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## ANNUAL REPORT China - CEE Institute

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## PRESIDENT'S FORWARD

We are delighted to present the China-CEE Institute annual report 2021 here. This is the fourth annual report since the Institute was established, and we certainly hold that the China-CEE Institute has been playing a constructive role in disseminating knowledge-based reports and analyses, improving better mutual understanding and promoting fruitful communications between China and Central and Eastern European countries.

China-CEE Institute has made considerable achievements in 2021 on regional and country studies in Central and Eastern Europe, China-Europe joint cooperation and beyond. Key achievements in 2021 were the continuous publications, including, but not limited to, weekly briefings, working papers, survey of public opinions, books, etc. In addition, the Institute has organized events including on-line international conferences and seminars.

We firmly believe that the China-CEE Institute will further enhance its role in the fields concerned and expand its outreach with more academic publications.

Last but not least, we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to our partners for the successful cooperation over the past year.

### **FENG ZHONGPING**

President, China-CEE Institute  
Director General, Institute of European Studies  
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

### **CHEN XIN**

Executive President, China-CEE Institute  
Deputy Director General, Institute of European Studies  
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences



The China-CEE Institute aims to be a Think Tank on regional and country studies in Central and Eastern Europe. China-CEE Institute builds ties and strengthens partnerships with academic institutions and Think Tanks in Central and Eastern European countries. And China-CEE Institute also welcomes scholars and researchers in CEE countries to carry out joint researches, field studies, seminars and lecture series, some training programs for younger students, translation, and publication, etc. To gain a high profile and to penetrate into the knowledge market with a professional niche, China-CEE Institute publishes weekly briefings, working papers, books, survey, launches joint project, and organizes conferences, workshops and lectures.

A person in a white lab coat is holding a tablet. The tablet screen displays a world map with various icons and silhouettes of business people. The text 'Our MISSION' is overlaid on the image.

## Our MISSION

# STRUCTURE

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China-CEE Institute is established by Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), registered as the non-profit corporation in Budapest, Hungary. The Institute of European Studies, CASS, is responsible for organizing and managing it. The China-CEE Institute has established the International Academic Committee and invited corresponding academicians and associate researchers to work together.

The managing board of the China-CEE Institute is the following:

- Feng Zhongping, Director General of the Institute of European Studies (IES), CASS, is the President of the China-CEE Institute.
- Wang Lei, Director General of Bureau of International Cooperation, CASS, is the Vice-President of the China-CEE Institute.
- Chen Xin, Deputy Director General of the IES, CASS, is the Executive President and Managing Director of the China-CEE Institute.
- Liu Zuokui, Deputy Director General of the IES, CASS, is the Vice-President of the China-CEE Institute.

## International Academic Committee

### Cai Fang

Chief Expert of National Think Tank,  
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences  
Chairman of International Academic Committee  
of the China-CEE Institute



Cai Fang is the chief expert of National Think Tank and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS). He is a member of the Standing Committee and Vice Chairman of the Agricultural & Rural Affairs Committee of the 13th National People's Congress of China. Professor Cai's research interests include: China's economic reform and development, population economics, labor economics, and poverty. Professor Cai's recent publications include: Demystifying the Economic Growth in Transition China, China's Economic Development and Its Implications for the World.

### Huang Ping

Vice Chairman of International Academic Committee  
Of the China-CEE Institute



Professor Huang Ping, Ph.D. in Sociology (LSE, London, 1991), Senior Research Fellow at the CASS since 1997, is now the Executive President, Chinese Institute of Hong Kong(2019-), and President, Chinese Association of World Politics Studies(2017-), Chairman, China Association for Promotion of Cultural Exchange & Cooperation(2020-), Vice President, Chinese Association for Hong Kong and Macao Studies(2012-), Co-Chair (2014-2020), Vice President(2021-), International Institut Transcultra (Paris). Huang Ping is a Member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference since 2018. Prof. Huang's major research areas, and published books and articles, in poverty and social development, globalization, China-US relations and China-Europe Relations, East-West Trans-cultural understanding/misunderstanding, and Studies of Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan. He was the coordinator for China-EU High-Level Culture Forum for five times, and Co-Chaired UN and EU research programs including Internationalization of Social Sciences in Eastern Europe.



## Chen Xin

Deputy Director General of the Institute of European Studies, CASS  
Executive President and Managing Director, the China-CEE Institute

Professor Dr. Chen Xin is the deputy director general of the Institute of European Studies, CASS. He is also the Executive President as well as Managing Director of the China-CEE Institute in Budapest. He studied at Pécs University in Hungary in late 1980s and International Politics at the Graduate School of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in 1990s. He obtained a PhD degree in Law. From 2007 to 2008, he was appointed as the Chinese Co-Director of the EU-China European Studies Centres Programme (ESCP), a joint project co-financed by the Chinese Government and the European Commission. He is the deputy chair of the Chinese Association of European Studies (CAES), vice president of the China Society of Emerging Economies (CSEE), vice president of the China Society of Central and Eastern European Studies (CSCEES), and an Executive member of Chinese Association on International Economic Relations. His main research interests are EU-China Trade and Economic Relations, European Economy, and Central East European Studies.



## Kong Tianping

Senior Research Fellow, the Institute of European Studies, CASS

Professor Kong Tianping, Senior Research Fellow in the Institute of European Studies, CASS. He teaches in the School of International Relations in the University of CASS. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Shandong University in 1986. After he finished program of Master Degree in the Graduate School of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in 1989, he started to work for the Institute of Soviet and Eastern European Studies. He received Ph. D. for laws in the Graduate School of CASS in 1996. He was a visiting scholar in the East Central European Center in Columbia University in 1998. From October 2001 to August 2002, he did research in Warsaw School of Economics (SGH) as a visiting scholar. He used to serve as director for Division of East European Studies in Institute of Russian, Central Asian and East European Studies and director for the Division of Central and Eastern European Studies in the Institute of European Studies. His research fields cover transformation and Europeanization in CEE , transition economies, comparative economic system, international politics, China-CEE relations. He is an executive council member of Chinese Society of Emerging Economies, council member of Chinese Association for European Studies, president of Chinese Association of Central and Eastern European Studies.



## Bogdan Góralczyk

Professor and Former Director of the Centre for Europe  
University of Warsaw

Professor Bogdan Góralczyk is former Director of the Centre for Europe, University of Warsaw, during the term of 2016–2020. Former Ambassador of Poland to Thailand, the Philippines and Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Burma; 2003–2008). He was also Chief of the Cabinet of Polish Foreign Minister (2001–2003) and long-term diplomat in Hungary (1991–1998). He is a prolific writer, author of many books and articles in Polish, English and Hungarian. His recent major studies in English on Chinese issues: “Polish Sinology: Reflections on Individualized Trajectories” has been published in a volume by Chih-yu Shih (Ed.), “Sinology in Post-Communist States” at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and in 2017 another article within that project was published: “Hungarian and Polish Sinology: Parallel Lives”, in: (Chih-yu Shih, Peizhong He, Lei Tang eds.), “From Sinology to Post-Chineseness: Intellectual Histories of China, Chinese People, and Chinese Civilization”, Beijing 2017. Prof. B. Góralczyk was visiting scholar in many Universities in Europe, US, Thailand, China and India, etc. He is also a Head of Editorial Board of the “Studia Europejskie - Studies in European Affairs” quarterly.



