

Appendix A

Link up with China: Report on the Second Global China Dialogue

Xiangqun Chang

Professor Xiangqun Chang, Director of the CCPN Global academic charity, writes about a recent event run to bring the UK and China closer together

British sociologists and the BSA as ‘honorary organiser’ were important contributors to the only social science event run during the 2015 ‘Year of UK–China cultural exchange’.

This cultural exchange, agreed by the Chinese and British governments, involved a series of artistic and cultural events in both countries. In the first six months the UK organised events in China which reflected its culture, and China did the same in the UK in the rest of the year.

As part of the latter, the Second Global China Dialogue was held at the British Academy on 23 and 24 November, organised by CCPN Global, of which I am Director.

In addition to CCPN Global, the University of Westminster and Fudan University of China, where I hold visiting professorships, were organisers. The BSA and the Chinese Association of World Politics Studies were honorary organisers. Support also came from the Cultural Section of the Chinese Embassy to the UK and the Beijing Office of the British Council, as well as from many other institutions inside and outside of China.

More than 50 academics, politicians, consultants, professionals and entrepreneurs from China and the UK, as well as from France, Belgium, Hong Kong and the USA, gathered together to discuss the theme, ‘Transculturality and new global governance’.

The conference was also the only event in the Year of UK-China Cultural Exchange to have a global focus. It was prompted by the keywords ‘cultural creativity’ which the two countries had adopted when they planned the series of high-level cultural activities in order to promote cultural communication and industrial collaboration, as well as mutual understanding and friendship.

The conference extended this concept to comprise ‘social creativity,’ taking this as an invitation to extend the dialogue between the two countries to have a wider applicability to the global issues that every country must address today.

In the spirit of dialogue, all the sessions included speakers from China and the UK. Xiang Xiaowei, the Minister Counsellor, Culture Section, Chinese Embassy to the UK, opened by posing a number of questions for the participants, such as how an economic development model with a linear structure can be suitable for every country and how global governance can work when countries are so diverse.

‘It showed an event can bring institutions together to build a global society across disciplines and cultures’

Lord Timothy Clement-Jones, Deputy Chair of the All Party Parliamentary China Group, addressed the impact of income inequality and the way this might shape the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. He looked forward to China’s forthcoming chairing of the G20, with its extraordinarily wide agenda in terms of global governance.

Charles Grant, Director of the Centre for European Reform, talked about the European Union’s relationship with China, and what Britain leaving the EU might mean for the EU’s relationship with China.

Professor Martin Albrow, an Honorary Vice President of the BSA, highlighted the aspiration of the conference of enhancing the concepts for mutual understanding that a new global governance would need.

Keynote speeches were given by Professor Bing Zheng, Executive Vice-President, Jilin University and Vice-President of the China Sociological Association, and Professor Kerry Brown, the newly appointed Director of the Lau China Institute, King's College London.

Professor Bing (pictured left) called for “cultural communication and regional co-operation in globalisation” in order to resolve the cultural contradictions between globalism and nationalism, and idealism and utilitarianism. Professor Brown posed the question, “do political elites in China matter anymore?” pointing to the huge increase in the frequency of visits to foreign countries from the time of Mao Zedong to the present.

He said there should be comparative perspectives between China and other countries on the issues of nationalism and national identity and their effects on global governance.

Professor Yu Shuo, founding Director of the Centre for Transcultural Communication at Hong Kong Polytechnic, emphasised that transculturality involved the creation of new possibilities for global governance.

British sociologists contributing included Professor Sam Whimster, of London Metropolitan University, who spoke on the difficulties of transcultural conversation, Professor Scott Lash, Goldsmiths, on China's new ruralism, and Professor Albrow on global governance as public philosophy. Dr Maurizio Marinelli, Co-director of the Sussex Asia Centre at University of Sussex, discussed transcultural discourses on advancing global prosperity.

The closing speech was given by Professor Gil Delannoi, of the Centre for Political Research, Sciences Po, France, on ‘From dialogue to co-operation – building instead of talking’. He suggested that global governance should begin with cooperation at different levels. An institutional framework was urgently required to tackle environmental problems, security, and stability, especially for world markets.

The founding of the *Journal of China in Comparative Perspective* and two book-series by CCPN Global were announced at the event – dual language publications with the aim of bridging the divides between Chinese and Western social science.

I believe the conference exemplified how an event run by a charitable academic organisation can bring mainstream institutions together to build a global society across disciplines, institutions and cultures.

