

Eurasia in Transition: Geopolitics, Connections and Challenges



University of Zurich, November 10-12, 2021

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Eurasia in Transition: Geopolitics, Connections and Challenges

Conference organized in cooperation between the Center for Eastern European Studies (CEES) at the University of Zurich and the Center for Security Studies (CSS) at ETH Zurich

Venue and date: University of Zurich, November 10–12, 2021

Supported by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI, and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

CONFERENCE VENUE

University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 71, 8001 Zürich, KOL-E18, KOL-G-217 and KOL-G-212

University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 59, 8001 Zurich, RAA-E-30

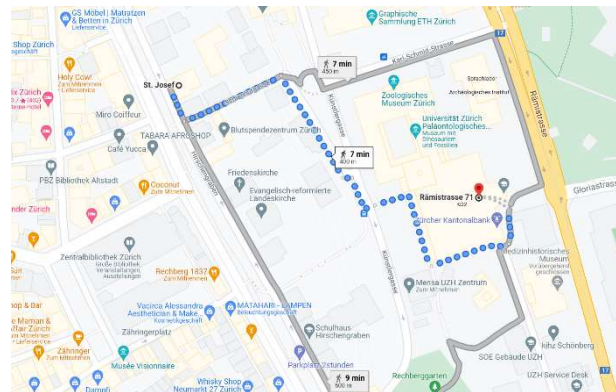
CONTACT

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2021

Location: University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 71, KOL-E-18



17.15-19.15, conference opening with keynote speech & panel discussion

Introduction

- Jeronim Perović, Director, Center for Eastern European Studies, University of Zurich

Welcome address

- Katharina Michaelowa, Dean, University of Zurich

Keynote speech: “Central Eurasia: Finding a Place in Uncertain Global Politics”

- Svante E. Cornell, Director, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program, Washington/Stockholm (online)

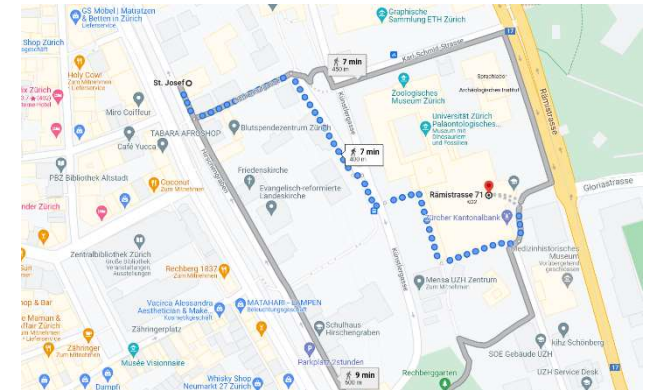
Roundtable discussion

- Nada Boškovska, Director, CEES Advisory Board (moderator)
- Roy Allison, Director, Russia and Eurasia Studies Centre, St. Antony’s College, Oxford University
- Jinghan Zeng, Director, Confucius Institute at Lancaster University (online)
- Svante E. Cornell, Cornell, Director, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program, Washington/Stockholm (online)

19.30: 19.30: Welcome dinner with conference participants and invited guests at “Restaurant/Zunft Haus zum Grünen Glas”, Untere Zäune 15, 8001 Zürich

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

Location: University of Zurich Room KOL-G-217



9.00-10.45

Panel 1: Geopolitics and Great Power Relations

Chair: Brian Carlson (Zurich)

- “Re-mapping Eurasia: The Production and Contradictions of Geographic Imaginaries”: Xin Zhang (Shanghai) (online)
- Does Ideology Help? Authoritarian Regionalism in Eurasia and Russia’s Ideological Discourse and Non-Ideological Practice”: Alexander Libman (Berlin)
- “China-India-Russia Relations in a Changing Eurasia Order”: Lin Minwang (Shanghai) (online)
- “Reconciling Great Power-led Regional Projects: The Dynamics of Sino-Russian Relations in Eurasia”: Marcin Kaczmarek (Glasgow) (online)

10.45-11.15 Coffeebreak (KOL-Lichthof)

Conference Eurasia in Transition

11.15-13.00

Panel 2: Central Asian Dynamics and Challenges

Chair: Peter Finke (Zurich)

- “Passing the Torch in Central Asia: Authoritarian Transition Dynamics”: Charles J. Sullivan (Nur-Sultan) (ONLINE)
- “The Issue of Regional Integration in Central Asia”: Aigul Kazhenova (Zurich) (ONLINE)
- “Kazakhstan 2020: Lost in Transition”: Nargis Kassenova (Cambridge, MA) (ONLINE)

13.00-14.30 Lunch at ETH Dozentenfoyer

14.30-16.00

Panel 3: Energy and Transportation Routes

Chair: Gwendolyn Sasse (Berlin) (ONLINE)

- “An End of an Era of Russian Gas Pipeline Mega-Projects”: Vitaly Yermakov (Oxford) (online)
- “The impact of Western sanctions on Russia's energy sector”: Maria Shagina (Zurich)
- “Mapping India's Energy Priorities in an Evolving Eurasian Geopolitical Paradigm”: C. M. Ramu (Manipal, India)

16.00-16.30 Coffeebreak (KOL-Lichthof)