## András Inotai

Senior Research fellow, Institute of World Economics  
Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Professor András INOTAI, professor emeritus, former director general of the Institute of World Economy of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (1991–2011). Decades-long teaching at various universities and master courses (College of Europe Bruges and Warsaw), Centre for European Integration (University of Bonn, Germany), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Columbia University (New York), and, up to today, at the master course of the European Online Academy (Berlin and Nice). Member of various international scientific/advisory boards (Progressive Economic Initiative, Brussels, Institute for European Politics, Berlin, Bertelsmann Foundation, Gütersloh Germany) and member of the editorial board of more than a dozen international professional journals. His main research areas cover economic challenges in the era of globalization; the post-crisis European integration: deepening, enlarging and global role; economic transformation in Central and Eastern Europe: retrospection after thirty years of political and socio-economic transformation in regional comparison. On the above topics he published several books in various languages and is the author of hundreds of scientific and policy-oriented articles in prestigious international journals.



## Časlav Očić

Academician, Full Member, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Professor Časlav Očić, was born on May 5, 1945 in Dalj, an economist by profession. He is a member (corresponding since 2003 and full member since 2015) of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SASA). He is the Chairman of the Committee on Economic Sciences of the SASA; Chairman of the SASA Population Study Committee; Editor in charge of the economy of the Serbian Encyclopedia; Editor-in-Chief of Synaxa, the Matica Srpska (MS) International Journal for Social Sciences, Arts and Culture, since 2017; Editor-in-Chief of the MS Journal for Social Sciences, 2005–2016; Deputy editor-in-chief of the Ekslibris Chronicles magazine since 1995; EU expert for evaluation of the project in the field of social sciences, since 2005. He has been Member, founder and President of the Scientific Society “Kosta Cukić” since 1999; Member of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies since 2000; Regular member (he was in the Presidency) of the Scientific Society of the Economists; Regular member of the Serbian Academy of Economic Sciences; One of the founders of the Society for Economic History; Member of the International Association for the Science of Regional Development (IRSA); Member of WEA (World Economics Association); Founder and President of the Exsibris Society of Belgrade; Member of FISAE (International Federation of Ex-Libris Societies) since 1994. Author of 40 books (20 monographs plus 20 thematic collections of papers), numerous articles... (see: Sanja Cvrkota, Bibliografija Časlava Očića 1970–2020 /Bibliography of Časlav Očić, 1970–2020/, Belgrade 2021).



## Marek Hrubec

Philosopher, sociologist, scholar on global studies

Marek Hrubec, PhD., is philosopher and sociologist who is focused on global studies. He is a distinguished and well-known scholar from the Czech Republic. He deals with issues of relations among local, regional and global interactions. He contributes to China studies, analyses of China-CEE relations, etc. He has published many articles, and authored and edited more than 20 books. Among the books are, for example: From Social to Cyber Justice (ed. with N. De Oliveira and E. Sobottka, 2018), and Social Transformations and Revolutions (ed. with J. Arnason, 2016). He made research and lectured in many countries in the European Union, the USA, China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, Nigeria, Ethiopia, etc.





## Metka Tekavčič

Dean, School of Economics and Business  
University of Ljubljana

Professor Metka Tekavčič is the Dean of the School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana (FELU). From 2001 to 2007 professor Tekavčič was Vice-Dean at the FELU. From 1999 to 2001 she was also the Head of the Academic Unit of Management and Organization. Her research interest lies in the fields of cost and performance management, as well as non-profit and especially education management. Prof. Tekavčič has attended many international conferences, where she has presented papers from her research areas. She is a member of editorial boards in several prominent journals from her research field. Prof. Tekavčič is president of the FELU's Senate and the Head of the Institute for Management and Organization. In 2014 she was awarded the Artemida award for Women's Excellence in Management. From 1992 till 2013 she was a member of the City Council of Ljubljana, Slovenia. She has long been and remains a member of the supervisory boards of many important Slovenian companies and other institutions. Since 2017, prof. Tekavčič has also served as a member of the AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) Initial Accreditation Committee and a member the and European Advisory Council (EAC).

724  
REPORTS

17  
COUNTRIES

4  
ISSUES / MONTH

2021

WEEKLY  
BRIEFING



# WEEKLY BRIEFING

China-CEE Institute weekly briefings are database for country studies of Central and Eastern European countries, European Studies and International Relations and other fields of social sciences. To gain a high profile, to penetrate into the knowledge market with a professional niche and to provide high quality products, China-CEE Institute establishes a good collaboration with non-residential researchers from various countries.

By December 2021, weekly briefings have covered 17 countries. They are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia. China-CEE Institute has published 724 weekly briefings during the whole year of 2021.

There are four weekly briefings per month for each country in terms of domestic politics, economy, society and external relations. Each briefing, focusing on one or two main issues with analysis, is about the latest development in each country, normally about issues from the previous month. Theoretically, each briefing is about 1500 words in English.

China-CEE Institute weekly briefings are published with ISSN: 2560-1601.

All briefings are accessible on the website of China-CEE Institute (<https://www.china-cee.eu/>).



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WORKING PAPER

14

AUTHORS

# WORKING PAPER

China-CEE Institute Working Paper series include articles that are of interest to the academic community, as well as researchers in Central and Eastern European Countries and worldwide. Starting from October 2017, articles undergo a refereeing process, and their publication is supervised by an academic committee.

To the end of 2021, 125 working papers are included, with ISSN: 2560-1628. Some working papers have been formulated into book format. In 2021, working papers are mainly based on three themes, i.e. "EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment and Its Positive Impact on China and European Countries", "How the COVID-19 Pandemic Affects the Development of European Countries", "Green Silk Road and China-Europe Cooperation amid the Profound Changes in the World Situation", etc.. This year, 11 working papers were published. It is the objective of China-CEE Institute Working Paper Series to disseminate the research results to a wider range of audiences, including academia as well as general public. Thus, all Working Papers can be downloaded free of charge from our website of the Institute or can be accessed via the newsletter for registered visitors.

# CHINA WATCH

This year, we selected, edited, translated and published representative articles from leading scholars in China. The publication aims to reflect the latest views and thinking of the Chinese academic circles on the international political economy and China's economic and social development in a timely and comprehensive manner. We hope to promote Chinese and foreign academic exchanges, mutual understanding, progress and development.

