



2021

Australia-China Relations
Institute
澳中关系研究院



UTS:ACRI Annual Report



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Australia-China
Relations Institute
澳中关系研究院

About us

OVERVIEW

The Australia-China Relations Institute (UTS:ACRI) is an independent, non-partisan research institute established in 2014 by the University of Technology Sydney. Chinese studies centres exist in other Australian universities. UTS:ACRI, however, is Australia's first and only research institute devoted to studying the relationship of these countries.

In the past Australia's dominating economic relationships have been with the British Empire, the United States and Japan. Australia's most important trading relationship is now with China, a nation very different in governance, politics and values. As China's economy grows, so too does its strategic weight and the challenges and opportunities this presents to Australia.

UTS:ACRI seeks to inform Australia's engagement with China through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour.



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



From the depths that the relationship between Canberra and Beijing plumbed in 2020, there was no letup in 2021. A recent UTS:ACRI Brief reveals that as we begin a year that marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Australia and the People's Republic of China (PRC), the last time a diplomatic interaction took place involving political representatives on both sides was more than two years ago, in November 2019. And driving home a stark reality that the fallout hasn't just been limited to abandoned meetings and formal niceties, there also appeared to be no end in sight to the ordeal being experienced by two Australians, Yang Hengjun and Cheng Lei, caught up in an opaque judicial system and one subservient to the Communist Party of China.

Yet at the same time, and in a reminder of just how big, broad and complex the bilateral relationship is, the value of two-way goods trade hit a record high. Also defying the pessimism were vibrant arts and cultural exchanges, particularly in the context of a global pandemic that has severely restricted travel.

Amidst this turbulence, UTS:ACRI's mission remained the same and we sought to deliver on it: to inform Australia's engagement with the PRC through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour.

As this annual report documents, the Institute had its most productive year to date on the research front, publishing 33 journal articles, two book chapters, three major research reports, seven conference papers, two working papers, six briefs, 44 commentary pieces, one live timeline and 19 *Perspectives* pieces. We also launched our inaugural UTS:ACRI Poll in conjunction with UTS Business School's Business Intelligence and Data Analytics group. It is the most comprehensive survey of the Australian public on Australia-PRC relations, which we intend to update annually. And each month UTS:ACRI produced its *Australia-China monthly wrap-up*, a summary and analysis of major developments in the bilateral relationship. Given this level of output, it was perhaps not surprising that our expertise was sought out on a daily basis by media outlets, the Australian government and private sector and members of foreign diplomatic corps.

Complementing this core research endeavour were nine public events that brought together leading experts to discuss topical issues in the Australia-PRC relationship.

UTS:ACRI's productivity was only possible because of the support received from a growing network of experts, including 35 research associates located across nearly all UTS faculties and 11 honorary appointees with titles ranging from Adjunct Professor to Adjunct Industry Fellow. The UTS:ACRI Management Committee and Advisory Board also continued to be invaluable sources of original content, oversight, feedback and assurance.

2021 saw notable personal achievements by UTS:ACRI staff. I'd like to congratulate Principal Research Fellow Xunpeng Shi for his promotion by UTS to Professor, and UTS:ACRI's senior researcher Elena Collinson for her recognition by the Philippine Embassy in Australia as one of 75 exceptional Filipino-Australian women exhibiting excellence in their professional fields. The Institute also bid a fond farewell to Janice Febbraio, our fantastically effective, long-serving Head of Strategic Partnerships.

Australians head to the polls in May. A common view espoused is that while there would not be a major shift in Canberra's defensive policy positions towards Beijing under a Labor government, a new leadership team might offer a face-saving opportunity for both sides to take a step back and explore an alternative path to the acrimonious one taken since 2017. On the Australian side this could involve more measured rhetoric, a restoration of diplomacy to centre-stage in the relationship's management and a greater enthusiasm for seeking out positive policy initiatives that engage with the PRC on issues where there is an alignment of interests. Of course, none of this will make much difference if Beijing is unwilling to also adopt a fresh tack.



Professor James Laurenceson
Director, UTS:ACRI

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

At the end of 2021 UTS:ACRI Principal Research Fellow Xunpeng Shi was promoted to Professor by UTS.

In March 2021 UTS:ACRI senior researcher Elena Collinson was recognised as one of 75 exceptional Filipino-Australian women making change by the Philippine Embassy in Australia, in celebration of National Women's Month and the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Australia. The three-year campaign shines a light on Filipino migrant women in Australia from diverse backgrounds and experiences who have exhibited excellence in their respective fields.



OUR PEOPLE



JAMES LAURENCESON

Director



ELENA COLLINSON

Senior Project and
Research Officer



JANICE FEBBRAIO

Head of Strategy
and Partnerships



MING LIANG

Institute Officer



AMY MA

Communications
Officer



THOMAS PANTLE

Project and
Research Officer



XUNPENG SHI

Principal Research
Fellow



MUYI YANG

Researcher

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

UTS:ACRI's Management Committee monitors the Institute's activities and performance, and approves the budget and strategic direction of UTS:ACRI's research and other programs.