– Xiangqun Chang, sociologist and
social anthropologist, and
Honorary Professor at UCL

Editors' Note: This report was originally published in *Network*, the magazine of the British Sociological Association, Spring, 2016. We have added a subtitle to this Appendix to provide context and clarity.

Appendix B

The Architectonic of Ideas: Xi Jinping's *The Governance of China*

Martin Albrow

Your Excellency, Ambassador Liu, may I thank you first for allowing me the honour and privilege of speaking at the launch of President Xi Jinping's new book. Not just Western countries should welcome this major initiative to communicate the ideas of China's leadership about the direction of a country that will affect all others over the coming century.

To my lasting regret, I have never taken the arduous road that leads to becoming a sinologist. But as a sociologist of global society, I wholeheartedly welcome a book that brings China to the rest of the world, and at the same time offers a huge contribution to understanding between nations and towards cooperation in meeting the global challenges of our time.

There is so much to this book that should lead to new thinking in the West in particular, but in the short time available to me I shall draw three lessons from it.

The very title is a triumph. It is a masterstroke to adopt 'governance' as the leading concept. Though it may be very recent compared with the Chinese idea of *li*, it still has a relatively rich history in Western thought.

To take an English example, a manuscript bearing the title 'The Governance of England' (Fortescue) dates from the 16th century. So the term 'governance' has the merit of predating modern ideological conflicts. Today it enjoys a renewed popularity, I would suggest, because it invites us to examine the relation of government to social order in a spirit free from the preconceptions of the 20th century.

That is the first lesson I draw from this book. It teaches us that to understand the present we have to embrace the past. President Xi evokes China's history and demonstrates how age-old ideas are a motive force in the present, deeply embedded in practices today, even when we don't recognize them.

Western readers may not be surprised by his emphasis on the development of Chinese Marxist ideas, on socialism with Chinese characteristics since Mao Zedong, through Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, to Hu Jintao. They may, however, open their eyes wider when they read the tribute to Sun Yat-sen, who led the revolution of 1911 and is seen as the forerunner of the Chinese democratic revolution. They may expect quotations from Confucius. But they may be startled by the profound reflections on the theme of harmony from a prime minister living over 2,500 years ago.

Ideas live on, and in China they provide both continuity with a prodigiously long and complex history and also the frame for shaping the future. This is the second lesson I wish to draw from this book. It demonstrates how much we should value systematic thought in political leadership.

It brings to my mind a word even older than 'governance', infrequently used today, but exactly appropriate, namely 'architectonic', that is to say, related to building, to making structures, creating an enduring order. The world needs an architectonic of ideas, flexible enough to meet national and global challenges. We have the example here of what President Xi Jinping advocates in his own country and what the world outside in general so grievously lacks.

The West has lost its grip on ideas. They have become a factor of economic production, a key input for the advertising industry, the source of political slogans and the plaything for entertainers. But lost is the belief in a higher ordering of ideas that might provide guidance for our leaders, or in a common frame of concepts for attending to the acute existential problems of the world of today. We have to go back at least a century to Max Weber to find anything meeting this requirement.

Xi Jinping demonstrates that the virtues of Chinese systematic thinking for modern society are not simply a matter of well-chosen quotations from revered sources, though the reader will take pleasure in

the colour and imagery they offer. More fundamental is an underlying drive for systematic interconnect-
edness that characterizes both ancient and modern Chinese thought.

This was recognized in the West as long ago as 1700, when one of its most spectacular minds, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, pointed to the ethical superiority of the Chinese, even if the West had recently surpassed them in scientific advances. It should cause us to reflect on our current awareness of the past when a Chinese President feels the need to remind us that Leibniz was an advocate of mutual understanding between peoples.

The overwhelming thrust of this book is to provide the ideas that will mobilize the mass of the Chinese people in a drive towards national rejuvenation, reform and innovation-led growth. With an implicit nod towards the American equivalent, Xi calls it 'the Chinese dream', but it is a hard-headed, systematic approach to enhancing what he calls national governance capacity, involving the promotion of political stability, economic growth, social harmony and ethnic unity.

The 'dream' involves principles, goals, values and ideals, all expressed in characteristic Chinese enumerations: the 'six Centring-ons' that give the market a decisive role but endorse political and social structural reform to enhance 'the Party's capacity to govern in a scientific and democratic way in accordance with the law'; the 'three Stricts' for Party members, self-development, limiting the use of power and self-discipline; the 'three Earnests', making plans, opening up new undertakings and upholding personal integrity. They fit with the 'three Furthers' for the country: freeing the mind; releasing and developing productive forces; strengthening the vigour of society.