**China-CEE Institute**  
中国 - 中东欧研究院

**China Watch**

Kiadó: Kína-KKE Intézet Nonprofit Kft.  
1052 Budapest Petőfi Sándor utca 11.  
Szerkesztésért felelős személy: Chen Xin  
Kiadásért felelős személy: Feng Zhongping

China Watch was launched on October 1, 2021 with ISSN 2786-2860. This year, 13 articles were published in China Watch, covering topics such as relations between China and EU, relations between China and US, economic development of China, green economy in China and the world, etc.



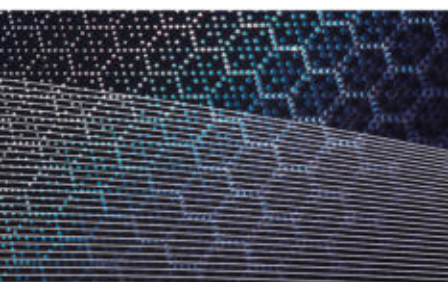
# BOOKS

## 2021





CHINA-CEE INSTITUTE

Chief Editor:  
Dr. Chen XinDIGITAL ECONOMY  
IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

CHINA-CEE INSTITUTE

Chief Editor:  
Dr. Chen XinTHE RESTART OF EUROPEAN ECONOMY  
AND ITS IMPACT ON CENTRAL  
AND EASTERN EUROPE

CHINA-CEE INSTITUTE

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
INNOVATION MECHANISM  
OF CEE COUNTRIES

Chief Editor: Dr. Chen Xin

## Digital Economy in Central and Eastern Europe

China-CEE Institute announced a “Call for Proposal” research program in May 2020. Among the proposals received, one research proposal is “Digital Economy in Central and Eastern Europe”. What we are presenting here is the result of this research project, conducted by a research team from Infokommunikációs Stratégiai Kutatások Intézete (ISKI Consulting Limited, Hungary), Tongji University (China) and Corvinus University (Hungary).

## The Restart of European Economy and Its Impact on Central and Eastern Europe

China-CEE Institute announced a “Call for Proposal” research program in May 2020. Among the proposals received, one research proposal is “The Restart of European Economy and Its Impact on Central and Eastern Europe”. What we are presenting here is the result of this research project, conducted by the consortium of (1) Kopint-Tárki Institute for Economic Research Ltd., (2) Institute of World Economy, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (IWE-CERS), Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary, and (3) Institute of East European, Russian and Central Asian Studies (IEERCAS), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China.

## Science and Technology Innovation Mechanism of CEE countries

Science and technology (S&T) capabilities are fundamental for social and economic development both in developing and developed countries and regions. Nevertheless, the capacity for scientific and technological innovation, which is an important standard of assessing social and economic development, varies from country to country and from region to region. As the world is experiencing an unprecedented health crisis due to the coronavirus pandemic, S&T capability comes to be one of most important instruments to cope with the challenges.



### **How Bosnia and Herzegovina Perceives the Belt and Road Initiative and China- CEEC Cooperation**

In 2020, China-CEE Institute launched Call for Papers entitled “How Bosnia and Herzegovina Perceives the Belt and Road Initiative and China-CEEC Cooperation”. This book is the result of the Call and provides a comprehensive overview of bilateral relations and cooperation between China and BiH under the framework of China’s Belt and Road Initiative. Authors shed light upon various important issues in China-BiH relations, for instance, diplomatic relations between the two countries, a path of the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) into the Western Balkans with the focus on BiH, cooperation potentials in the future, how BiH (and its youth) perceives China’s Initiative and China-CEEC cooperation, and institutional framework for strategic development of BiH-China relations.



### **HOW THE CEE CITIZENS VIEW CHINA’S DEVELOPMENT IN 2020**

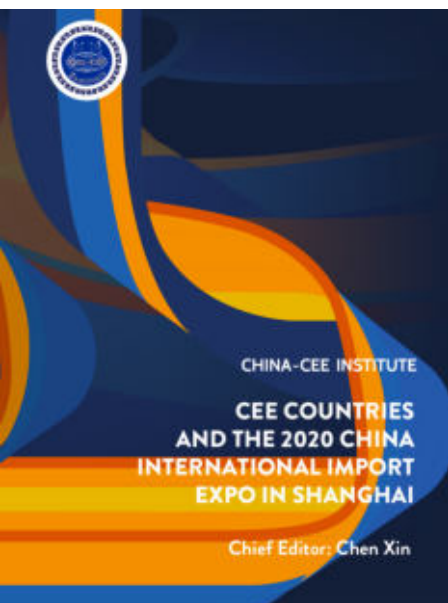
This report is the result of the fourth polling project launched in 2020. In addition to analyzing the views of the public in 2020, it also has a comparison with the results of the previous polls. The China-CEE Institute plans to gradually accumulate a database through the annual polling project and observe changes in citizens’ perceptions of China’s development in Central and Eastern European countries.



### **Preventing Financial Risks: Chinese And European Perspective**

On 24 September 2019, China-CEE Institute and the Central Bank of Hungary (MNB) co-organized a workshop entitled “Preventing Financial Risks: Chinese and European Perspective”. During the workshop, experts from both Chinese and European sides joined the discussions. The discussions mainly focused on (1) financial stability and challenge of FinTech and (2) Risks in Banking Industry and Housing Market. Following the workshop, China-CEE Institute and the MNB decided to make further efforts and translate the panel discussions into tangible research results so that a wider range of audience could benefit from the discussions. This book is the result of the joint work.





### **CEE Countries and the 2020 China International Import Expo in Shanghai**

This book is a collection of reports by our associate researchers from CEE countries. The reports are parts of the Weekly Briefings, a core product by the China-CEE Institute. The 4th issue of weekly briefings in November 2020 focuses on analysing business delegation to the expo as well as media coverage in their own countries. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and its containment measures, a few countries were unable to attend the 3rd CIIE. The views in the book are represented by the individual authors instead of the China-CEE Institute.



### **Central and Eastern Europe Development Outlook 2021**

When the new year 2021 started, most CEE countries were still struggling with the second wave of coronavirus pandemic and its containment measures. Some countries were even in face of the third pandemic wave. This book is providing a brief analysis on the development outlook of Central and Eastern European countries against the backdrop of the second pandemic wave and the attendant uncertainties. The book is structured from four different perspectives on the subject: domestic politics, economic situation, social development and external relations.



### **An Overview of Central and Eastern Europe Development in 2020**

The book provides an overview of major developments in 16 CEE countries and Greece in 2020. It is the fourth collection of annual reports published by the China-CEE Institute and covers 16 Central and Eastern European countries as well as Greece. China-CEE Institute has included Greece in its Country-Study research since 2018.



### **The Status Quo of State-owned Enterprises in CEE Countries**

This book is providing a brief and historical overview of the status quo of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and some representative SOEs in the Central and Eastern European countries. The authors have analyzed the status quo of the SOEs from different angles and explained the situations that the SOEs are currently facing. Some reports even cover the recent dynamics of the SOEs under the background of the coronavirus pandemic. The book is a collection of 17 reports written by the associate researchers of the China-CEE Institute. The reports are originally published as the February economic issue of the 2021 Weekly Briefings. The views in the book are represented by the individual authors instead of the China-CEE Institute.