The Management Committee is headed by UTS Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Ian Watt and comprises Professor Glenn Wightwick, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation and Enterprise); Professor Kathy Walsh, Finance Discipline Group, UTS Business School; Dr Lai-Ha Chan, Senior Lecturer, Social and Political Sciences Program, School of Communication, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; and Professor James Laurenceson, UTS:ACRI Director.

ADVISORY BOARD

The role of the UTS:ACRI's Advisory Board is to provide advice for the UTS:ACRI Management Committee's consideration.

MR BERKELEY COX

Mr Berkeley Cox is the Chair of the UTS:ACRI Advisory Board and the Chief Executive Partner of King & Wood Mallesons, Australia. He leads the strategic direction of KWM's Australian business and drives execution against firm priorities and on its international, client, people and innovation agenda. Mr Cox became a partner of legacy Mallesons Stephen Jaques in 2001 and managed a successful legal practice covering debt capital markets, funds management, structured finance, securitisation and derivatives including practice in the US in the late '90s when he was admitted to the New York Bar.



PROFESSOR JAMES LAURENCESON

Professor James Laurenceson is Director of the Australia-China Relations Institute at UTS. He has previously held appointments at the University of Queensland (Australia), Shandong University (China) and Shimonoseki City University (Japan). He was President of the Chinese Economics Society of Australia from 2012-2014. His academic research has been published in leading scholarly journals including *China Economic Review* and *China Economic Journal*. Professor Laurenceson also provides regular commentary on contemporary developments in China's economy and the Australia-China economic relationship.



MR ROWAN CALLICK OBE

Author and columnist Rowan Callick worked for almost 20 years for *The Australian Financial Review (AFR)*, finally as Asia Pacific Editor. He was China Correspondent for the *AFR*, based in Hong Kong, from 1996-2000. He worked for *The Australian* from the start of 2006 until mid-2018, twice serving as China Correspondent in Beijing, and also as Asia-Pacific Editor. He continues to write regularly for the newspaper. He was awarded an OBE in 2015 for services to journalism and to the training of PNG journalists.





MR CLINTON DINES

Mr Clinton Dines is the Non-Executive Director of the Port of Newcastle, Freedom Road Travel and Fonterra Cooperative Group Limited. He served as the President of BHP Billiton China from 2001 to 2009. He has extensive frontline operational and commercial management positions in China and was BHP Billiton’s senior country executive in China for 21 years. He also held senior positions at Jardine Matheson Group, Santa Fe Transport Group and Asia Securities Venture Capital.



PROFESSOR JANE GOLLEY

Professor Jane Golley is a Professor at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University. Her research has covered a wide range of Chinese transition and development issues, including industrial agglomeration and regional policy; demographic change and economic growth; household consumption and carbon dioxide emissions, and rural-urban inequalities in education. Professor Golley has published a book on *The Dynamics of Chinese Regional Development: Market Nature, State Nurture*. She is co-editor of the *China Story Yearbook*, produced annually by CIW.



MS YUN JIANG

Yun Jiang is a director at the China Policy Centre, an editor of the *China Story* blog and a researcher at the Australian National University. Prior to this, she has worked for the Australian Public Service for eight years, including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Defence, and Treasury. Her research interests include geoeconomics, cross-cutting issues on China, Australia-China relations, and Chinese-Australians. Yun holds a Master of Public Policy and Master of Diplomacy from the Australian National University (ANU). She speaks Mandarin.



MR PETER OSBORNE

From 2009 to February 2020 Mr Osborne was Managing Director Asia for Blackmores Limited, Australia’s leading ASX listed natural healthcare company. Mr Osborne was responsible for the overall strategy for Blackmores’ growth objectives in Asia. Prior to working for Blackmores, Mr Osborne was Australia’s most senior trade diplomat in China as the Minister (Commercial) and Austrade’s Country Manager for China in the Australian Embassy Beijing. Mr Osborne also previously held Australia’s Senior Trade Commissioner positions in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Taipei.

PROFESSOR RICHARD RIGBY

Professor Richard Rigby is an Emeritus Professor in the College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University. Professor Rigby joined Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs in 1975, where he worked until the end of 2001: postings included Tokyo, Beijing (twice), Shanghai (Consul-General 1994–1998), London, and Israel (Ambassador, 2000–2001). He then joined the Office of National Assessments as Assistant Director-General, responsible for North and South Asia. He was also the Founding Director of the ANU China Institute and Associate Director of the Australian Centre on China in the World.



PROFESSOR WANNING SUN

Wanning Sun is a Professor of Media and Communication in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UTS. She is a specialist in a number of areas, including Chinese media and cultural studies; rural-to-urban migration and social change in contemporary China; and soft power, public diplomacy and diasporic Chinese media. She is the author of three single-authored monographs: *Leaving China: Media, Migration, and Transnational Imagination* (2002); *Maid in China: Media, Morality, and the Cultural Politics of Boundaries* (2009); and *Subaltern China: Rural Migrants, Media, and Cultural Practices* (2014).



DR MERRIDEN VARRALL

Dr Merriden Varrall is Director of the Australia Geopolitics Hub at KPMG, where she provides business-relevant insights into global, regional and local geopolitical trends. From 2014- 2018, Dr Varrall was the Director of the Lowy Institute's East Asia Program, where she is a non-resident fellow. Before joining the Institute, Dr Varrall was the Assistant Country Director and Senior Policy Advisor at United Nations Development Programme, China. Prior to that she worked for the Australian Government Treasury and the Department of Family and Community Services.



