



RUB



China Europe Research Network (CHERN), COST Action

Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for EU-Asia Connectivity (CEAC)

Workshop: “EU Responses to Chinese Investments in European Strategic Sectors”

April 11-12, 2024

Faculty of East Asian Studies, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

List of Chairs and Speakers

Sebastian Bersick

Prof. Bersick is the Executive Director of the Centre for EU-Asia Connectivity (CEAC) at Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), Germany, a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. Prof. Bersick heads the Department of 'International Political Economy of East Asia' and is the Vice-Dean at the Faculty of East Asian Studies at RUB.

In addition, he is a visiting Professor at the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, as well as an Adjunct Professor at the School of International Relations and Public Affairs (SIRPA), Fudan University, Shanghai, where he functioned as Executive Director of the "Centre for China-EU Relations" and, for example, obtained funding from the Jean Monnet Lifelong Learning Programme on EU-China security cooperation.

His research areas cover the international political economy of Asia-Europe relations (e.g., EU-China, EU-ASEAN, ASEM, BRI), East Asian integration, China as a regional and global actor, and international relations in Asia.



Niall Duggan

Dr Niall Duggan is a Senior Lecturer in international relations at University College Cork, Ireland, where he has taught in the Department of Government and Politics since 2015. His research interests include emerging economies in global governance, international relations of the Global South, and China's foreign and security policies, mainly focusing on Sino-African and Sino-EU relations. Niall is Co-leader of WG 1: Strategic sectors and infrastructure development: Cost Action CHERN the China in Europe Research Network.



Jörn-Carsten Gottwald

Prof. Jörn-Carsten Gottwald is Professor at the Faculty of East Asian Studies, Chair in East Asian Politics, and has been working on EU-China-related issues for more than 15 years. Following completion of his PhD dissertation at Free University Berlin on "Regional Politics in the Chinese Special Administrative Region of Hainan" (2000), he completed a peer-reviewed post-doc (German habilitation) in Political Sciences at the University of Trier on "The Politics of Regulation of Financial Services in the European Union" (2006). He is a member of the advisory Board of the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS), Berlin and was founding co-director of the Alliance for Research on East Asia (AREA) Ruhr.

Prof. Gottwald has published internationally on European China policies, financial regulation in China and in the EU, on political and economic relations between China and the European Union, and the Belt and Road Initiative. His current research centers on issues of financial regulation and innovation in China and Europe and on changing the underlying expectations in bilateral relations from a role theoretical perspective. Prof. Gottwald is a regular visiting professor at various business schools in China and Europe, he is actively involved in connecting Europe and East Asia in research and education.



List of Chairs and Speakers

Nana de Graaff

I am an Associate Professor in International Relations at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration. Since 2019 I have also been Director of Studies for the BSc and MSc Political Science of my department. I am Chair of the EU COST Action 18215 China in Europe Research Network (CHERN) a pan-European knowledge network on Chinese engagements in Europe of >250 researchers. I also serve as an Executive Council Member of SASE (Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics), editorial board member of the Routledge RIPE series in Global Political Economy, an International Advisory Board member of International Affairs (Oxford University Press/Chatham House) and of the journal The International Spectator (Taylor & Francis). I am also boardmember of the Dutch Political Science Association (NKWP, Nederlandse Kring voor de Wetenschap der Politiek) since 2015 responsible for the journal Acta Politica. Previously I was an Honorary Fellow (2016-2017), at the Department of International Politics, City University of London and I have served as Programme director of the Graduate School of Social Sciences at the VU Amsterdam for five years (2017-2020).



Stanislav Gubenko

Stanislav is a doctoral researcher in law at the University of Luxembourg. His research combines international law and game theory approaches to study human rights and corporate social responsibility in Chinese energy projects in the Western Balkans.

Stanislav is passionate about human rights and international development. Fluent in seven languages and educated in International law and China studies, he facilitates collaboration and teamwork with exceptional communication skills.

He is also a member of the China in Europe Research Network, the "China, Law and Development" project (CLD) at the University of Oxford and European China Law Studies Association (ECLS). Open for cooperation in any fields related to Chinese studies, international law and game theory.



Yuqiao Li

Yuqiao Li is a Ph.D. candidate at Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), supervised by Prof. Dr. Sebastian Bersick in the Department of International Political Economy of East Asia, Faculty of East Asian Studies. He was awarded a scholarship by the China Scholarship Council.