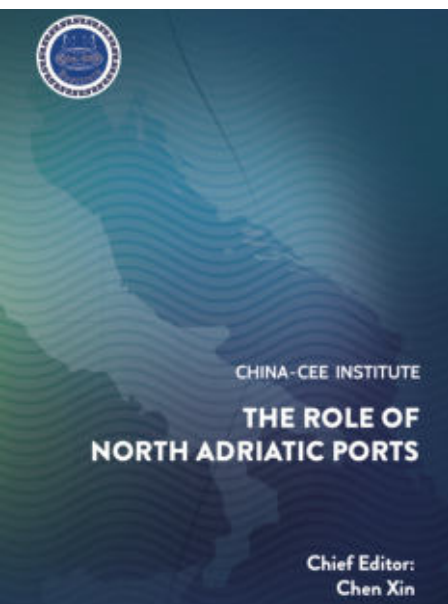
### **CEE Countries and the USA**

This book is providing a comprehensive overview of the new developments and dynamics of the current relations between the US and CEE countries. The authors have analyzed the bilateral relations from various perspectives and covered the latest developments in their relations, which is very helpful to have a further understanding of US-CEE relations and their interests. The book is a collection of 17 reports written by the associate researchers of the China-CEE Institute. The reports are originally published as the February external relations issue of the 2021 Weekly Briefings. The views in the book are represented by the individual authors instead of the China-CEE Institute.



### **CEE Countries and Changing Social Strata in the Past 30 years**

This book is providing a historical overview of the changing social stratification of the Central and Eastern European countries in the past three decades. Authors address the social stratification and its changes, through which the transformation of class structure in their countries can be observed. The book is a collection of 17 reports written by the associate researchers of the China-CEE Institute. The reports are originally published as the February social issue of the 2021 Weekly Briefings. The views in the book are represented by the individual authors instead of the China-CEE Institute.



### **The Role of North Adriatic Ports**

China-CEE Institute had announced “Call for Proposal” research programs in December 2018. One of the proposed research projects is “The Role of North Adriatic Ports”. What we are presenting here is the result of the research project, conducted by a consortium led by Science and Research Centre Koper (Slovenia) and Centre of International Relations, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.



### **Pension Systems In CEE Countries**

In this book, there are totally 16 research reports written by the experts in the field, aiming to provide an overview of the pension systems in the CEE countries. The content covers the key challenges, main reforms and consequences, public expectations and major obstacles to overcome. The reports have indicated that, the CEE countries share much in common not only within the CEE block, but also with western European countries. The reports are originally published as the summer issue of the Weekly Briefings in June, 2021. Nevertheless, the views in the book are solely represented by the individual authors instead of the China-CEE Institute.

China-CEE Institute launches a tender entitled "A Survey on China's Image in CEE 2021". The aim of this survey is to identify that how people in CEE countries view modern China, China's development, the Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) as well as China-CEEC Cooperation. The result of the survey will provide a platform for both China and CEE countries to further promote mutual understanding. The survey is funded by the China-CEE Institute. Institutions engaging with opinion polls are preferred.

## RESEARCH PROJECT CALL FOR TENDER

**"The aim of this survey is to identify that how people in CEE countries view modern China"**

The following report is the result of the fifth polling project launched in 2021. In addition to analyzing the views of the public in 2021, it also has a comparison with the results of the previous polls. The China-CEE Institute plans to gradually accumulate a database through the annual polling project and observe changes in citizens' perceptions of China's development in Central and Eastern European countries.





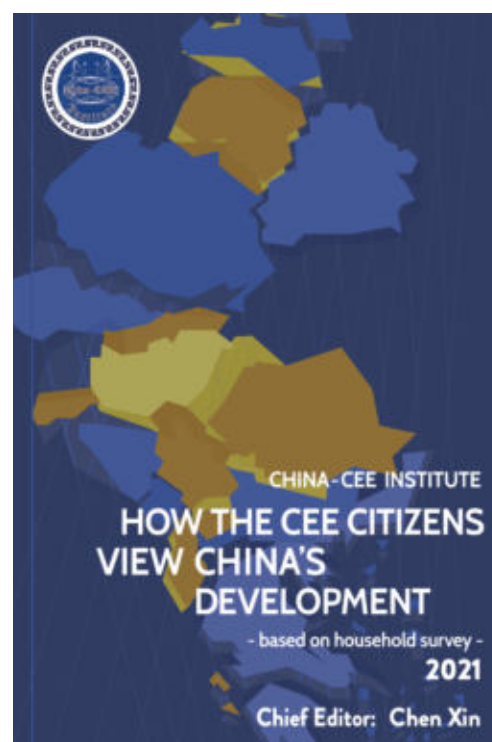
GKI Economic Research Co.

*We analyze, you take the decision.*

## SURVEY 2021

China-CEE Institute in cooperation with GKI Economic Research Co. had implemented a massive survey in October-November 2021 with the following characteristics:

1. Continuity. Since the establishment in 2017, the China-CEE Institute had implemented 5 round surveys in every autumn in Central and Eastern Europe, with the same questions and same methods. Continuity can provide possibility for further conducting comparative studies, and have an in-depth picture of the citizens in Central and Eastern Europe on China's development.
2. Coverage. The survey covers 16 Central and Eastern European countries, and as well as Greece and Belorussia. All together 18 countries had been surveyed.
3. Sample. In each country we have 1000 sample copies and all together we have 18,000 sample copies.
4. Quality. Working together with professional survey institutions, like Ipsos, Impetus Research (former GFK) and TNS Kantar, and using 3 different survey methods such as CAPI, CAWI and CATI, we can ensure the quality of the survey.



## RESEARCH PROJECT CALL FOR PAPER

**Topic: “EU-China  
Comprehensive  
Agreement on  
Investment and Its  
Positive Impact on  
China and European  
Countries”**

Although the China-EU Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) is currently suspended, it is of great importance to pay continuous attention to the agreement so as to have a better understanding of the CAI. Besides, the continuity of maintaining dialogues and communications in academia will be helpful for further developing an in-depth analysis and eliminating Mindful of such a concern, the Call for Paper focuses on how European countries perceive the CAI and its positive impact on China and European countries

The purpose of this Call is to study the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on European countries and their development. The research could be developed from country perspective, regional and European. The aim is to have a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of how the pandemic has affected or is affecting the development of European countries.

**Topic: “How the  
COVID-19 Pandemic  
Affects the  
Development of  
European Countries”**

In the face of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, international cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has shown strong resilience and vitality. With its international partners, China has the ambition of making the Belt and Road a model of cooperation, health, recovery and growth through united responses to global challenges and developing a “Green Silk Road”.