DR GARRY WILLINGE

Dr Garry Willinge is Managing Director of Cbridge Limited (HK), a management consulting, corporate advisory, capital markets and leadership development firm. He has interests in companies across a number of sectors around the world and facilitated early stage companies' growth, IPO and exits. He is an Adjunct Professor of Business Studies at Curtin University in Australia and previously served a full term of nine years on the Advisory Board of Curtin Business School. In November 2013, he received an honorary degree of Doctor of Technology from Curtin University.



HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

Through its honorary appointments program, UTS:ACRI values its engagement with research, educational and industry partners.

UTS:ACRI honorary appointments are made in line with the UTS Honorary Titles and Awards Policy.

Adjunct academic titles are awarded to academics from other universities on the basis of their achievements and expertise.

Adjunct industry titles are awarded on the basis of expertise and recognition in business, public sector, not-for-profit, professional or cultural communities.

EMERITUS PROFESSORS

- **Professor David Goodman**, Professor of Chinese Politics, University of Sydney

ADJUNCT PROFESSORS

- **Professor Mark Beeson**, Professor of International Politics at the University of Western Australia
- **Professor Jocelyn Chey AM**, former Australian consul general to Hong Kong
- **Professor Louise Edwards**, Emeritus Professor of Chinese History, School of Humanities and Languages, University of New South Wales and Honorary Professor, School of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Hong Kong
- **Professor Greg McCarthy**, former BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University
- **Professor Tao Xie**, Dean, School of International Relations and Diplomacy, Beijing Foreign Studies University

ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Dr James Cheong, Associate Professor, Hang Seng University of Hong Kong
- Dr Chengxin Pan, Associate Professor of International Relations, Deakin University
- Dr Jingdong Yuan, Associate Professor, Department of Government and International Relations, University of Sydney

ADJUNCT INDUSTRY FELLOWS

- Glenda Korporaal OAM, writer and columnist, *The Australian*

VISITING FELLOWS

- Dr Michael Clarke, Senior Fellow, Centre for Defence Research, Australian Defence College

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

UTS:ACRI endeavours to work with academics in UTS faculties and institutes across a variety of disciplines to help inform contemporary Australia-China relations.

More information about UTS:ACRI's Research Associates Program is available on UTS:ACRI's website.

- Dr Lai-Ha Chan, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Dana Cordell, UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures
- Dr Camille Dickson-Deane, UTS Science
- Dr Kamal Dua, UTS Health
- Dr Michael Fabinyi, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Youguang Guo, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Professor Tim Harcourt, UTS Institute for Public Policy and Governance
- Associate Professor Colin Hawes, UTS Faculty of Law
- Dr Keith Heggart, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Christina Ho, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Professor Andrew Jakubowicz, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Jinchen Ji, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

- Dr Yongjian Ke, UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
- Dr Susie Khamis, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Soojin Kim, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Grace Li, UTS Faculty of Law
- Associate Professor Zhen Luo, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Associate Professor Shiko Maruyama, UTS Business School
- Dr Ofer Mintz, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Hussain Rammal, UTS Business School
- Ms Michele Rumsey, UTS Health
- Dr Suwin Sandu, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Associate Professor Song Shi, UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building
- Associate Professor Natalie Stoianoff, UTS Faculty of Law
- Professor Wanning Sun, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Professor Kathy Walsh, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Jianxin Wang, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Dongbin Wei, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Professor Stuart White, UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures
- Associate Professor Junji Xiao, UTS Business School
- Associate Professor Jingqing Yang, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Yang Yang, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Litao Yu, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Yi Zhang, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
- Dr Liya Zhao, UTS Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

UTS:ACRI offers a research grants program to support the development of research by academics in UTS faculties and institutes across a variety of disciplines that will help inform Australia-China relations.

In 2021, six recipients were awarded UTS:ACRI Research Grants.

- **Associate Professor Colin Hawes**, UTS Faculty of Law, *United States sanctions on Chinese telecom and hi-tech firms, and their impact on Australia-China relations*
- **Dr Yongjian Ke**, UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building, *Public perceptions of Chinese investment in Australian infrastructure: A Twitter study*
- **Dr Soojin Kim**, UTS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, *Alliance or/and enemy? Debunking perceptual antecedents, attitudinal changes and behavioural outcomes toward diplomatic relationships with China*
- **Professor Kathy Walsh**, UTS Business School, *Is Australia ready for China's digital currency? An investigation of benefits, risks and perceptions*
- **Professor Stuart White**, UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures, *Food, diet and sustainability: future trends and opportunities for Australia-China cooperation*
- **Associate Professor Jingdong Yuan**, UTS:ACRI, *Divide and conquer: Beijing's wedge strategies and the fragility of US alliances in Asia*

Grant applications underwent strict and rigorous assessment by the UTS:ACRI Grants Assessment Committee. The Committee is comprised of four academic members with extensive experience and research credentials.

