

Workshop

New dynamics in EU-Asia relations: Between security and geo-economics

17 October 2022

Sala Belvedere - Villa Schifanoia, Via Boccaccio 121 - Florence

Scientific organisers:

Giulio Pugliese | European University Institute, Oxford University and Istituto Affari Internazionali

Thomas Christiansen | LUISS

Johan Adriaensen | Maastricht University

Introduction

The unveiling of an EU Strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, a macro-area that extends from Eastern Africa to the island states of the Pacific and East Asia, suggests that the EU aims to increase its political, economic, and military presence in this mega-region, crucial for both economic and geopolitical reasons. The Indo-Pacific accounts for 62 percent of the world's GDP, it contributes to two-thirds of the global economic growth, and it is a region where China and the United States are engaging in 'intense geopolitical competition'. The area also provides the scene for increasing tensions on trade and supply chains as well as in technological, political and security areas, and represents challenges to the universality of human rights.

This workshop takes stock of recent trends in EU-Asia relations by showcasing current publications stemming from the EU-Asia Security and Trade (EAST) Jean Monnet-funded project as well as EUI's own EU-Asia Project. The workshop will examine the growing economic and security relevance of the Indo-Pacific to European interests, as well as the growing cross pollination between security and economics. Finally, the workshop will assess the likelihood of a sustained EU intervention in the region amidst Russia's war in Ukraine, energy and food crises and the spectre of stagflation.

This event is co-organised with the Istituto Affari Internazionali and Maastricht University.

Programme

14.00 - 14.15 Welcome

Giulio Pugliese | European University Institute, Oxford University and Istituto Affari Internazionali

14.15 - 14.30 Presentation of the EAST Project

Thomas Christiansen | LUISS

Strategic contestation in the Indo-Pacific – Challenges and opportunities for Europe?

14.30 - 16.00 Chair & Discussant: **Catherine Hoeffler** | European University Institute and Sciences Po

Nicola Casarini | Istituto Affari Internazionali

Giulio Pugliese | European University Institute, Oxford University and Istituto Affari Internazionali

Thomas Christiansen | LUISS

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break

A geo-economic turn in EU-Asia trade relations?

16.30 - 18.00 Chair & Discussant: **Bernard Hoekman** | European University Institute

Hanns-Günther Hilpert | Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

Katharina Meissner | University of Vienna

Saori Katada | University of Southern California Dornsife

Dinner for Speakers with introductory speech by **James Mann** | Johns Hopkins SAIS