa>

**PUBLICATION:** Dai, Yixin, Stine Haakonsson, and Lars Oehler. "Catching up through Green Windows of Opportunity in an Era of Technological Transformation: Empirical Evidence from the Chinese Wind Energy Sector." *Industrial and Corporate Change* 29, no. 5 (2020): 1277–95. <https://doi.org/10.1093/icc/dtaa034>.

**METTE HALSKOV HANSEN** Vice-Rector and Professor of China Studies, University of Oslo.

Mette Halskov Hansen is Professor in China studies and Vice-Rector for Climate & Environment and Cross-Disciplinarity the University of Oslo. She has done research in China since the 1980s on ethnic relations, education, individualization, and the human/social impacts of environmental degradation. She directed the interdisciplinary project Airborne, and started in 2020 "Transcendence and Sustainability: Asian Vision with Global Promise". Recent publications include "The Great Smog of China: A Short Event History of Air Pollution" (co-authored with Ahlers, Svarverud, 2020), a special volume of *The China Quarterly* (2018), *Educating the Chinese Individual: Life in a Rural Boarding School* (Univ. of Washington Press, 2015), articles on e.g. "ecological civilization" and academic collaborations with authoritarian states.

<https://www.uio.no/personer/ledelsen/mettehh/>

**PUBLICATION:** Gornitzka, Åse and Mette Halskov Hansen. *Forskningssamarbeid på tvers av politiske systemer og akademiske kulturer: Europa og Kina*. Oslo: Dreyer Forlag, 2022. (forthcoming)

**SHENGPING HE** *Researcher at the University of Bergen and Bjerknes Centre*

Shengping He received his PhD degree in Meteorology from the Chinese Academy of Science in 2014 and has been working on climate research at the University of Bergen since 2016. He has published about 50 peer-viewed publications about the climate variability in the Arctic and Eurasian regions, with about 30 papers engaging China through a Norway-China cooperating platform – Nansen-Zhu International Research Centre. He is currently leading two research projects funded by the Research Council of Norway. The MAPARC project will focus on the mechanism and prediction of the new Arctic climate system, engaging China under the call of Chinese-Norwegian Collaboration Projects within Climate Systems.

<https://www.uib.no/personer/Shengping.He>

**PUBLICATION:** Wang, Huijun, and Shengping He. "The North China/Northeastern Asia Severe Summer Drought in 2014." *Journal of Climate* 28, no. 17 (2015): 6667–81. <https://doi.org/10.1175/jcli-d-15-0202.1>.

**GØRILD HEGGELUND** *Research professor, China Senior Policy Advisor Climate Change, Energy & Environment., FNI.*

Gørild Heggelund, PhD, Research Professor at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI), has carried out research on China's environmental, energy and climate change policy for three decades, including China's Arctic policies. She was international advisor and expert for several policy studies for the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). She also has extensive experience from evaluation projects in the energy sector in China. From 2009-2014 she was Senior Climate Change Advisor at UNDP China. Gørild has lived and worked in China for more than 16 years and is fluent in Chinese having studied at Peking University.

<https://www.fni.no/staff/research-staff/gorild-merethe-heggelund>

**PUBLICATION:** Heggelund, Gørild M. "China's Climate and Energy Policy: At a Turning Point?" *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics* 21, no. 1 (2021): 9–23. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10784-021-09528-5>.

**CHUNRONG LIU** Associate Professor of Political Science at Fudan University, Managing Director, Fudan-European Centre for China Studies at University of Oslo.

Chunrong Liu is Associate Professor of Political Science at Fudan University and Managing Director of the Fudan-European Centre for China Studies (FECCS) at University of Oslo (UiO). His research interests are in the areas of political sociology, comparative politics and China studies. He has published widely on the dynamics of state-society relations and local governance in China. He is also interested in examining China's domestic-foreign policy nexus and China-Nordic cooperation. Dr. Liu received his PhD degree from City University of Hong Kong in 2005 and has conducted post-doctoral research at Georgetown University. Prior to working at UiO, he has held position as Researcher at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies.