INSTITUTE OPERATING PRINCIPLES

UTS:ACRI is a UTS entity providing rigorous and independent scholarly research and evidence-based analysis of the highest quality to key stakeholders in the Australia-China relationship, including the Australian public.

UTS:ACRI's day to day activities and the strategic actions of the Management Committee and Members are bound by UTS policies and procedures relating to academic integrity, independence and transparency.

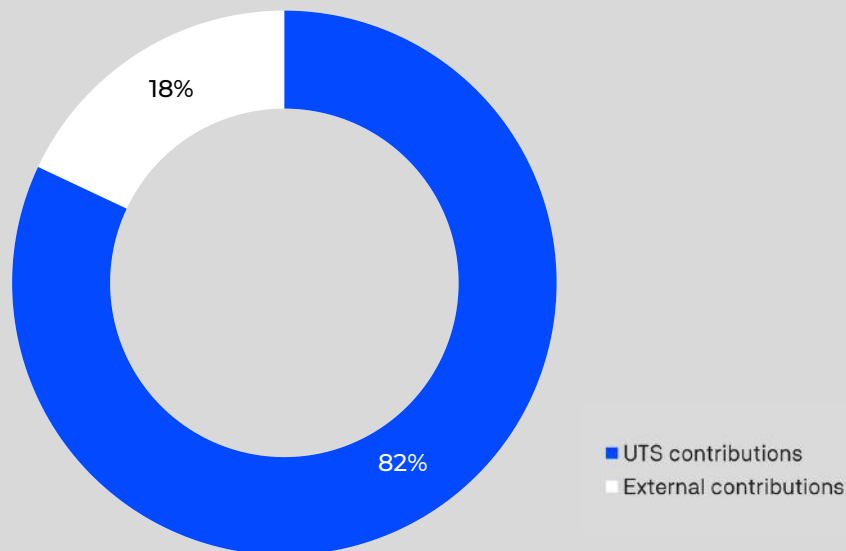
Key UTS policy instruments relating to the work of UTS:ACRI include:

- Code of Conduct
- Expression and Practice of Religious, Political and Other Values, Beliefs and Ideas at UTS
- External Relations
- Gifts and Benefits
- Honorary Titles and Awards
- Invitations and Dignitaries
- Research Management

All policies are available online at:

<http://www.gsu.uts.edu.au/policies/index-a-z.html>.

FUNDING



UTS contributions **\$1,066,262**

82 percent of UTS:ACRI's funding in 2021 was derived from contributions by the University of Technology Sydney.

External contributions **\$234,673**

18 percent of UTS:ACRI's funding in 2021 was derived from industry supporters. Industry contributions were received from the Business Council of Australia, John Holland, King & Wood Mallesons, PwC, Star Entertainment and the University of Birmingham.

UTS:ACRI receives funding from industry partners to support its mission to inform Australia's engagement with the PRC through research, analysis and dialogue grounded in scholarly rigour. Industry partners do not provide strategic direction nor do they shape or influence UTS:ACRI's research and other programs.

Total income **\$1,300,936**

Research & analysis



OVERVIEW

Research is the basis on which UTS:ACRI seeks to inform Australia's engagement with the PRC. By uncovering facts and deepening understanding through undertaking and supporting evidence-based analysis, UTS:ACRI research serves to promote sound public and private sector decision-making, as well as raising the level of Australia-China relations literacy amongst the general public.

Traditional academic output such as scholarly journal articles and conference papers are complemented by a flow of research reports, polls, fact sheets, briefs and commentary pieces that explore contemporary developments.

In 2021 UTS:ACRI published:

- 33 journal articles
- 2 book chapters
- 1 poll
- 3 major research reports
- 7 conference papers
- 11 Australia-China monthly wrap-ups
- 19 Perspectives series pieces
- 1 fact sheet
- 2 working papers
- 6 briefs
- 44 commentary pieces (*see 'Media & Public Commentary' for a full list*)

