



China Data Analysis  
& Research Hub



中国科学院大学  
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

## Metropolitan Innovation Systems on the Eurasian Continent in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

22 & 23 September 2020

This session is part of Beijing Humboldt Forum 2020

北京洪堡论坛 2020



Unterstützt von / Supported by



Alexander von Humboldt  
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## Conference background

Just last year we celebrated the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Alexander von Humboldt. With his holistic view on the world and its ecosystems he laid the foundation for our modern understanding of the web of life on this planet. His work and spirit also inspired a novel educational agenda. This Humboldtian model of education is repeatedly referenced especially when talking about the demand for a universal spirit in universities.

Today more than ever a systemic, holistic and interdisciplinary approach is needed to solve the world's most pressing problems. As a community of common destiny, the ongoing pandemic, climate change and digital transformation show us the limits of thinking and acting within national borders. Much more these fundamental challenges call for joint actions and an evidence-based way following the notion of a planetary patriotism. On a global level the UN Sustainable Development Goals represent a corner-stone and initial step of humankind towards this path of human evolution.

But how can we unleash creativity and nurture innovation to come up with novel ideas and fuel the societal change needed to build the world we want our children to live in? In her speech on the State of the Union the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen addressed the European Parliament on 16 September 2020 in Brussels. She called for a new vitality and bridge building along with sharing a part of sovereignty for the common good. There is a historic opportunity now, she claimed, to make systemic change happen by design. ...and never before in human history mankind knew more about the world we are living in based on scientific knowledge and facts freely available on humankind's extended brain – the world wide web.

On the other end of the Eurasian continent Chinese President Xi Jinping started to communicate the framework of his Belt and Road Initiative back in 2013. As a global development narrative this is an unprecedented step to build bridges between societies, cultures and economies. With an initial focus on building connective infrastructure this initiative may evolve to become a strong impulse for nurturing talent and ideas beyond borders as well. China itself follows since several years an ambitious path of strengthening indigenous innovation power and to bring its national innovation system to perfection.

With estimated two thirds of world's population living in urban areas by 2050 the future of mankind's problem-solving capacity lies in the metropolises. This holds true for Europe, the Asia-Pacific region and the other parts of the world. Based on their schools of thought and professions the distinguished speakers in this conference session therefore take stock of the state-of-play. Exploring the development opportunities of metropolitan innovation ecosystems in a national and international context new insights will emerge how to unleash and nurture the hidden innovation potential.

Against this backdrop this conference session contributes to the ongoing dialogue between China and Europe – representing the historical *orient* and *occident* - with peoples living on the same landmass, the Eurasian continent.

**Ex Sapientia Lux!**



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## Session Program

Date: Tuesday, 22 and Wednesday 23 September 2020

Time: starting at 8:30 (Central European Time/CET) / 2:30 pm (China Standard Time/CST)  
to approx. 12:15 (Central European Time/CET) / 6:15 pm (China Standard Time/CST)

Venue: online event upon registration via zoom

### Session chairs:

International (European) Chair:

**Alexander G. WELZL**, President of China Data Analysis & Research Hub (CDA) in Vienna  
<https://www.cda-hub.eu/>

National (Chinese) Chair:

**LV Ping**, Professor at University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS) School of Economics and Management in Beijing <https://mscas-en.ucas.ac.cn/index.php>

**Title (long): Metropolitan Innovation Systems (MIS) in the 21st Century - Steps Towards Cultivating Innovation Ecosystems in Metropolises on the Eurasian Continent**



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## **Day 1 – Tuesday, 22 September 2020**

Time: 8:30 – approx. 12:30 (CET) / 2:30 pm – 6:30 pm (CST)

08:30 **Welcome by China Data Analysis & Research Hub (CDA)**

**Alexander G. WELZL**, President of CDA, Vienna/Austria

**Markus H. STENDER**, Vice-President of CDA, Vienna/Austria

08:40 **Welcome by University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS)**

**LV Ping**, incoming Chinese Chairwoman of the CDA Scientific Advisory Board, Professor at School of Economics and Management (UCAS SEM), Beijing/PR China

08:50 **Personal Remarks on 50 Years of Younger Chinese History (1970 – 2020) - a Medical Scholar's View**