<https://www.hf.uio.no/ikos/english/people/aca/chinese-studies/temporary/chunron/>

**PUBLICATION:** Liu, Chunrong. "Preserving Spontaneous Order: A Normative Reflection of Community Building in Post-Reform China." *Philosophy & Social Criticism* 47, no. 4 (2021): 534–47. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01914537211000106>.

**JULIA MARINACCIO** Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Foreign Languages.

Julia Marinaccio studied China Studies and Political Science in Vienna and Taipei. Her research focuses on environmental governance in China and political transnationalism in Taiwan. In her recently published book *Linking Theory with Practice? Cadre Training and Environmental Governance in China* (Ökom, 2021) she theorizes the role of expert training in China's cadre training structure and explains the role of training in China's efforts to promote sustainable (resource) management. Her research has been published in *China Perspective, Journal of Environmental Management, and Journal of Development*. Julia has rich research experience in China and Taiwan. Before coming to Bergen, she taught at University of Vienna and Freie Universität Berlin.

<https://www.uib.no/en/persons/Julia.Christine.Marinaccio>

**PUBLICATION:** Marinaccio, Julia. *Linking Theory with Practice? Cadre Training and Environmental Governance in China*. München: Ökom, 2021.



**MARTIN PAULSEN** *Head of Department, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Bergen.*

Martin Paulsen recently took up the position as Head of the Department of Foreign Languages at the University of Bergen. He holds a PhD in Russian Studies from the same institution, with a specialisation in language development after the fall of the Soviet Union. Until March 2022, he worked as a Senior Adviser at the Norwegian Directorate of Higher Education and Skills, where he spent much time evaluating international cooperation in higher education. Paulsen has long experience working with Human Rights in an international context and served as Chairperson of the Board at the Rafto Foundation until 2021.

<https://www.uib.no/en/rs/lingphil/23529/martin-paulsen>

**PETER C. PERDUE** *Professor of History, Yale University.*

Peter C. Perdue is Professor of History at Yale University. He is the author of *Exhausting the Earth: State and Peasant in Hunan, 1500-1850 A.D.* (1987), *China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia* (2005), *Environmental History: Its Origins and Prospects* (in Chinese) (2019), and the coeditor of *Imperial Formations* (2007) and *Shared Histories of Modernity: China, India, and the Ottoman Empire* (2008). He has co-authored *Global Connections: Politics, Exchange, and Social Life in World History* (2015), and *Asia Inside Out*, three volumes on inter-Asian connections (2015 - 2019), and the website [visualizingcultures.mit.edu](http://visualizingcultures.mit.edu). His current research focuses on the year 1900 in world history.

<https://history.yale.edu/people/peter-c-perdue>

**PUBLICATION:** Perdue, Peter C., and Ellen Sebring. "The Boxer Uprising I." MIT Visualizing cultures, 2016. [https://visualizingcultures.mit.edu/boxer\\_uprising/index.html](https://visualizingcultures.mit.edu/boxer_uprising/index.html).

**HAUN SAUSSY** *University Professor (East Asian Languages & Civilizations and Committee on Social Thought), University of Chicago.*

Haun Saussy's work attempts to bring the lessons of classical and modern rhetoric to bear on several periods, languages, disciplines and cultures. Among his books are *The Problem of a Chinese Aesthetic* (1994), *Great Walls of Discourse* (2001), *The Ethnography of Rhythm* (2016), *Translation as Citation: Zhuangzi Inside Out* (2017), *Are We Comparing Yet?* (2019), *The Making of Barbarians: Chinese Literature in Multilingual Asia* (forthcoming, 2022) and the edited collections *Sinographies* (2007), *Comparative Literature in an Age of Globalization* (2008), and *Partner to the Poor: A Paul Farmer Reader* (2010).

<https://ealc.uchicago.edu/people/haun-saussy-phd>

**PUBLICATION:** Saussy, Haun. *The Making of Barbarians: Chinese Literature and Multilingual Asia*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2022.

**TOMMY SHIH** *Associate Professor, Lund University.*

Tommy Shih is an Associate Professor in Business Administration at Lund University. His research and teaching focuses on global research norms, geopolitics and responsible internationalization of research, and business networks and innovation. He is also a Senior Advisor at the Swedish National China Centre and earlier the Science Policy Director at the Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education (STINT). His experience in the policy field includes analysis of geopolitical developments in global knowledge production and innovation, advisory on China's growing global importance, and development and implementation of guidelines for responsible internationalization.