Holding a Master of Arts degree from RUB in East Asian Politics, Li's master's thesis explored the nuances of China's foreign policy and its shaping process during the Iran nuclear negotiations. Currently, his doctoral research is focuses on China's foreign policy vis-à-vis the EU. In the framework of national role conception, his will analyse China's technology standardisation strategy in railway industries and EU's external impact.

Mr. Li gained practical experience as an intern at the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China between 2019 and 2020. His internship work concentrated on the Belt and Road Initiative and the intricate dynamics between the EU, Central and Eastern Europe, and China.



List of Chairs and Speakers

Giles Mohan

I am a human geographer who gained his PhD from Liverpool University in 1993. My work concerns the politics of development, particularly the intermingling of territorial scales and transnational networks. I have taught at Liverpool University, the University of Central Lancashire, Portsmouth University and The Open University. I was a handling editor of the *Review of African Political Economy* and a member of the editorial boards of *Political Geography*, *Antipode*, *Geography Compass*, and the *International Development Planning Review*. I have had a number of research projects on China's internationalisation and the implications for global development. The latest is a European Research Council Advanced Grant entitled *Re-orienting development: the dynamics and effects of Chinese infrastructure investment in Europe (REDEFINE)* which builds on previous work on China-Africa relations.



Mireia Paulo

Mireia Paulo is Head of Management of the Centre for EU-Asia Connectivity (CEAC), Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence at Ruhr-Universität of Bochum in Germany. She is also a Lecturer and Research Associate at the Dept. of International Political Economy of East Asia at the Faculty of East Asian Studies at RUB. In addition to her work in academia, Mrs. Paulo is a listed Arbitrator/Mediator at the Shanghai International Arbitration Center (SHIAC). She also is member member of the OECD's "Expert Community on Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT)" supporting the OECD's Digital Policy Committee (DPC). With more than 15 years of international work experience (7 countries) in trade and investment, legal industry, research, and government relations between Asia-Europe. She worked across a variety of industries including private sector, university, NGOs, European Commission, and UNHCR.

Her research focuses on the EU/PRC domestic political and legal systems, digital strategies, data governance, and their importance in global digital affairs. Her PhD research project deals with the role of China and the EU in global data governance. She holds an M.A. in Political and Administration of the European Union at the College of Europe, three Bachelor's degrees, and postgraduate studies conducted at the School of Economics, Fudan University, and Chinese Mandarin language at Peking University.



Samuel Rogers

Samuel has a PhD in political economy from the University of Bristol (2019) and is currently Post-doctoral Research Associate at The Open University (UK) on the ERC-funded project *Re-orienting development: The dynamics and effects of Chinese infrastructure investment in Europe (REDEFINE)*. He is also Visiting Scholar at the Osteuropa-Institut, Freie Universität, Berlin (2022-2024). Principally, his work focuses on (post-socialist) European capitalist development, with special attention to illiberal capitalist development, and the political economy of infrastructure projects. His research interests include Chinese capital investment, the capitalist development of illiberalism, cultural approaches to the political economy, Russian foreign policy, and qualitative methodology. He is the author of *The Political Economy of Hungarian Authoritarian Populism: Capitalists without the Right Kind of Capital* (Routledge, 2024) and has published in leading peer-reviewed journals including *Contemporary Politics*, *East European Politics*, *New Political Economy*, and *Post-Communist Economies* amongst others.



List of Chairs and Speakers

Johanna Rust

Johanna G.B. Rust is a Research Associate in the Department of International Political Economy of East Asia at RUB and holds the position of the principal investigator for energy security at Centre for EU-Asia Connectivity (CEAC), Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. Her current research focuses on energy and security policies of the EU and China in third countries, with a particular emphasis on the Central Asian region.

Ms. Rust is also a Ph.D candidate and recipient of the Foundation of German Economy scholarship (Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft). In 2021, she conducted three months of field research in Uzbekistan. Participations in international conferences followed such as the Central Asian Law Forum (May 2022), 7th Energy Symposium by the Italian Affiliate of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE), the EUJA23 Europe's Pathways to (Dis)Engagement with the World in Brussels (May 2023).