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

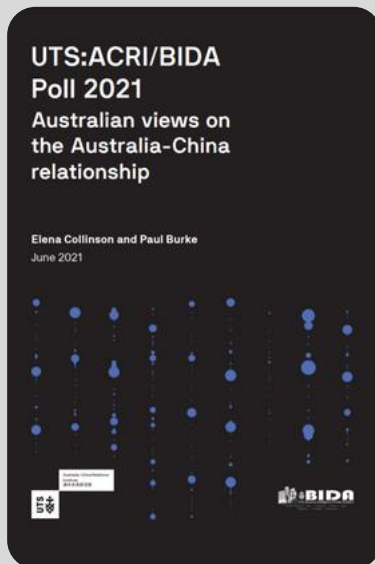
- Jian Yu, Xunpeng Shi, Dongmei Guo and Longjian Yang, 2021. 'Economic policy uncertainty (EPU) and firms' carbon emissions: Evidence using a China provincial EPU index', *Energy Economics*, 94: 105071.
- Xunpeng Shi and Yifan Shen, 2021. 'Macroeconomic uncertainty and natural gas prices: Revisiting the Asian premium', *Energy Economics*, 94:105081.
- Yuhuan Zhao, Ye Cao, Xunpeng Shi, Song Wang, Hua Yang, Long Shi, Hongxian Li and Jianyang Zhang, 2021. 'Critical transmission paths and nodes of carbon emissions in electricity supply chain', *Science of the Total Environment*, 755:142530.
- Hua Yang, Zhengnan Lu, Xunpeng Shi, Isaac Adjei Mensah, Yusen Luo and Weijian Chen, 2021. 'Multi-region and multi-sector comparisons and analysis of industrial carbon productivity in China', *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 279:123623.
- Dong Cheng, Xunpeng Shi and Jian Yu, 2021. 'The impact of green energy infrastructure on firm productivity: Evidence from the Three Gorges Project in China', *International Review of Economics and Finance*, 71:385-406.
- Nan Xie, Hui Hu, Debin Fang, Xunpeng Shi, Shougui Luo and Kelly Burns, 2021. 'An empirical analysis of financial markets and instruments influencing the low-carbon electricity production transition', *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 280:124415.
- Lixia Yao, Philip Andrews-Speed and Xunpeng Shi, 2021. 'ASEAN electricity market integration: How can the Belt and Road Initiative bring new life to it?', *Singapore Economic Review*, 66(1): 85-103.
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- Yan Wu, Xunpeng Shi and Cong Hu, 2021. 'Per capita CO2 emissions divergence influenced by bilateral trade with China under the Belt and Road Initiative', *Sustainable Production and Consumption*, 27:1589-1601.
- James Laurenceson and Jane Golley, 2021. 'The Chinese economy: Crisis, control, recovery, refocus' in Jane Golley, Linda Jaivin and Sharon Strange (eds.), *China Story Yearbook: Crisis*, Australian National University Press.
- Peng Wang, Muyi Yang, Kristy Mamaril, Xunpeng Shi, Beibei Cheng and Daiqing Zhao, 2021. 'Explaining the slow progress of coal phase-out: The case of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Region', *Energy Policy*, 155: 112331.
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- Jian Yu, Xunpeng Shi and Tsun Tse Cheong, 2021. 'Distribution dynamics of China's household consumption upgrading', *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, 58:193-203.
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- James Laurenceson, 2021. 'Australia–China relations through the frame of trade' in Greg McCarthy, Youzhong Sun and Xianlin Song (eds.), *Transcultural Connections: Australia and China*, Springer.
- Elena Collinson, 2021. Book review: 'Our exceptional friend: Australia's fatal alliance with the United States', *Australian Journal of Defence and Strategic Studies*, 3(2): 267–272.
- James Laurenceson, 2021. 'Assessing the risks from Australia's economic exposure to China', *Agenda*, 28(1): 3-26.
- Michael Clarke, 2021. 'Canberra, we have a problem: Interpreting shifting American grand strategy preferences in an era of Sino–US rivalry', *Australian Journal of Politics and History*, 67: 491-515.

POLL



UTS:ACRI/BIDA Poll 2021: Australian views on the Australia-China relationship

Elena Collinson and Paul Burke
June 16 2021

The inaugural annual UTS:ACRI:BIDA Poll 2021, released by the Australia-China Relations Institute and the Centre for Business Intelligence & Data Analytics at the University of Technology Sydney, is the most comprehensive survey of Australian public opinion on Australia's relationship with the PRC to date.

RESEARCH REPORTS



Australia's export mix, industrial base and economic resilience challenge

James Laurenceson, Thomas Pantle, Phillip Toner
and Roy Green
November 3 2021

Commissioned by the Business Council of Australia, this report compares Australia's export basket and industrial base with peer economies over time in order to assess the extent of the economic resilience challenge that Australia stands to face.

Economic reality bites: What Australia needs to know amidst US-China strategic competition

James Laurenceson and Thomas Pantle
November 30 2021

This report identifies four economic realities that are currently being elided in a good deal of commentary and analysis that is heavy on geopolitics and strategic developments involving the US, the PRC and Australia.



Behind the headlines: Why Australian companies are still doing business with China

Glenda Korporaal
December 7 2021

This report features interviews with a range of executives currently doing business with the PRC, including from Blackmores, Fortescue Metals Group, Woodside Petroleum, Treasury Wine Estates, Elders, Lendlease, King & Wood Mallesons and Austrade, asking them about their attitude towards risk, and how they handle the ever-changing situation with regard to the PRC.



CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Xunpeng Shi, 'Benefits and challenges in financing green projects - Some empirical evidence', presented at *Role of green finance in achieving energy security in East-Asia*, Tokai University, January 29 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, 'Policy guidelines and implementation plan for large-scale green hydrogen demonstration projects: Case studies from China', presented at the *Second virtual workshop on 'Hydrogen sourced from renewables and clean energy: A feasibility study of achieving large-scale demonstration in China'*, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, March 23 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, 'Energy security concerns over power system connectivity and policy response', presented at the *Fifth meeting of the expert working group on energy connectivity*, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, May 4 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, 'Have competitive electricity markets rewarded flexible gas generation? Australia's lessons for ASEAN', presented at the *First meeting of ERIA's working group on 'Electricity market reforms in ASEAN, India and China (FY2021 – 2022)'*, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, May 14-15 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, 'Australia's hydrogen development plan', presented at *Accelerating hydrogen for the future: A dialogue between Asia-Pacific and Europe*, International Society for Energy Transition Studies and Global Gas Center, June 16 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, 'Partnership and cooperation for energy transition', presented at the *United Nations ministerial thematic forum on energy transition for the high level dialogue on energy*, June 23 2021.
- James Laurenceson, Thomas Pantle, 'Different histories, shared futures – Can Australia and China learn anything from each other?', presented at the University of Adelaide, September 30 2021.

