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2019 China Global Think Tank Innovation Forum

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2019 China Global Think Tank Innovation Forum

Abstract
The Fourth Annual China Global Think Tank Innovation Forum was held on May 28, 2019 at the Penn Wharton China Center in Beijing, China. In the new era of globalization, innovation is the engine moving forward developments of countries. Following the progression into the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the globe and China embraced the new features of globalization, which brought new challenges, along with opportunities for the advancement of think tanks.

Keywords
Think Tank, Civil Society, NGO, China Think Tank Forum, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania

Disciplines
International Relations

Comments
All requests, questions, and comments should be directed to James G. McGann, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, International Studies; Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania.
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Acknowledgments

We want to acknowledge our partnership with the Center for China and Globalization, The Penn Wharton Center and the Our Hong Kong Foundation that helped make the China Think Tank Innovations Forum Possible. TTCSP operates without the benefit of a full-time staff or dedicated budget and must raise the funds for its research, regional national and global summits and the annual Global Go To Think Tank Index each year. TTCSP funds and organizes these activities in partnership with think tanks around the world who co-organize and co-host our efforts to increase the profile and performance of think tanks so they can better serve the governments and citizens in the countries where they operate.

Additional thanks to the China Team volunteer research assistants at the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program who have conducted research and plan the national, regional and global Summits and Forums.

The views expressed are those of James G. McGann and should not be attributed to the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, or its funders. Funders do not determine research findings or the insights and recommendations of the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program.
Introduction

The Fourth Annual China Global Think Tank Innovation Forum was held on May 28, 2019 at the Penn Wharton China Center in Beijing, China. In the new era of globalization, innovation is the engine moving forward developments of countries. Following the progression into the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the globe and China embraced the new features of globalization, which brought new challenges, along with opportunities for the advancement of think tanks.

The forum gathered leaders, executives and researchers from national, regional and global networks of think tanks, research institutions and other civil society organizations into discussions of the most pressing issues facing think tanks today and called for innovative insights and feasible solutions for the global challenges. The 2019 China Forum was broken down into four sessions. Each session gathered specialists to discuss topics ranging from the managerial roles of think tanks in global affairs and international relations to think tanks’ organizational innovative strategies. They addressed a range of pertinent questions:

- With China’s development environment and characteristics, how should Chinese think tanks pursue innovation?
- What measures can be adopted by think tanks to become more international? And, how can think tanks respond to challenges posed by their internationalization?
- How can think tank talent cultivation models be innovated? And during different stages of development, how should think tanks adjust their management systems?
- Among competitions of big power, what are the characteristics of the competition at present? How does this impact multinational cooperation among think tanks?

Format

This Forum is conducted in a Roundtable Format with panels that are intended to frame the key issues and provide constructively provocative questions to stimulate the discussion that follows each Session. The Forum is conducted in accordance with the Chatham House Rule.
Forum Agenda

08:30 – 09:00  Registration  
09:00 – 09:15  Opening Session  

Keynote Speakers:
James G. MCGANN, Director of Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), University of Pennsylvania  
Miao LU, Vice President and Secretary-General of the Center for China and Globalization (CCG)  


09:15 – 10:30  Session 1: Think Tank Innovation in the Age of Globalization 4.0:  
International and Chinese Experiences  

Following the progression into the Fourth Industrial Revolution, new features of globalization have emerged too. With increased global political and economic instability, economic and trade relations between nations are being tested. Whilst the rapid development of science and technology ceaselessly innovates and transforms the way of life, modes of production and even knowledge creation. The development of globalization presents many new challenges and opportunities for the advancement of think tanks. Under this background, this session gathers leading global think tank experts to discuss the following crucial questions:

- What are the key characteristics of globalization emerging at present?
- In the new era of globalization, how can think tanks innovate development strategies?
• What experiences of global think tanks can be adopted to handle challenges posed by the new features of globalization?
• With China’s development environment and characteristics, how should Chinese think tanks pursue innovation?