Francesca Spigarelli

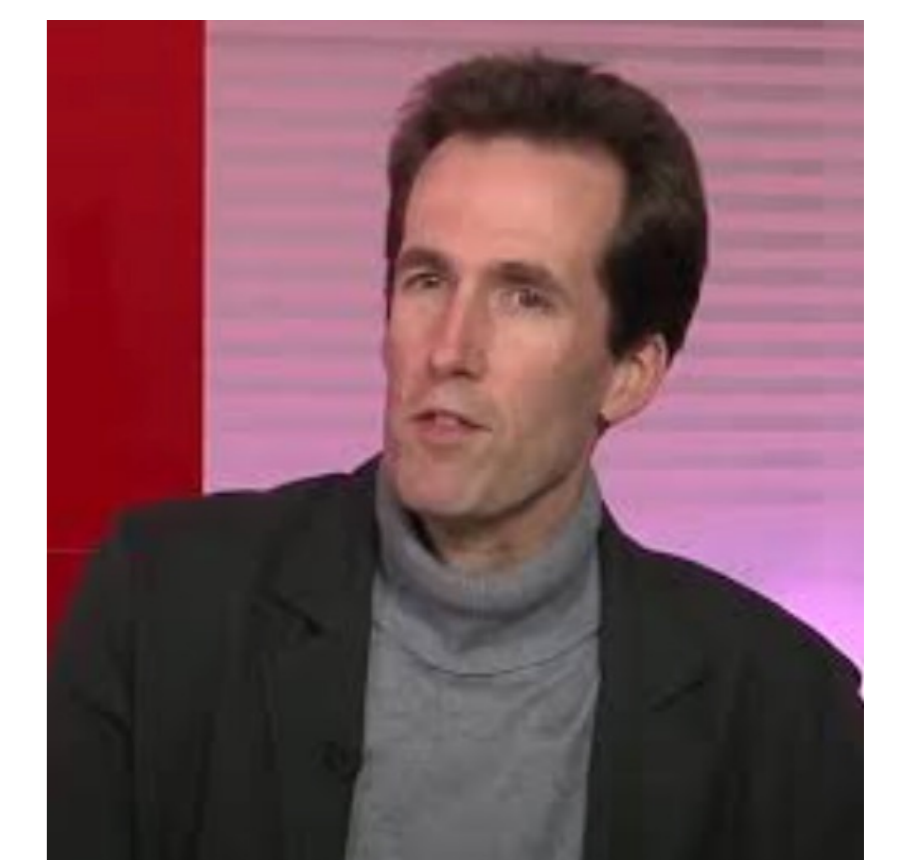
Full professor of Applied Economics, she teaches Industrial economics, innovation economics and economics. Her main research fields concern the impact of foreign direct investments at the macro and meso economic level, the analysis of industry dynamics (with particular reference to the environmental and health industries), the third mission of universities, sustainability and circular economy, industrial policies and the development of the Chinese economy.

She has is Italian representative, nominated by the Ministry of University, at the Strategic Program Committee of the European Commission - sub group Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area, Horizon Europe (since 2020). She participates and has participated, as Coordinator or Principal Investigator, in numerous EU and national projects. She is an expert evaluator of the European Commission, under the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe program.



David Styan

David Styan teaches international relations in the Politics Department, Birkbeck College, University of London. He has published extensively on UK and French foreign policy, as well as the political economy of East Africa. In recent years he has researched Chinese investment in both Africa and Europe, focusing in particular on Ports and infrastructure.



List of Chairs and Speakers

Alexandr Svetlicinii

Alexandr Svetlicinii is Associate Professor of Global Legal Studies at the University of Macau, Faculty of Law, where he also serves as Programme Coordinator of the Master of International Business Law in English Language and Research Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences. His research interests concentrate in the fields of international economic law, competition law, and commercial dispute settlement. In addition to his academic work, Svetlicinii serves as Co-Director of the Academic Society for Competition Law, South-East Europe chapter, and the Non-Governmental Advisor to the International Competition Network (working group Mergers). He has recently published the monograph *Chinese State Owned Enterprises and EU Merger Control* (Routledge, 2021).



Ágnes Szunomár

Ágnes Szunomár, PhD Habil. is the head of the Institute of Global Studies at Corvinus University of Budapest. As an associate professor she extensively looks at emerging market multinationals' activities, the development of East Asian countries and China's economic footprint in Europe. She is also a senior research fellow at the Institute of World Economics, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungary, where her research focuses on China's foreign economic policy, including the relation between China and Central and Eastern Europe. Agnes has more than 140 scientific publications, has led and participated in several international research projects. She is a member of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action "China in Europe Research Network" (CHERN) where she is the head of Working Group on "Strategic sectors and infrastructure developments". She is also a member of China Observers in Central and Eastern Europe (CHOICE) network.