## RESEARCH PROJECT

### CALL FOR PAPER

**Topic: “Green Silk Road and China-Europe Cooperation amid the Profound Changes in the World Situation”**

Green is a major element of the BRI. Over the years, China has actively integrated green ecological concept into the joint construction of the BRI and improved the green level in the areas of policy communication, facility connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration, and people-to-people bonds. Therefore, the role of the Green Silk Road in China-EU cooperation amid the profound changes in the world situation deserves intensive discussions among all parties.





# LECTURES 2021

With a purpose of strengthening academic communications among international academic peers, China-CEE Institute aims to organize the lecture series under the framework of “CASS Scholars Lectures” in 2021. The series of public lectures invite leading Chinese scholars to give presentations on the key issues related to China’s development in the areas of politics, economy, society and foreign affairs. In the context of current China-EU and China-US relations, it is of great importance and necessity to promote multilateral communications through the voice of Chinese scholars. In a response, our Institute organizes the series of lectures.



## LECTURE: CHALLENGES FACING CHINA TO SUSTAIN ITS ECONOMIC GROWTH



On 22 September 2021, the China-CEE Institute invited professor CAI Fang, from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, to deliver a lecture on Challenges Facing China to Sustain Its Economic Growth via Zoom.

Professor CAI summarized the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035 by introducing four “New Rhetoric”, namely, a new development stage from building a well-off society in an all-round way to building a modern socialist country in an all-round way; a new development goal of becoming a high-income country by 2025 and a moderately developed country by 2035; a new development philosophy of innovation, coordination, greenness, openness and sharing; and a new development pattern in which domestic and international circulation fosters each other while with the domestic market as the mainstay. According to Professor CAI, two turning points of demographic transition, working age population peak that led to supply shock on economic growth and total population peak that will lead to demand shock on economic growth, will exert impact on China’s growth sustainability. This is because the former turning point weakens labor, human capital, physical capital formation and productivity, which reduces supply-side growth potential, and the latter turning point impacts export, investment, and consumption, which tends to weaken demand factors that are required by realizing potential.

During the second part of the lecture, professor CAI answered several questions from the participants. The questions include the meaning of “dual circulation” model, the link between common prosperity and dual circulation, the link between “dual circulation” and globalization, etc.

## LECTURE: CHINA'S FOREIGN AID: TRADITION AND CHANGE



**China-CEE Institute**  
中国—中东欧研究院

**China's Foreign Aid: Tradition and Change**

**Prof. Hong ZHOU**  
Director General of the Academic Division of International Studies at CASS

**About the Lecture**

What is unique about China as an international development actor? What kinds of traditions and inventions China upholds in the field of international development cooperation? Who are China's main development partners around the world? What are the characteristics and methodologies of China Aid? and what kinds of lessons China has learned? This lecture shall try to answer those questions by briefing the history of China's foreign aid policy since 1950, with special emphasis on the changes in the 21st century and possibly with an outlook into future.

**About the Speaker**

Professor Hong ZHOU obtained her Ph.D. from Brandeis University. She is a Member of Academic Divisions of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and a delegate of the 12th and 13th National People's Congress. Her research interests include Welfare State, European studies, and international development cooperation.

**15 October 2021**  
**CET: 11:00-12:00**  
**Beijing Time: 17:00-18:00**

**Host: Dr. Zeren LANGJIA**  
China-CEE Institute

**This lecture is free and open to the public**

Register your attendance at



On 15 October 2021, the China-CEE Institute invited Prof. ZHOU Hong, Director General of the Academic Division of International Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, to deliver a lecture entitled "China's Foreign Aid: Tradition and Change". The Institute's non-resident researchers and researchers from partner institutions participated in the lecture.

Prof. ZHOU covered several important aspects of China's foreign aid, including the uniqueness of China as a provider of international development cooperation, China's main partners, the history and main features of the country's foreign aid, and particularly the new changes in this policy domain.

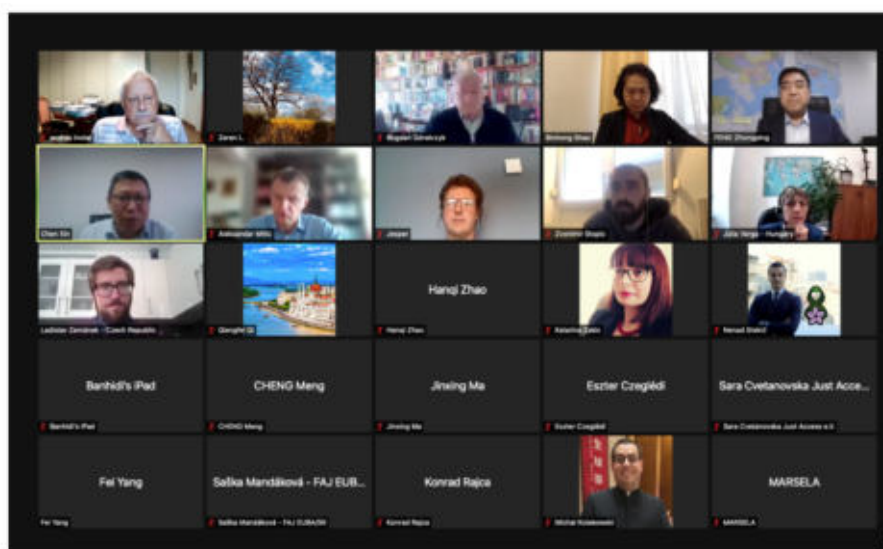
The lecture lasted about one hour in total. During the Q & A session, the participants posed several questions about the economic motive behind China's foreign aid, the characteristics of China's foreign aid, China's foreign aid supervision and evaluation, China's cooperation with universities in Africa, Asia-pacific countries and South-America, etc.

## LECTURE: CHINA-EUROPE RELATIONS: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES



On 10 November 2021, the China-CEE Institute invited Prof. FENG Zhongping, Director-General of the Institute of European Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the President of the China-CEE Institute, to deliver a lecture entitled “China-Europe Relations: Opportunities and Challenges”. Prof. CHEN Xin, Executive President and Managing Director of China-CEE Institute, and Deputy Director-General of the Institute of European Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, moderated this lecture. The Institute’s non-resident researchers and researchers from partner institutions participated in the lecture.

Prof. FENG evaluated China-Europe relations and concluded that the state and quality of China-EU relations are the most critical for the entire world. The European Union is currently undergoing two major transformations: economic and diplomatic. Meanwhile, China is experiencing “great changes unprecedented in a century,” and according to FENG, EU countries are continuously adapting to a China that is quickly developing and becoming increasingly powerful.