There will be those in the West who scoff at the implausibility of realizing all these goals and standards. They will miss their point. This is an ordered frame of thought required for guiding action and judging achievement. Its application is in the first instance to China, but implied is a general theory of governance, where government is embedded in a wider system of norms, values and common understandings that create the kind of social order where people can go about their lives with purpose and a sense of security.

This leads to the third lesson I draw from Xi's book. The idea of governance prepares us to bring China, the West and the rest of the world together in the idea of global governance. It points to the gross distortion of global affairs when global governance is seen as a matter primarily for the international financial institutions. In the global age, the issues that challenge our existence on this planet call for far more than general agreements on trade.

Xi Jinping affirms China's support for the United Nations, for the Eco Forum Global Conference, for the Millennium Development Goals and for the UN Security Council. China, he says, belongs to a world where exchanges and mutual learning make civilizations richer and more colourful. He calls for partnership, cooperation and mutual development with other nations.

This book encourages us to hope that the ideas behind the governance of China may some time soon be extended to rethinking the governance of the globe. As Mencius said: 'One can never unify the world if the hearts of all the people are not won over.'

Professor Martin Albrow, Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and Honorary Vice-President of the British Sociological Association, Emeritus Professor of the University of Wales, Senior Fellow at the Käte Hamburger Centre for Advanced Studies, University of Bonn, was President of the British Sociological Association, founding Editor of the *Journal of International Sociology*, and Visiting Professors of many universities in the UK, USA and China. His *The Global Age: State and Society Beyond Modernity* (1996) won the Amalfi Prize for pioneering work on social and cultural globalization. Other books include *Bureaucracy* (1970), Max Weber's *Construction of Social Theory* (1990), *Do Organizations Have Feelings?* (1997), *Sociology: The Basics* (1999) and *Global Age: Essays on Social and Cultural Change* (2014).

Appendix C

The launch event of *The Governance of China by Xi Jinping*

As a part of the London Book Fair 2015, the book launch event was held to promote the book *The Governance of China* by Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and President of the People's Republic of China.

The book contains 79 of Xi Jinping's major works, including speeches, talks, interviews and correspondence, dating from 2012 to 2014. It provides readers with deep insights into the concepts and principles of governance of China's new leadership, and will help the international community to learn more about and better understand China's ideas, its path of development, its domestic and foreign policies and its value orientation. The book is published by Foreign Languages Press in Arabic, English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and traditional Chinese.

Guests, experts and scholars from various circles in the United Kingdom and Europe, representatives from China and journalists attended the event by invitation.

Time: 10:00-11:30, Wednesday 15 April, 2015

Venue: Embassy of the People's Republic of China, 49/51 Portland Place, London W1B 1JL

Organizers and chair

- The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United Kingdom
- International Publishing Group and Foreign Languages Press

Chair: Mr NI Jian, Minister and Deputy Head of the Chinese Embassy

Speakers

- Mr LIU Xiaoming, the Chinese Ambassador to Britain
- Mr LU Cairong, Vice-Chairman of China International Publishing Group (CIPG)
- Professor Peter Nolan, Director, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge
- Professor Martin Albrow, Honorary Vice-President, British Sociological Association (BSA), Emeritus Professor of the University of Wales
- Sir John Prescott, former Deputy Prime Minister of the UK
- Lord Geoffrey Howe, former Deputy Prime Minister of the UK

Photographs



*Middle row, left to right: Mr NI Jian, chair of the event, Mr LIU Xiaoming and Mr LU Cairong;
bottom row, left to right: Professor Peter Nolan, Professor Martin Albrow, Sir John Prescott and Lord Geoffrey Howe.*



*Mr LIU Xiaoming presenting Xi's book to Lord Geoffrey Howe (left);
Mr LU Cairong presenting books to Professors Peter Nolan and Martin Albrow (right).*



*Left: professors Peter Nolan and Martin Albrow, Mrs Ingrid Cranfield, Governor of CCPN Global,
and Professor Xiangqun Chang, Director of CCPN Global;
Right: Mr Xiaowei Xiang, Minister Counsellor of Cultural Affairs of the Chinese Embassy,
Professors Xiangqun Chang and Peter Nolan.*

Notes: Source material was provided by the organizers.
CCPN Global recommended academic speakers.