Bahri Yilmaz

Professor Bahri Yilmaz received his Ph.D. from Bonn University, Germany in Economics. He is an EU Ad Personam Jean Monnet Professor and Emeritus Professor in Economics at Sabanci University's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Prof. Yilmaz has also served as a lecturer at several academic institutions, including the Universities of Hacettepe, Ankara, Koc, Bilkent, Turkish-German Universities (TDU), Münster Westfalen, LMU München, CEU Madrid, and University of Bangkok.

He worked as the Chief Advisor to the Ministry of State for European Union Affairs in Ankara between 1997 and 2002. He was a visiting fellow at Wolfson and Pembroke College, Cambridge, St. Antony's College, Oxford, Korean Development Institute/Seoul, FU Berlin, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) Berlin, and at the Centre for European Studies (CES) Harvard University.



DAY 1 11 April, 2024

(Workshop venue: Seminar room La Réunion, 01/054.
Mensa building, first floor. In front of the restaurant/canteen "Rote Bete")

09:00-09:15	Registration & Coffee
09:15-09:30	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Prof. Sebastian Bersick (RUB University) Welcoming and briefing on the program, Presentation of CEAC➤ Dr. Nana de Graaff (VU Amsterdam) Welcoming and presentation of CHERN – Cost Action
09:30-11:00	Session 1: Chinese Investments in European Industrial Infrastructure Chair: Mireia Paulo (RUB University) Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Dr. Samuel Rogers (The Open University & FU Berlin) and Prof. Giles Mohan (The Open University), "Where East meets West: A process tracing account of Huawei's development trajectory in Hungary" (ONLINE Connection)➤ Dr. Ágnes Szunomár (Corvinus University of Budapest), "Chinese EV battery investment in the V4: Industrial infrastructure and (the fear of) environmental impacts"➤ Dr. Alexandr Svetlicinii (University of Macau), "The EU Responses to Chinese Investments in European Strategic Sectors: Merging Foreign Investment and Export Controls" (ONLINE Connection)
11:00-11:15	COFFEE BREAK
11:15-12:30	Session 2: Chinese Investments in European Strategic Infrastructure (I) Chair: Dr. Samuel Rogers (The Open University) Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Dr. David Styan (Birkbeck College, University of London), "Reversing Chinese investment in the UK's strategic infrastructure: a fractious and contradictory policy?"➤ Yuqiao Li, M.A. (RUB University), "Two-way selection: What factors contributed to Duisburg becoming an independent hub within the China Railway Express?"
12:30-13:45	LUNCH BREAK

DAY 1 11 April, 2024

(Workshop venue: Seminar room La Réunion, 01/054.
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13:45-15:00

Session 3: Chinese Investments in European Strategic Infrastructure (II)

Chair: Johanna Rust (RUB University)

Presenters:

- Prof. Francesca Spigarelli (University of Macerata), topic: Chinese investments in Italian sea ports
- Prof. Sebastian Bersick (RUB University), "Chinese Investments in European Seaports: The Case of Germany"

15:00-15:15

COFFEE BREAK

15:15-16:45

Session 4: EU-level and Member State-level Policy Reactions

Chair: Dr. Ágnes Szunomár (Corvinus University of Budapest)