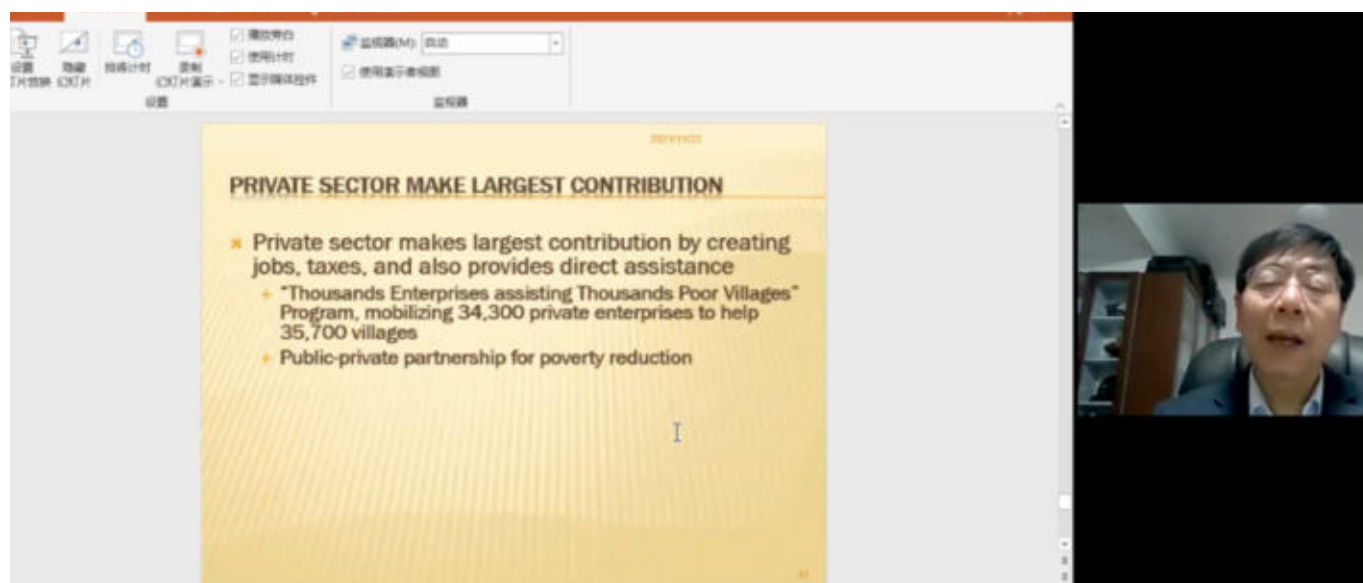
As a result, China-EU relations have been strained. Prof. FENG believes that the next most essential thing for both China and the EU is to find ways to create a suitable atmosphere and environment to break the current deadlock and return to a normal track as soon as possible.

## LECTURE: CHINA'S APPROACH AND LESSONS IN ERADICATING EXTREME POVERTY



On 22 November 2021, the China-CEE Institute invited Prof. WU Guobao, Director of the Center for Poverty Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, to deliver a lecture entitled "China's Approach and Lessons in Eradicating Extreme Poverty". The Institute's non-resident researchers and researchers from partner institutions participated in the lecture.

Prof. WU reviewed several essential aspects of China's experience in poverty reduction, including the definition of poverty in China, the approach to eliminating extreme poverty, the institutional and non-institutional factors in China's experience, the progress China has made in recent years and the initiatives it will take in the future to address inequality issue.



The lecture lasted about one and half hours in total. During the Q & A session, the participants posed several questions about the relationship between the policy focused on eradicating poverty and the Belt and Road Initiative, and the relation between China's global initiative and anti-poverty fight, the sustainability of capacity building at the level of legal system in land use.

## LECTURE: WILL CHINA START AN ERA OF SOVEREIGN DIGITAL CURRENCY?



China-CEE Institute  
中国—中东欧研究院



### Will China Start an Era of Sovereign Digital Currency?

**Prof. CHENG Lian**

Vice Director, Center of  
Financial Policy, CASS

On 10 December 2021, the China-CEE Institute invited Prof. CHENG Lian, Vice Director, Center of Financial Policy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and Head of Department of Fundamental Research, Institute of Finance & Banking, CASS, to deliver a lecture entitled "From DC/EP to Digital Yuan: Will China start an Era of Sovereign Digital Currency". Dr. MA Jinxing, Project Manager of China-CEE Institute, moderated this lecture. The Institute's non-resident researchers and researchers from partner institutions participated in the lecture. The lecture lasted about one-hour in total.

As a forerunner in the area of Fintech application, China's digital yuan project has attracted the attention of the world. Prof. Cheng made a short introduction about why to introduce a sovereign digital currency. With that preamble, Prof. CHENG went into discussing on what digital yuan (e-CNY) is and how digital yuan works at present stage. Then he made a deep and thorough analysis of the objectives of digital yuan project, and briefed some facts about digital yuan pilot programs to summarize their policy implication. At last, He summed up the impacts of digital yuan on market players and financial stability, showed the what the digital yuan will bring for the business world in future.



# EVENTS

## 2021

## PROSPECTS FOR EU-CHINA INVESTMENT: CHINESE AND EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES



On 28 September 2021, the China-CEE Institute and the Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary successfully held joint Zoom seminar on Prospects for EU-China Investment: Chinese and European Perspectives.

The seminar started with welcome speeches from Márton UGRÓSDY, Director of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, and Zhongping FENG, Director of the Institute of European Studies at CASS and President of the China-CEE Institute. Both speakers expressed and emphasized the importance of launching dialogues to discuss challenges in international relations and to promote mutual understanding.

The seminar is composed of two panels. Péter GORECZKY, Senior Analyst at the Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), moderated the first panel. Fan CUI, Professor from School of International Trade and Economics at UIBE, gave his presentation on the topic "Toward a world trade and investment system based on competitive neutrality and ownership neutrality: A comment on China-EU CAI". His presentation covers several important aspects of the CAI, including new commitments on market access, state-owned enterprises, labor standards and environment, the CPTPP, competitive neutrality and ownership neutrality.

Marcin PRZYCHODNIAK, from Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), delivered his presentation on the subject of "The end of CAI: Political challenges in China-EU relations". While acknowledging the potential significance of the CAI, he mentioned the political challenges and difficulties that the EU and China are facing before further advancing the CAI negotiations. Resolving these problems is a prerequisite.

Bin SHENG, Professor from School of Economics at Nankai University, gave his presentation on the subject of “China’s Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and FDI Policy Reforms”. He discussed about the first and second generations of BITs and their differences, China’s New Foreign Investment Law, and potential reforms in the areas of investment liberalization, licensing requirements, national security review mechanism and technology transfer.

Margot SCHÜLLER, Senior researcher at GIGA Institute of Asian Studies, delivered her presentation on “The Role of the EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) for Europe”. According to Dr. SCHÜLLER, as two large trade partners and investors, the EU and China will benefit from removing trade and investment barriers, and the CAI offers new opportunities for both Europe and China. For instance, there is a possibility that the CAI may improve access to the Chinese market for European companies and contribute to a better level playing field.