Chair:
James G. MCGANN, Director of Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), University of Pennsylvania

Panelists:
Alistair MICHIE, Secretary-General of British East Asia Council (BEAC)
Angela MO, Senior Manager of Policy Advocacy and Engagement, Our Hong Kong Foundation (OHKF)
Kathleen NEWLAND, Senior Fellow, Migration Policy Institute (MPI)
Christopher PREBLE, Vice President for Defense and Foreign Policy Studies at the Cato Institute
Laura SILVER, Senior Researcher, Pew Research Center
Tim SUMMERS, Senior Consulting Fellow of the Asia-Pacific Programme, the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House)


10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:00 Session 2: Internationalizing Think Tanks: Pathways and Challenges

As globalization drives the internationalization of think tanks, in turn, the internationalization of think tanks further promotes the deepening of globalization. At present, think tanks around the world are becoming increasingly internationalized and are seeking different ways to integrate into the international community. Focusing on the developmental experience of international think tanks and the trend of think tank internationalization, this session will address the following issues:

• What are the distinct characteristics of the management and operation of international think tanks?
• What measures can be adopted by think tanks to become more international?
• What challenges face the internationalization of think tanks?
• How can think tanks respond to challenges posed by their internationalization?
Chair:
Miao LU, Vice President and Secretary-General of the Center for China and Globalization (CCG)

Panelists:
Fulin CHI, President of China Institute for Reform and Development
Harvey DZODIN, Senior Fellow of CCG
Li GUOQIANG, Research Fellow and Former Vice Director-General of the Institute for Public Administration and Human Resources, Development Research Center of the State Council
Jian WANG, Professor at the School of International Trade and Economics, University of International Business and Economics; Director of Research Center for International Commerce
Yong WANG, Director of Center for International Political Economy at Peking University
Yunquan YU, Deputy Director-General of the Academy of Contemporary China and World Studies


12:00 – 13:30 Lunch/Networking

13:30 – 14:45 Session 3: Innovation and Cultivation: Think Tank Management and Talent Development

The think tank development environment is always evolving, requiring think tanks to constantly adjust their management and talent development strategies. Maintaining clear development goals and requirements, as well as adopting appropriate management and talent cultivation strategies, have become crucial for the sustainable development of think tanks. In response to this, this session will address the following questions:

- What are the similarities and differences in management and talent cultivation systems between think tanks with different missions?
- How do think tanks adjust their management systems during different stages of development?
- How can think tank managers improve management? What essential qualities should think tank managers possess?
- How can think tank talent cultivation models be innovated?

Chair:
Ann TANG, Deputy Secretary-General of the Center for China and Globalization (CCG)
Panelists:
Alexander BADENHEIM, Senior Program Manager of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
Qi LU, Director of Research at Intellisia Institution
Angela MO, Senior Manager of Policy Advocacy and Engagement, Our Hong Kong Foundation (OHKF)
Andy MOK, CCG Senior Consultant, CGTN commentator on Technology and Geopolitics
Qingzhong PAN, Executive Dean of Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University

14:45 – 16:00
Session 4: Innovating Think Tank Cooperation in the Context of Great Power Competition

At present, competition between big powers in the fields of economics, trade, politics, science, technology, culture and talent is becoming increasingly fierce. Beyond traditional official inter-governmental diplomatic engagement, all sectors of society are seeking new ways to improve inter-state relations. Think tanks with policy influence can play an important role in advancing national bilateral and multilateral relations. In response to this, this session will address the following questions:

- What are the characteristics of big-power competition at present? How does this impact multinational cooperation between think tanks?
- How can think tank cooperation improve national relations?
- What modes of innovative cooperation can think tanks from different countries and regions adopt?