**Lars Y. TERENIUS**, European Chairman of the CDA Scientific Advisory Board, Professor at Karolinska Institutet, Member of The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA), Stockholm/Sweden

09:10 **Keynote Digital Transformation for Inclusive and Sustainable Development**

**WONG Tsuen Yip**, Chief of Technology and Innovation - Trade, Investment and Innovation Division,

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific / UN ESCAP

09:50 **Keynote The Academic Silk Road – Perspectives of Global Collaboration on the Eurasian Continent**

**Dominic SACHSENMAIER**, Professor and chair professorship in Chinese studies at Georg-August-University Göttingen/Germany

## **TRACK I: MIS Systemic Evolution**

**Track-Title:** Smart & Sustainable Cities in China and Europe - Tackling the Challenges of Post-fossil Digital Economies and Societies

10:30 **Introduction of the panel speakers by the moderator**

10:40 **Boosting the Green and Digital Transformation of Cities and Communities in the European Union**

**Cristina MARTINEZ**, Deputy Head of Unit Smart Mobility and Living, DG CONNECT, European Commission, Brussels/Belgium





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**11:10 Digitalization and the New Force of Regional Innovation in China**

*LIU Xielin, Professor at School of Economics and Management, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS), Beijing/PR China*

**11:40 Smart City Vienna – Further Enhancing Quality of Life through Comprehensive Innovation**

*Philipp AGATHONOS, Minister Plenipotentiary/Director, Office of Science and Technology (OSTA), Austrian Embassy, Beijing/PR China*

**12:10 Final remarks by the moderator**

**12:30 (approx.) End of Day 1**

**Day 2 – Wednesday, 23 September 2020**

Time: 8:15 – 12:00 (CET) / 2:15 pm – 6:00 pm (CST)

**TRACK II: MIS Healthcare Development**

**Track-Title: Metropolitan Healthcare Systems in Times of Covid-19- Perspectives for the 21st Century**

**08:15 Welcome to Day 2 and Introduction of the panel speakers by the moderator**

**08:30 The Healthcare industry and Innovation in China**

*Francesca SPIGARELLI, Vice-Rector for Entrepreneurship and Technological Transfer, Associate Professor at University of Macerata, Director of the University of Macerata's China Center, Italy*

**08:50 Creating Value for Bayer's early Product Pipeline from emerging Chinese Pharma Innovation Ecosystems**

*Tom KINZEL, Vice President, Head of Open Innovation Center Europe, Bayer AG Research & Development, Pharmaceuticals, Wuppertal/Germany*

**09:20 Transforming the Quality and Sustainability of Food and Beverages with Biotechnology**

*WU Guifang, Director Asia-Pacific F&B Application Research, Novozymes (China) Investment Co. Ltd., Beijing/PR China*



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### **TRACK III: MIS Digital Transformation**

**Track-Title: Smart Manufacturing, Fashion Tech & Creativity - Metropolises as Drivers of Change**

09:50 **Introduction of the panel speakers by the moderator**

10:00 **Digitalization and New Innovation Initiatives in China**

*YU Jiang, Professor at Institutes of Science and Development (CASISD), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing/PR China*

10:20 **Smart Manufacturing in Smart Cities - The Italian Perspective**

*Sergio CAVALIERI, Vice-Chancellor for Innovation and Technology-Transfer, Professor at University of Bergamo, Bergamo/Italy*

10:40 **Six Observations about Firm Level Digital Transformation in China**

*GAO Xudong, Professor at Department of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Strategy, School of Economics and Management (SEM), Tsinghua University, Beijing/PR China*

11:00 **Disruptive Innovation in the 21st Century - Creative Metropolitan Clusters as Centers of Gravity for Design-Driven Digital Transformation**

*Ingo ROLLWAGEN, Professorship for General Management, Academy of Fashion & Design (AMD)/Department of Design, University Fresenius (HSF), Berlin/Germany*

11:20 **Manufacturing and the Future of Work**

**WANG Jason**, Secretary General of China Science and Technology Automation Alliance (CSAA), Beijing/PR China

11:40 **Final remarks by the Conference Session Organizers**

**Alexander G. WELZL & LV Ping**

12:00 (approx.) **End of Day 2 / End of Conference**