During the second panel, moderated by Dr. Qiangfei QI, Project manager at China-CEE Institute and Junior research fellow at CASS, Marco RICCERI, from Institute for Political, Social and Economic Studies (EURISPES), talked about “Competition – Cooperation: what balance in the face of the common challenge of a new sustainable order?” He talked about the relationship between competition and cooperation. For instance, building a sustainable order means the need of balancing competition and cooperation, which are the two points of reference to balance competition and cooperation, which is the fairest passage that we all need to keep in mind.

Zuokui LIU, Deputy Director of Institute of European Studies at CASS, discussed about “Bilateral Investment Agreement and Transatlantic China Policy Coordination”. According to LIU, the CAI is not only the result of EU-China bilateral interactions, but also the result of trilateral interactions. Thus, the CAI does not only influence EU-China bilateral relations, but also trilateral relations, and it’s important to interpret the CAI from the trilateral perspective.

Viktor ESZTERHAI, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), gave his presentation on “Economic and Political Aspects of the Comprehensive Investment Agreement from a Hungarian perspective”. He explained why Hungary is unconditionally supporting the implementation of the CAI and discussed the relations between Hungary and the CAI by analyzing the role of Hungary in the German Central Eastern European Manufacturing Core.

Bin YE, Associate Professor of Institute of European Studies at CASS, discussed about “The Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) and New Trade-related EU Initiatives: Opportunities and Challenges”. The core commitments of the CAI with regard to openness and regulation, market access, level playing field and sustainable development were covered in his discussion. It is believed that the CAI may contribute to reducing the risks of “de-coupling”, integrating China into world market, paving the way to join CPTPP and potentially launching EU-China FTA negotiations.

During the two Q&A Sessions, speakers answered several questions from the participants. The questions include issues relating to investment protection in the CAI, institutional framework, the CAI from Hungarian and regional perspectives, the CAI and the solution to the cooperation, etc. During the seminar, all the speakers shared their ideas, opinions and observations. While it’s undeniable that there are challenges and difficulties that the EU and China have to deal with, it is widely believed that mutual communications and dialogues are of great necessity and importance. Considering the current tensions and uncertainties in international arena, mutual understanding comes to the fore. To conclude, IFAT Senior Researcher Viktor ESZTERHAI and Xin CHEN, Executive President of the China-CEE Institute and Deputy Director of the Institute of European Studies at CASS, gave closing remarks on the seminar.



## GREEN DEVELOPMENT ACTION AND POLICY: EUROPEAN AND CHINESE PERSPECTIVES



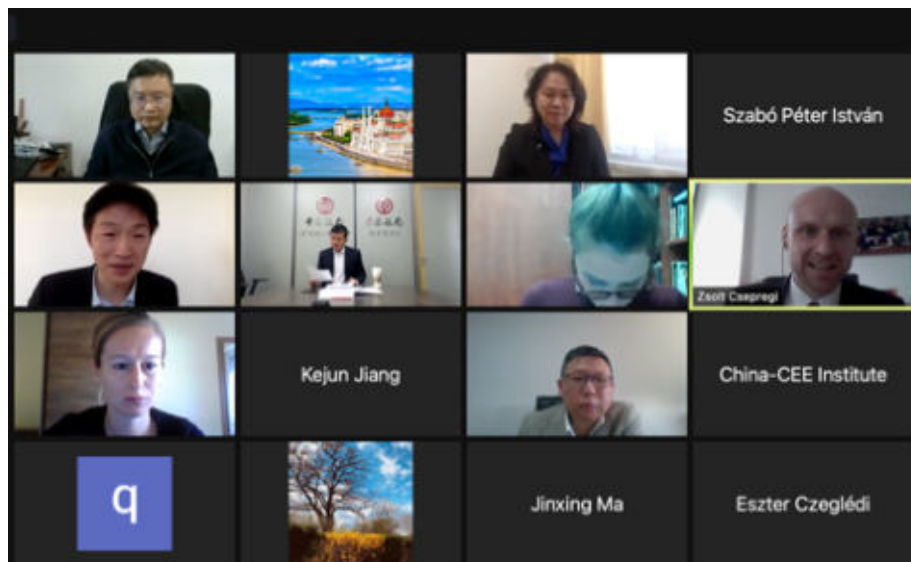
### Green Development Action and Policy: European and Chinese Perspectives

Tuesday, 26 October 2021  
Budapest

On 26 October 2021, the China-CEE Institute and the Antall Jozsef Knowledge Center successfully held joint Zoom seminar on Green Development Action and Policy: European and Chinese Perspectives.

The opening ceremony of seminar was moderated by Professor CHEN Xin, Deputy Director of the Institute of European Studies at Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the Executive President and Managing Director of China-CEE Institute. And then the seminar started with welcome speeches from FENG Zhongping, Director of the Institute of European Studies at CASS and President of the China-CEE Institute, and CSEPREGI Zsolt, Director of Antall Jozsef Knowledge Center. Both speakers expressed and emphasized the importance of launching dialogues to discuss challenges in international relations in general and environmental issues in particular. Especially, through the cooperation in global green development, it's crucial to foster mutual understanding in other areas.

The seminar is composed of two panels. ZHANG Yongsheng, Director and Senior Researcher, Research Institute for Eco-civilization of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, moderated the first panel. ZHANG Haibin, Professor from School of International Studies at Peking University, gave his presentation on the topic "Understanding the Evolution of China's Role in Its Participation of Last 30 Years' International Climate Negotiations". His presentation inspects the evolution of China's position in international climate change negotiations, its domestic climate actions and global climate governance. Professor ZHANG thinks that China should promote overall progress in climate governance, climate diplomacy, climate security and climate negotiations and global climate governance in a more powerful way.



JIANG Kejun, Senior Researcher from Energy Research Institute of The National Development and Reform Commission, gave his presentation on the subject of “Energy and Economy Transition Pathways Achieving Paris Agreement Targets”. He inclines to hold that in order to achieve Paris Agreement Targets, the energy system will undergo considerable changes, with renewable energy and nuclear power taking the lead, and the economy will also have big change both on innovation technology and reallocation.

CSEPREGI Zsolt, Director of Antall Jozsef Knowledge Center (AJKC), delivered his presentation on the subject of “Smart City Development and Green Transition in the EU: The Role of The Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and The Next Generation EU Programmes”. He highlighted on the issue of leadership in climate negotiation and green transition. He discussed that it would be challenging, but also had opportunities in the coming years. VARSANYI Cecilia, Senior researcher at AJKC, delivered her presentation on “The Impact of EU’s Energy and Climate Policy on the V4 Region: Winners or Losers?”. According to Dr. Varsanyi, the main goals related to achieving sustainable development depended on competitive energy prices, security of energy supply and reducing the environmental impact of the energy system.

During the second panel, moderated by GULYAS Zsafia, Junior research fellow at AJKC, ZHANG Yongsheng, Director and Senior Researcher from Research Institute for Eco-civilization of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, talked about “Green Transition in China: Seizing the Historic Opportunity of Global Carbon Neutrality”. He talked about why the global consensus and action for carbon neutrality, though an unprecedented challenge, would bring about historic opportunity for China, and how China could seize it. HUSZAR Andras, Co-Founder and CEO, Green Policy Center, discussed about “Reality Beyond Promises- the Long and Hard Process of Implementing the Carbon Neutrality Target”. According to HUSZAR, the key aspects of implementation of carbon neutrality are (1) political will and support from the society; (2) an ongoing, iterative process of hypothesis; (3) proper institutions; (4) science and policy must work close together.