MONTHLY WRAP-UP

The Australia-China monthly wrap-up is a concise monthly summary and analysis of major developments in the Australia-China relationship.

- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: January 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, February 5 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: February 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, March 4 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: March 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, April 7 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: April 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, May 6 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: May 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, June 7 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: June 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, July 9 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: July 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, August 6 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: August 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 9 2021.

- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: September 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 8 2021.
- Elena Collinson and James Laurenceson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: October 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, November 10 2021.
- Elena Collinson, *Australia-China monthly wrap-up: November 2021*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, December 13 2021.



PERSPECTIVES

Perspectives is UTS:ACRI's commentary series, featuring a piece on a topical subject in the Australia-China relationship from an invited expert contributor.

- Rowan Callick, *The PRC's new year*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, February 4 2021.
- Michael Clarke, *Be careful what you wish for: the risks of taking a punt on the pathway of US-PRC strategic competition*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, March 4 2021.
- Benjamin Herscovitch, *A resilience response to the PRC's economic coercion*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, April 6 2021.
- David Goodman, *Australia's engagement with the PRC: Universities need more, not less*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, May 5 2021.
- Joyce Nip, *Australian racism a vulnerability to the PRC's influence operations*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, May 6 2021.
- John Edwards, *Guarding against assumptions about Australia's national interests*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, May 11 2021.
- Weihuan Zhou, *How much protection does the World Trade Organization provide for Australian barley and wine?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, June 11 2021.
- Maggie Ying Jiang, *Implications of the new wave of nationalism in the People's Republic of China for Australian companies*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, July 15 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, *An Australian perspective on the People's Republic of China's national emissions trading scheme*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, July 21 2021.

- Elena Collinson, *The Australia-PRC relationship: What do Australians think?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, July 23 2021.
- Colin Hawes, *The PRC's fragmented political system: Implications for Australia*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, August 5 2021.
- Michael Clarke, *Power shifts and China choices: Reflections on the Hugh White thesis 10 years on*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 8 2021.
- Elena Collinson, *AUKUS and nuclear submarines - More questions than answers*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 18 2021.
- Andrew Chubb, *Meeting the PRC challenge to academic freedom*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 27 2021.
- Huw Slater, *How committed is the PRC to climate change mitigation?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 28 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi and Muyi Yang, *PRC power shortages, coal and Australia*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 30 2021.
- Greg McCarthy, *National sovereignty, Australia and the PRC: More similarities than differences*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 7 2021.
- Wei Li and Lei Zhang, *The PRC's path to carbon neutrality: Bright future, tortuous road*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 19 2021.
- Elena Collinson, *The new/old benchmarks in Australia's PRC debate*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, November 17 2021.

FACT SHEETS

- Elena Collinson and Thomas Pantle, *Australia-PRC trade and investment developments: A timeline*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney.*

*Note: This factsheet is a live document which is updated when notable developments in trade and investment occur.

WORKING PAPERS

- James Laurenceson and Thomas Pantle, *Australia's export exposure to China: Assessing the costs of disruption*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 9 2021.
- James Laurenceson, *Assessing the risks from Australia's economic exposure to China*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, September 24 2021.



BRIEFS

- Thomas Pantle, *The PRC's use of border blocks on food and beverage imports: Quantifying Australia's position*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, April 9 2021.
- Wanning Sun, *Why apps are a game changer for Chinese-language media in Australia*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 20 2021.
- Wanning Sun, *What are they key misconceptions about censorship in Australia's Chinese-language media?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, October 27 2021.
- Wanning Sun, *How does Australia's Chinese-language media negotiate between Australian and PRC state media?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, November 3 2021.
- Wanning Sun, *What kinds of stories are popular in Australia's Chinese-language digital media?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, November 10 2021.
- Wanning Sun, *What would Australia's public diplomacy agenda stand to gain from engaging with its Chinese-language media?*, Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, November 17 2021.



**Media
& public
commentary**

OVERVIEW

UTS:ACRI experts continued to contribute to analysis of Australia-China relations in the media. They provided comment on various aspects of the bilateral relationship to a range of domestic and international media outlets, including: the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation*, *The Age*, *The Australian*, *The Australian Financial Review*, *BBC News*, *Crikey*, *Daily Mail Australia*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, *NBC News*, *Nine News*, *The New Daily*, *news.com.au*, *SBS*, *Seven News*, the *Straits Times*, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Times Higher Education*, the *South China Morning Post*, *Voice of America* and *The Wall Street Journal*, among others.

UTS:ACRI experts were also regular contributors to a wide range of publications, both in Australia and overseas. The list of published articles, featuring in policy forums and domestic media outlets, appears below.

