



## China; killing the goose that laid the golden egg ?

LIBG Forum Webinar - Sept 14th 2020 19.00hrs

Organised by Liberal International (British Group)

### INVITATION TO 'ZOOM' WEBINAR

Does an emerging new military-economic model in China, mark the final demise of its 'Peaceful Rise' doctrine, under President Xi Jinping? Is the driver of the new approach still ultimately, economic growth, or are we witnessing the separate pursuit of Chinese defence aims in relation to the US and perhaps India; or even broader hegemonic ambitions? This webinar explores these questions from differing perspectives, and attempts to look past the mainstream narratives from all sides, in pursuit of an independent assessment.



A more assertive China in international trade, the acquisition of more secure energy and other resources, and expanding Chinese-controlled global infrastructure to support it (such as 'Belt & Road' and 'String of Pearls'), all appear potentially to be features of a new 'China model'. Assessing China's long term aims is important for Western economic policy as much as it is for security policy. It affects the Western approach to the slow build up of military capacity around Chinese 'String of Pearls' ports and terminals, for example. What's more, to what extent is any 'new model' focused only on international policy, or are there parallel changes to the economic system domestically?

These are questions of longer term global impact, which go beyond the excitements of 2020. Whilst in part the rise in Western 'demonisation' of China in mid-2020 is undoubtedly linked to the US presidential elections, longer term Western policy must be based on a realistic understanding of changes in Chinese political-economy and security doctrine, and also of the capacity of China in reality to pursue aims globally. Exploring these difficult underlying issues, and taking questions, will be an expert panel, including:

**Dr. Kerry Brown**, who is Director of the Lau China Institute and Professor of Chinese Studies at King's College, London. Previously he was Professor of Chinese Politics and Director of the China Studies Centre, University of Sydney. He is an Associate Fellow of Chatham House, London. He was previously Head of the Asia Programme at Chatham House, London and a member of the British Diplomatic Service from 1998 to 2005, serving as First Secretary, British Embassy, Beijing 2000-2003.

**Dr Yeow Poon** has 25 years' experience of providing capacity building and counsel on public administration, community participation and governance reform in China, Vietnam, Lao PDR and more recently in Myanmar. Dr Poon has observed the way these countries have grappled with balancing the rapid changes that have taken place in these countries as a result of economic reforms and the adoption of 'grassroots democracy', 'internal democratic systems' and modern management whilst maintaining the one party state apparatus and national security.

**Rebecca Tinsley**, who is a journalist and human rights activist who has grappled with Chinese foreign policy and global power projection at the 'sharp end', especially countries in conflict where China plays an increasingly less subtle role. Rebecca founded 'Waging Peace', Network for Africa, a charity working with survivors of genocide.. Rebecca was asked by President and Mrs Carter to start the Carter Centre UK. She was on the London Committee of HRW for seven years, and has attended human rights trials on their behalf. Her books include the acclaimed 'When The Stars Fall To Earth' about the genocide in Darfur.



The webinar will be chaired by **Paul E M Reynolds**. Paul has wide experience in economic and political reforms in 70 countries worldwide, especially countries in conflict. In China Paul has worked with the Ministry of Finance, State Council, Central Party School, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority; and with governments in 7 countries contiguous to China.

**Zoom registration** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrf-ihqDkiHtDeSgqspW71KQf23vC8IJ7C>

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