ZHANG Jianyu, Executive Director and Senior Research Fellow, BRI Green Development Institute, gave his presentation on “China ETS Updates and Next Steps”, which showed his latest rethinking about China’s National Emissions Trading Scheme. LI Kexin, CEO and President of Bank of China Limited Hungarian Branch, discussed about “Overview of Green Finance Development in China”.

During the two Q&A Sessions, speakers answered several questions from the participants. During the seminar, all the speakers shared their ideas, opinions and observations. While it’s undeniable that there are challenges and difficulties that the EU and China have to deal with, it is widely believed that mutual communications and dialogues are of great necessity and importance. Considering the current tensions and uncertainties in international arena, mutual understanding comes to the fore. To conclude, AJKC Director CSEPREGI Zsolt, gave closing remarks on the seminar.

# CHINA, EUROPE AND THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA-EUROPE IN THE CHANGING WORLD



## **China, Europe and the Relations Between China-Europe in the Changing World**

**Monday, 6 December 2021  
Budapest**

On 6 December 2021, the China-CEE Institute successfully hosted a webinar on its Annual Meeting of International Academic Committee (IAC) and on the “China, Europe and the Relations Between China-Europe in the Changing World” via Zoom. Members of International Academic Committee of China-CEE Institute, including Prof. CAI Fang, Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and Chairman of the IAC, Prof. FENG Zhongping, Director-General of the Institute of European Studies (IES) of CASS and the President of the China-CEE Institute, Prof. HUANG Ping, former director-general of IES, Prof. CHEN Xin, Deputy Director-General of the IES and Executive President of China-CEE Institute, Prof. LIU Zuokui, Deputy Director-General of the IES and Vice President of China-CEE Institute, Prof. KONG Tianping, Senior Research Fellow of the IES, Prof. Bogdan Góralczyk, from the Centre for Europe at the University of Warsaw, Prof. András Inotai, Senior Research fellow at the Institute of World Economics of Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Professor Metka Tekavčič, Dean of the School of Economics and Business at University of Ljubljana, Mrs. SHAO Binhong, Research Director of China-CEE Institute, Dr. MA Jinxing and Dr. QI Qiangfei, Project Managers, attended the meeting. In addition, China-CEE Institute’s non-resident researchers and staffs participated the meeting.

Prof. Gheorghe Zaman, member of the IAC and Correspondent member of Romanian Academy, who passed away in October 2021. The meeting was preceded by a one-minute silence in his memory.

Prof. FENG Zhongping gave the welcome remarks. He expressed his gratitude for the support from IAC members and non-resident researchers; then he touched on the relationship between China-US and China-Europe in his speech, and hoped that all participants could work together to address common challenges. During which Prof. CAI Fang gave a keynote speech on "Importance and Relevance of Common Prosperity to China", he illustrated on the Promoting of the common prosperity in the course of high-quality development and building the necessary institutional structures to achieve this.

In the next keynote speeches, IAC members shared their thoughts with the topic of international system and international order, relations between China-US, China-Europe in the changing world, *et al.* All members agreed that China and Europe were facing new challenges under current circumstances, it is of great significance to reduce the full confrontation in international political affairs. Confrontation is not the solution, and there are no real winners in international conflicts. The COVID-19 epidemic made a profound impact on the international community, and China has well performed in the past two years, meanwhile some European politicians provoked full confrontation both in the local region and across the world, they will only bring conspiracy theories and disorder to the world.

Regarding the normal travel and communication were blocked by the epidemic, unilateral media reports made some China's actions appear in the worst possible light, and Decisions based on unilateral information were full of false and hostile facts. The Media War and Competition on high-tech fields have brought uncertain influence on relations of China-US, China-EU, and the international system. All Participants emphasized the importance of cooperation in the field of global climate change, international security, and global economy development, meanwhile they called on the younger generation to participate in bilateral academic exchange.

Mrs. SHAO Binhong gave an annual report of the Institute for 2021 and the work plan for 2022 after Q&A Session. China-CEE Institute had many academic activities in 2021, included: Weekly briefings covered Central and Eastern Europe countries; working papers which finished by authors from Italy, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina *et al.* have been published in succession; three international roundtable discussions and conferences were co-organized with partner Institutes; 14 think tank reports have been published, and the Opinion poll on *how the CEE citizens view China's development in 2021* will be open in recent. The publication "*China Watch*" and public online lectures have been launched since this autumn.

Finally, all participants supported the China-CEE Institute to conduct more academic exchange activities at the right time and place, deepen mutual understanding and achieve more academic products.

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## ONLINE PLATFORMS



# ONLINE PLATFORMS

China-CEE Institute online activity is mostly focused on the website. The website is being updated regularly with News, Events, Publications. There are built-in search engine with user specified parameters such as Country, Theme, Author. We upload the latest information not only the website but the social platforms. We use the following networks: Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. We post news, events, publications on these channels on a daily basis. The Institute's online mediums help us to reach more and more people interested in our mission. Our most frequent posts are the daily Weekly Briefings posts with 4 categories and 17 Countries. Followers can easily read, download and share our content, help to spread all over the Internet.

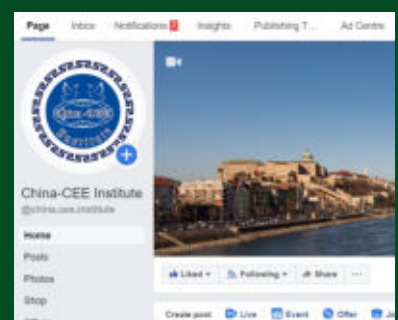
WeChat is one of the most popular social networking applications in China. It has multiple functions, including public platform, notification, sharing different types of contents, etc. The China-CEE Institute WeChat public platform aims to timely and effectively share with readers the research results, weekly briefings and academic activities. WeChat is also one of the most important approaches to spreading information to domestic public and reaching Chinese researchers and scholars.



LinkedIn is a business and employment-oriented service that operates via websites and mobile apps, and it is mainly used for professional networking. China-CEE runs an official page and aiming to grow professionally with scientific contents and constant activity on the page. For the institute, it is very important to keep in touch with researchers and this social platform is perfect for this type of interactive online communication. The reason is that researchers and other science fellows stand out from the active social crowd with their articles and a special field of interest.



Facebook and Twitter are also very important sites because of the visual communication part. The institute organizes lectures, conferences, and workshops, and these events usually have been illustrated with photos. The followers are able to read and share our posts helping us to reach more and more researchers. On Facebook, we can share more visual content, on Twitter we concentrate on brief and targeted communication.



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