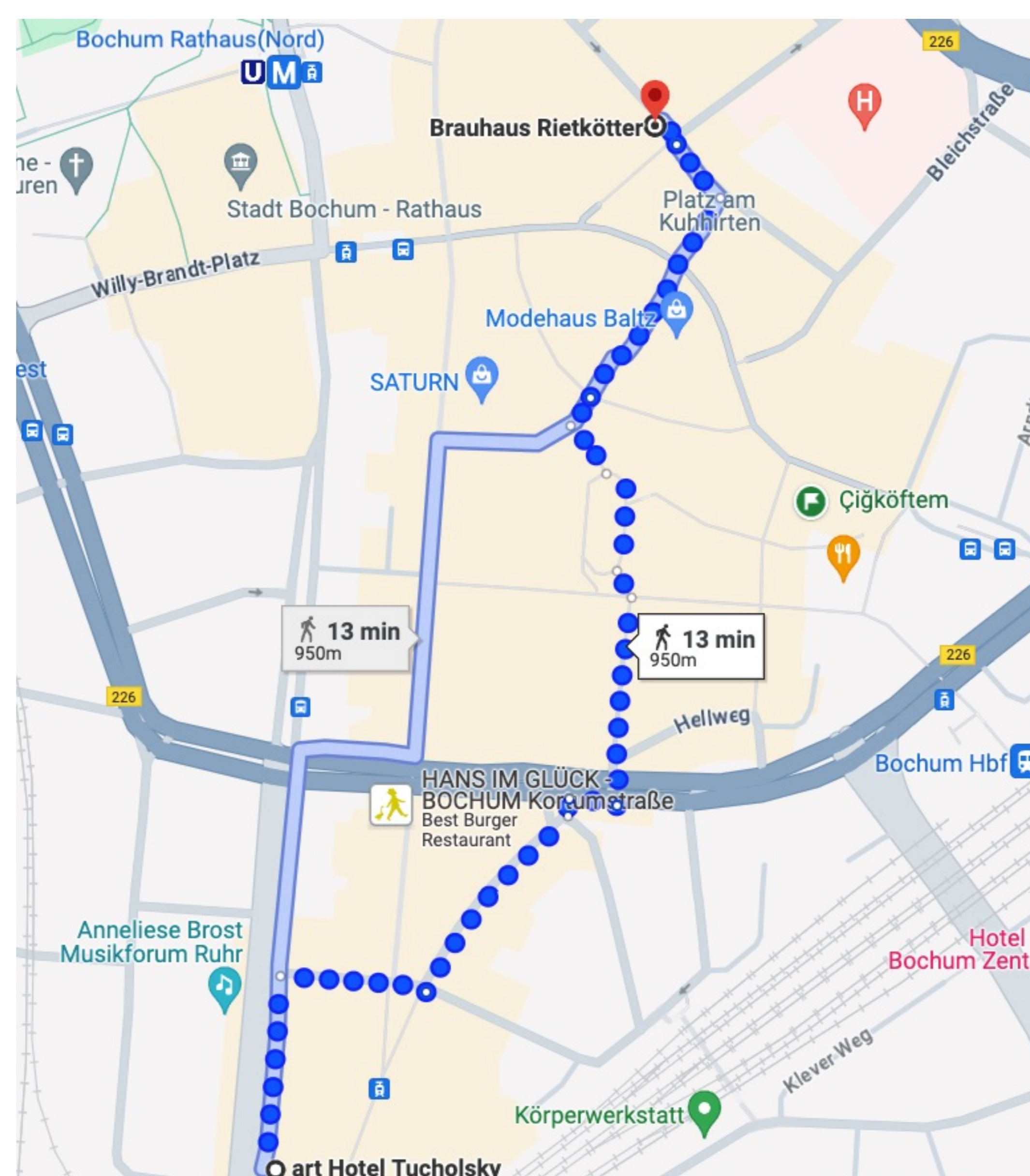
Presenters:

- Dr. Nana de Graaff (VU Amsterdam), "European responses to Chinese involvement in 5G networks – a new wave of techno-nationalism?"
- Prof. Jörn-Carsten Gottwald (RUB University) and Dr. Niall Duggan (University College Cork), "The Limits and Side-effects to Unilateral Role Change: The Strategic Miscalculation at the Heart of EU-China Tensions"
- Stanislav Gubenko, M.A. (University of Luxembourg), "In the Shadows: Assessing Human Rights and CSR Policies of Chinese Actors in Balkan Energy Projects"

19:00

Dinner

Brauhaus Rietkötter, Große Beckstraße 7, 44787 Bochum



DAY 2 12 April, 2024

(Workshop venue: Seminar room La Réunion, 01/054.
Mensa building, first floor. In front of the restaurant/canteen "Rote Bete")

9:00-09:15	Registration & Coffee
9:15-10:45	<p>Roundtable: "Challenges and Prospects: Chinese Investments in European Strategic Sectors"</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Niall Duggan (University College Cork)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Prof. Sebastian Bersick (RUB University)➤ Prof. Francesca Spigarelli (University of Macerata)➤ Prof. Bahri Yilmaz (Sabanci University)➤ Dr. Nana de Graaff (VU Amsterdam)➤ Prof. Jörn-Carsten Gottwald (RUB University)➤ Dr. Ágnes Szunomár (Corvinus University of Budapest)
10:45-11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00-12:00	<p>Discussion on Publications</p> <p>Chair: Prof. Sebastian Bersick (RUB University)</p>
12:00-12:30	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Dr. Ágnes Szunomár (Corvinus University of Budapest),➤ Dr. Niall Duggan (University College Cork)
12:30-14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00-16:00	Visit to the Botanic and Chinese Garden at RUB
20:15	<p>Closing Dinner</p> <p>Restaurant Tapas, Kortumstraße 3, 44787 Bochum</p> 