<https://portal.research.lu.se/en/persons/tommy-shih>

**PUBLICATION:** Shih, Tommy, Albin Gaunt and Stefan Östlund. *Responsible internationalization: Guidelines for reflection on international academic collaboration*. Stockholm: STINT, 2020.

**TIM SUMMERS** *Assistant Professor, Centre for China Studies, CUHK.*

Tim Summers' teaching and research focuses on the international relations and political economy of contemporary China. His recent publications include two books, *China's Hong Kong: the politics of a global city* (Agenda, 2019 & 2021) and *China's Regions in an Era of Globalization* (Routledge, 2018), as well as journal articles on UK-China relations, maritime politics in Asia and the Belt and Road Initiative. He has authored a number of policy research papers for Chatham House where he is an Associate Fellow on the Asia-Pacific programme. Tim's current research focuses on global China, UK-China relations and the Greater Bay Area.

<https://www.ccs.cuhk.edu.hk/profile/tim-summers/>

**PUBLICATION:** Summers, Tim, Hiu Man Chan, Peter Gries, and Richard Turcsanyi. "Worsening British Views of China in 2020: Evidence from Public Opinion, Parliament, and the Media." *Asia Europe Journal*, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10308-021-00639-x>.

**ULF SVERDRUP** *Professor, Director of NUPI.*

Ulf Sverdrup is the Director of the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI). He holds a doctoral degree in Political Science from the University of Oslo. Before taking up the position at NUPI, he was a Professor at the Norwegian Business School BI, and a Research Professor at ARENA, Centre for European Studies, at the University of Oslo. He earned his Masters degree at the University of Bergen. Sverdrup has published extensively on various topics in international politics, with a particular emphasis on European politics, European integration and Norwegian foreign policy.

<https://www.nupi.no/Om-NUPI/Medarbeidere/Forskere/Ulf-Sverdrup>

**PUBLICATION:** Sverdrup, Ulf. "Når Blir Akademisk Samarbeid Sikkerhetspolitisk Risiko?" *Dagens Næringsliv*. July 3, 2021. <https://www.nupi.no/Nyheter/KRONIKK-Naar-bli-akademisk-samarbeid-sikkerhetspolitisk-risiko>.

**BO WANG** Professor of philosophy at Peking University.

Vice President of Peking University, and the Associate Dean of Yenching Academy. He is responsible for the development of faculty, and management of research related works, alumni relations, foundations, libraries, archives, recording of school history etc. of the liberal arts majors. His research mainly focus on ancient Chinese philosophy, especially in Taoism, Confucianism, early classics and unearthed documents. He has published books including *The History of Chinese Confucianism*, *The Philosophy of Chuang Tzu*, *Helpless vs. Carefree*, *Historian Characteristics of the Thoughts of Laozi*, Besides, he has published more than 60 papers in prestigious journals, such as Chinese Culture, Philosophical Research and History of Chinese Philosophy; the papers include, among others, "On the Significance of 'Exhortation to Learning' in Xunzi and Confucianism", "On 'benevolence and righteousness'".

<https://en.phil.pku.edu.cn/people/faculty/chinesephilosophy/235874.htm>

**PUBLICATION:** Wang, Bo. *Zhuangzi: Thinking through the Inner Chapters*. St. Petersburg, Florida: Three Pines Press, 2014.

**HUIWEN HELEN ZHANG** Associate Professor of Chinese Studies (Literature & Philosophy), University of Bergen.

Huiwen Helen Zhang is Associate Professor of Chinese Studies (Literature and Philosophy) at the University of Bergen. She defines herself as a "transreader"—a lento reader, poetic translator, creative writer, and cultural critic in one. Transreading is integral to her work: *Kulturtransfer über Epochen und Kontinente* (Gruyter 2012), "An Ethics of Transreading" (Educational Theory 2014), "Mu Dan's Poetry as a History of Modern China" (Oxford University Press 2018), and "Transreading 'Wish, to Become Indian' in light of Kafka's Dao" (Orbis Litterarum 2021). Her current book project, "Transreading: A Common Language for Cultural Critique," engages those whom she terms "transreaders of modernity": Kierkegaard, Brandes, Nietzsche, Strindberg, Döblin, Lu Xun, and Olav H. Hauge.