16.30-17.30

Panel 4: Regional Security Issues

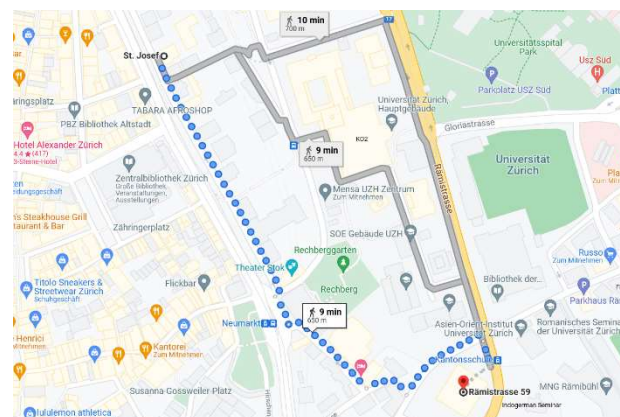
Chair: Christine Bichsel (Fribourg)

- “Feeding the Mountains: Shifting Foodscapes in High Asia”: Andrei Dörre (Berlin)
- “Climate Change and Politics of Water Availability in the Rural District of At-Bashy (Kyrgyzstan)”: Kateřina Zäch (Fribourg)

19.00: Conference dinner at restaurant “Zunft zur Schmidin”, Marktgasse 20, 8001 Zürich

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

Location: University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 59, Room RAA-E-30



9.00-10.45

Panel 5: Societal Challenges

Chair: Nada Boškovska (Zurich)

- “Migration in and out of Central Asia: an Overview”: Peter Finke & Meltem Sancak (Zurich)
- “Feminization of Migration from Uzbekistan to Turkey”: Shoirakhon Nurdinova (Eskişehir)
- “Formal and Informal Financial Institutions in Kyrgyzstan”: Illias Mamadiarov (Paris/Bishkek) (ONLINE)
- “Role of Political Entrepreneurs in Minority Communities in Central Asia”: Zulfiya Imyarova (Almaty) (online)

10.45-11.15 Coffeebreak

11.15-13.00

Panel 6: Infrastructure & Trade

Chair: Jeronim Perović (Zurich)

- “A Road, a Disappearing River and Fragile Connectivity in Sino-Inner Asian Borderlands”: Agnieszka Joniak Lüthi (Fribourg)
- “Addressing the New Silk Road: National Visions and Everyday Imaginaries between Kazakhstan and China”: Philipp Schröder (Freiburg)
- “The Sustainability of Arctic Cities: The Case of Russia”: Robert W. Orttung (Washington)
- “Connecting North and South: A Historical Overview of Road Infrastructure in Kyrgyzstan”: Zarina Urmanbetova (Fribourg)

13.00-14.30 Lunch at ETH Dozentenfoyer

(ETH Main building, Rämistrasse 101, Lift Floor J)

14.30-16.00

Location: University of Zurich Room KOL-G-212

Panel 7: Minorities, Religion and Democracy

Chair: Robert Orttung (Washington, DC)

- “Female Religious Education in Uzbekistan: Transformation of Confessional Traditions and Intercultural Networks”: Zilola Khalilova (Tashkent) (online)
- “Determinants of Electoral Participation and Voter Mobilization in Kyrgyzstan”: Shirin Tumenbaeva (Bishkek)
- “The EU and the Decline in Democracy Promotion in Central Asia”: Anna-Lena Hönig (Konstanz) (online)

16.00-16.15 Break

Conference Eurasia in Transition

16.15-18.00

Panel 8: Belt and Road, Trade and the Role of the EU

Chair: Roy Allison (Oxford)

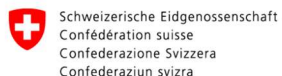
- “Belt and Road Initiative in Eurasia: Promoting New Trends of Regional Interconnectivity”: Fabio Indeo (Seoul/Rome)
- “China’s ‘One Belt One Road’ (view from Eastern and Central Europe)”: Emilian Kavalski (Krakow)
- “China’s ‘One Belt One Road’ (view from China)”: Jinghan Zeng (Lancaster) (ONLINE)
- “Opportunity Makes the Strategy: European Trade Policy in the Pacific Century”: Michiel Foulon (Zurich)

End of conference

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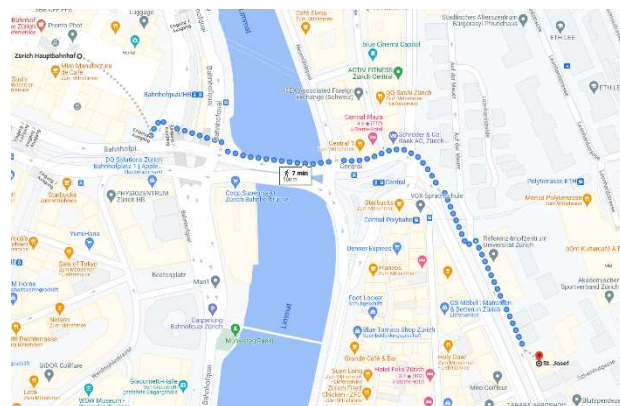
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FURTHER INFORMATION

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For online participants

Join the Zoom meeting:
<https://uzh.zoom.us/j/68120182474?pwd=K2RoZhdXMIo3M0tFZOUnV3k5NFN5QT09>

Meeting-ID: 681 2018 2474
Kenncode: 758847

For any questions during the conference, please call:

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(the call will be forwarded to mobile phone)