Chair:
Victor GAO, Vice President of CCG

Panelists:
Anthony KIM, Research Manager and Editor of the Index of Economic Freedom, Heritage Foundation
Hao SU, Director and Professor of Center for Strategic and Peace, China Foreign Affairs University
Yaqin YANG, Executive Director of Center for Think Tank Research, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (CTTS)
Naoyuki YOSHINO, Dean and CEO of Asia Development Bank Institute
Xufeng ZHU, Professor and Associate Dean at the School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University
David ZWEIG, Director of Center on China’s Transnational Relations, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

16:00 – 16:20  Wrap-up/Closing Session:

Chair:
James G. MCGANN, Director of Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP),
University of Pennsylvania
Miao LU, Vice President and Secretary-General of the Center for China and Globalization (CCG)
Participated Institutions

Academy of Contemporary China and World Studies
Asia Development Bank Institute
British East Asia Council (BEAC)
Cato Institute
Center for China and Globalization (CCG)
Center for International Political Economy at Peking University
Center for Think Tank Research, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (CTTS)
Center on China’s Transnational Relations, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
China Foreign Affairs University
China Institute for Reform and Development
Index of Economic Freedom, Heritage Foundation
Institute for Public Administration and Human Resources, Development Research Center of the State Council
Intellisia Institution
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
Migration Policy Institute (MPI)
Our Hong Kong Foundation (OHKF)
Pew Research Center
School of International Trade and Economics, University of International Business and Economics
School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University
Schwarzman College, Tsinghua University
The Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House)
Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP)
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Miao LU, Vice President and Secretary-General of the Center for China and Globalization (CCG)
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Summit Partners

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (USA)

Center for China and Globalization (CCG) (China)

Our Hong Kong Foundation (Hong Kong SAR, China)

Penn Wharton China Centre (PWCC) (China)

China Global Talent Society (China)
Think Tanks & Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

The University of Pennsylvania

“Helping to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy”

Researching the trends and challenges facing think tanks, policymakers and policy-oriented civil society groups...

Sustaining, strengthening and building capacity for think tanks around the world...

Maintaining the largest, most comprehensive database of over 8,000 think tanks...

All requests, questions and comments should be directed to:

James G. McGann, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer, International Studies
Director
Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program
The Lauder Institute
University of Pennsylvania
About TTCSP

About the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP)
The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and civil societies around the world. Often referred to as the “think tanks’ think tank,” TTCSP examines the evolving role and character of public policy research organizations. Over the last 30 years, TTCSP has developed and led a series of global initiatives that have helped bridge the gap between knowledge and policy in critical policy areas such as international peace and security, globalization and governance, international economics, environmental issues, information and society, poverty alleviation and healthcare and global health. These international collaborative efforts are designed to establish regional and international networks of policy institutes and communities that improve policy making while strengthening democratic institutions and civil societies around the world.

About the Lauder Institute
The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies offers an M.A. in international studies and conducts fundamental and policy-oriented research on current economic, political and business issues. It organizes an annual conference that brings academics, practitioners and policymakers together to examine global challenges such as financial risks, sustainability, inequality and the future of the state.
The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) is an Ivy League school with highly selective admissions and a history of innovation in interdisciplinary education and scholarship. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of Philadelphia, a dynamic city that is conveniently located between Washington, D.C. and New York. New York the University of Pennsylvania was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1740 to push the frontiers of knowledge and benefit society by integrating study in the liberal arts and sciences with opportunities for research and practical, pre-professional training at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Penn is committed to meeting the full demonstrated need of all undergraduates with grant-based financial aid, making this intellectually compelling integration of liberal and professional education accessible to talented students of all backgrounds and empowering them to make an impact on the world.

TTCSP Recent and Forthcoming Publications:

Think Tanks the New Policy Advisers In Asia (Brookings Press January 2019)
https://www.brookings.edu/book/think-tanks/

Think Tanks Foreign Policy the Emerging Powers (Palgrave 2017)

Think Tanks and Emerging Power Policy Networks (Palgrave 2017)

Trends and Transitions in Security Expertise from Deterrence to Climate Change and Back Again (Routledge November 2017)


Fifth Estate: Think Tanks, Public Policy and Governance (Brookings Press 2016)
https://www.brookings.edu/book/the-fifth-estate/

Think Tanks and SDGs: Catalysts for Analysis, Innovation and Implementation (Lauder/TTCSP 2015)

How Think Tanks Shape Social Development Policies (University of Pennsylvania Press 2014)
http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/15244.html