OPINION PIECES

- James Laurenceson, 'China enters 2021 a stronger, more influential power – and Australia may feel the squeeze even more', *The Conversation*, January 4 2021. (Reprinted in *ABC News*, *South China Morning Post*, *The Canberra Times*).
- Elena Collinson, 'The future of Australia-China relations', *The China Story*, January 21 2021.
- Elena Collinson, 'Australia must continue to press for humane treatment of journalist Cheng Lei after her arrest in China', *The Conversation*, February 9 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'No quick fix from Biden for Australia's China trade woes', *East Asia Forum*, February 16 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Slogan-led strategy isn't working', *The Australian Financial Review*, February 26 2021.

- Dayong Zhang, Qiang Ji and Xunpeng Shi, '国际原油市场风云再起，油价何去何从？ (Where will the oil prices go?)', *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, March 2 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, Muye Yang and Xin Zheng, '有序退煤需要协调处理好三个层次的问题 (Orderly retreat of coal industry needs to deal with three layers of challenges)', *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, March 23 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Costly choices: Establishing the facts of Australia's China policy since 2016', *Australian Outlook*, March 24 2021.
- Elena Collinson, 'Detention of Australians in China', *The China Story*, April 6 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Will the Five Eyes stare down China's economic coercion?', *The Interpreter*, April 15 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, 'COVID-19 and the future of Australian coal', *Policy Forum*, April 28 2021.
- Elena Collinson, 'Time to speak louder on Australians detained in the PRC', *The China Story*, April 28 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'China retaliates: Suspending its strategic dialogue with Australia is symbolic, but still a big deal', *The Conversation*, May 7 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Australia's China supply chain 'vulnerability' – Much ado about nothing?' *Policy Forum*, May 19 2021.
- Muye Yang and Xunpeng Shi, '能源转型之路：通向净零排放 (Paths of energy transition towards net-zero emissions)', *中国石化报 (China Petrochemical News)*, May 28 2021.
- Muye Yang and Xunpeng Shi, 'IEA's global roadmap for net-zero energy emissions: Insights for China', *Ember*, June 4 2021.
- Muye Yang and Xunpeng Shi, '实现碳中和需要包容性、适应性和公平性的能源转型 (Achieving carbon neutrality needs inclusive, adaptive and just energy transitions)', *中国能源报 (China Energy News)*, June 10 2021.

- James Laurenceson, 'Australia's China politics heats up', *The Interpreter*, June 15 2021.
- Muyi Yang, Xunpeng Shi and Alison Candlin, 'Unpicking the knot of coal phase out in China: Insights from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Region', *Ember*, June 21 2021.
- Dayong Zhang, Xunpeng Shi and Qiang Ji, 2021. '油价高涨存在客观基础，但不会动摇油气行业转型的未来 (Rising oil prices would not stop oil and gas industries' energy transition)', *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, July 2 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'No evidence the US has Australia's back in its dispute with China, despite all the rhetoric', *South China Morning Post*, July 23 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Stormy seas surround the Port of Darwin', *Australian Outlook*, July 29 2021.
- Qunwei Wang, Bo Zhou and Xunpeng Shi, 2021. '发挥全国碳交易市场的减排作用需要谨防碳泄露 (A functional national carbon market needs to prevent carbon leakage)', *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, August 10 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Australia's luck in handling Chinese trade coercion', *East Asia Forum*, August 18 2021.
- Qiang Ji, Xunpeng Shi and Dayong Zhang, 2021. '完成新时代中国能源革命，不止于清洁能源 (Achieving China's energy transitions needs beyond clean energy)', *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, August 20 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Why pushing for an economic 'alliance' with the US to counter Chinese coercion would be a mistake', *The Conversation*, September 13 2021.
- Michael Clarke, 'The AUKUS submarine deal: Unanswered questions for Australia', *The Diplomat*, September 22 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, '中央已叫停，运动式减碳为何仍在继续? (Why campaign-style continues despite the Central Government's ban?)', *财经 (Caijing)*, September 24 2021.

- Xunpeng Shi, Dayong Zhang and Qiang Ji, 2021. '能源结构转型需多发挥市场机制的作用 (The transformation of the energy structure needs to give more play to the role of the market mechanism)', 21世纪经济报道 (*21st Century Business Herald*), September 28 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, '能源转型需谨慎探索勇于调整 (Energy transitions need careful exploration and brave adjustment)', 能见派 (*Sina Energy Insights*), October 1 2021.
- Muyi Yang, Xunpeng Shi and Peng Wang, 'Solar power can help solve China's coal power dilemma', *Energy Tracker Asia*, October 5 2021.
- Qiang Ji, Xunpeng Shi and Dayong Zhang, '国际原油价格是否真会继续飙升到百元区间? (Will oil prices increase to over US\$100?)', 21世纪经济报道 (*21st Century Business Herald*), October 12 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'By standing up to China, Australia may end up standing alone', *Fortune*, October 14 2021.
- James Laurenceson and Chengxin Pan, 'Permissible' Chinese military spending, AUKUS, and the security dilemma', *Australian Outlook*, October 15 2021.
- Michael Clarke, 'Back to the future: is 'integrated deterrence' the new 'flexible response?', *The National Interest*, October 23 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi, '充分认识实现“双碳”的代价、挑战和风险 (Deepening understanding of the costs, challenges and risks of China's carbon peaking and neutrality)', 21世纪经济报道 (*21st Century Business Herald*), October 25 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi and Muyi Yang, 'Flexible energy governance is key to China's decarbonisation efforts', *East Asia Forum*, October 30 2021.
- Michael Clarke, 'Turning ghosts into humans: Surveillance as an instrument of social engineering in Xinjiang', *War on the Rocks*, November 2 2021.
- Elena Collinson, 'The new/old benchmarks in Australia's PRC debate', *Australian Outlook*, November 18 2021.