[https://www.uib.no/personer/Huiwen.\(Helen\).Zhang](https://www.uib.no/personer/Huiwen.(Helen).Zhang)

**PUBLICATION:** Zhang, Huiwen Helen. "Mu Dan's Poetry as a History of Modern China." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History*, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277727.013.138>.



## Recommended reading

Andersen, Morten, Henrik Hiim, and Ulf Sverdrup. "The Nordic Shift: China's Uphill Battle for Public Approval in Northern Europe." ECFR, March 18, 2020. [https://ecfr.eu/article/commentary\\_the\\_nordic\\_shift\\_chinas\\_uphill\\_battle\\_for\\_public\\_approval\\_in\\_nor/](https://ecfr.eu/article/commentary_the_nordic_shift_chinas_uphill_battle_for_public_approval_in_nor/).

Dirlik, Arif. "Born in Translation." *boundary 2* 46, no. 3 (2019): 121–52. <https://doi.org/10.1215/01903659-7614183>.

Fang, Kecheng. "Praise from the International Community: How China Uses Foreign Experts to Legitimize Authoritarian Rule." *The China Journal* 87 (2022): 72–91. <https://doi.org/10.1086/717550>.

Greenhalgh, Susan, and Li Zhang, eds. *Can Science and Technology Save China?* Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 2020. [esp. the Introduction]

Gåsemyr, Hans Jørgen. "Kina Sikter Mot Toppen [China Aims for the Top]." *Hvor hender det*, no. 5/21 (April 26, 2021). <https://www.nupi.no/Publikasjoner/Innsikt-og-kommentar/Hvor-hender-det/HHD-2021/Kina-sikter-mot-toppen>.

- Helgesen, Geir, and Rachel Harrison, eds. *East-West Reflections on Demonization: North Korea Now, China Next?* Copenhagen, Denmark: NIAS Press, 2020.
- Hessler, Peter. *River Town: Two Years on the Yangtze*. New York: Harper Perennial, 2006.
- Jørgensen, Birte Holst, Stine Haakonssen, Hong Zhao, and Guangchao Chen, eds. *The SDC International Report 2020: Cooperating for Energy Transition*. Lyngby: Sino-Danish Center (SDC), 2020. <https://doi.org/10.7146/aul.395>.
- Koivurova, Timo, and Sanna Kopra, eds. *Chinese Policy and Presence in the Arctic*. 3. Vol. 3. Studies in Polar Law. Leiden: Brill Nijhoff, 2020. <https://brill.com/view/title/55687>.
- Li, Yifei and Judith Shapiro. *China goes green: coercive environmentalism for a troubled planet*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2020.
- Marginson, Simon. "All Things Are in Flux': China in Global Science." *Higher Education*, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-021-00712-9>.
- Spivak, Vita, and Alexander Gabuev. "The Ice Age: Russia and China's Energy Cooperation in the Arctic." Carnegie Moscow Center, December 31, 2021. <https://carnegiemoscow.org/commentary/86100>.
- Yu, Pauline. "'Your Alabaster in This Porcelain': Judith Gautier's *Livre De Jade*." *PMLA/Publications of the Modern Language Association of America* 122, no. 2 (2007): 464–82. <https://doi.org/10.1632/pmla.2007.122.2.464>.
- Zhang, Feng. *Chinese Hegemony: Grand Strategy and International Institutions in East Asian History*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2015.
- Zhang, Huiwen Helen. "Verwirklichung einer vollkommenen Glücksmöglichkeit / A Perfect Bliss-Potential Realized." *Orbis Litterarum* 76, no. 3 (2021): 101–21. <https://doi.org/10.1111/oli.12289>.









# #UiBChina22

The 2022 UiB China Symposium  
**ENGAGING CHINA**  
is organized by the UiB Academic China Forum

## Members:

Stein Kuhnle, Chair  
Huiwen (Helen) Zhang  
Bjørnar Borvik  
Øyvind Frette  
Maria Holme Lidal  
Kristin Svartveit  
Hans Egil Offerdal