- Mark Beeson, 'The contradictions of the PRC's leadership ambitions', *The Canberra Times*, November 18 2021.
- Xunpeng Shi and Muyi Yang, '减煤的实际行动重于电煤的路径之争 (Actions are more important than the debates on coal phase-out vs phase-down)', *21世纪经济报道 (21st Century Business Herald)*, November 18 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'China trade: the disturbing gap between US rhetoric and reality is emerging', *Pearls and Irritations*, December 1 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Diplomatic boycott of Games is sign of dumbed-down approach to China', *The Age*, December 8 2021.
- James Laurenceson, 'Australia must learn to navigate the economic realities of China relations', *East Asia Forum*, December 21 2021.



Events



Australia-China Relations Institute (UTS:ACRI)

Australia-China: reflections and projections

Thursday February 25 2021

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OVERVIEW

In 2021, UTS:ACRI hosted nine events, the majority of which were delivered online as fully virtual events in accordance with COVID-19 prevention guidelines.

EVENTS LIST

Australia-China: reflections and projections, February 25 2021, UTS Great Hall (pictured)

Panellists Richard Maude, Executive Director Policy at Asia Society Australia and Senior Fellow at Asia Society Policy Institute; Michael Smith, China correspondent for *The Australian Financial Review*; and Wanning Sun, Professor of Media and Communication Studies at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at UTS, joined UTS:ACRI Director James Laurenceson to discuss key economic, political and social developments in the Australia-China relationship over 2020 and touch on what the outlook might be for 2021.

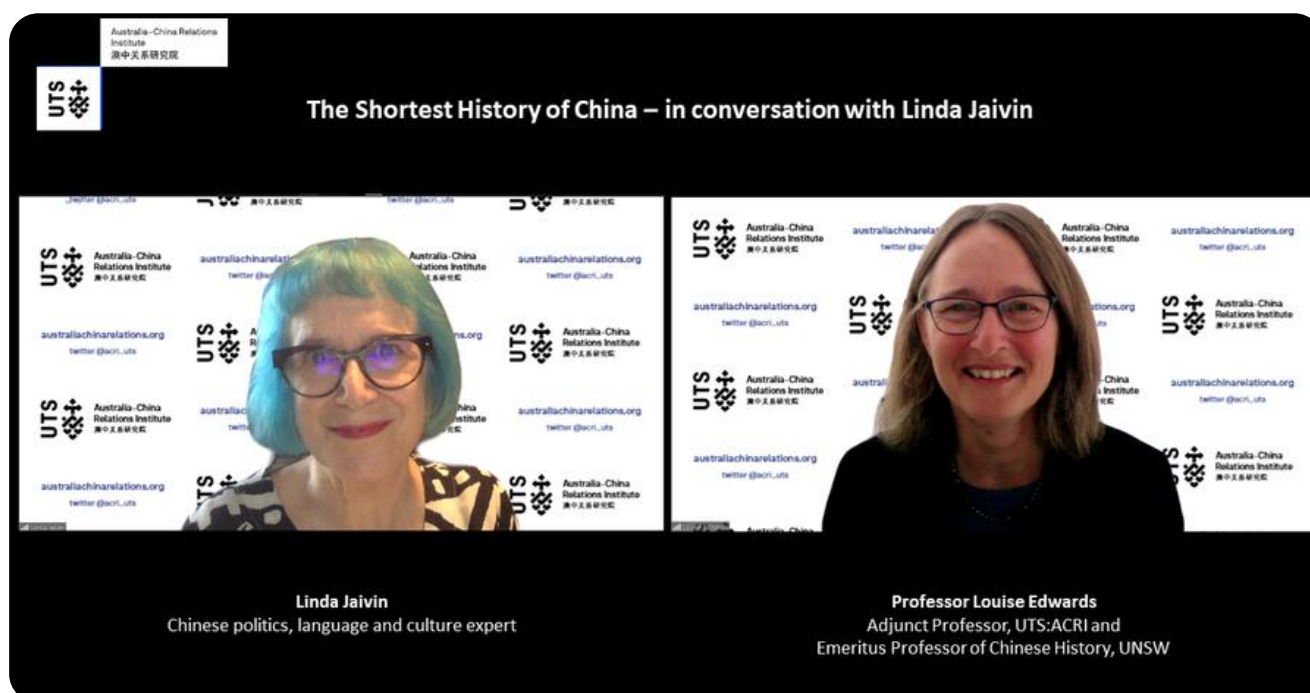


'According to sources...': Unpacking national security reporting in Australia's discussion of the PRC, March 24 2021, online

UTS:ACRI hosted a webinar featuring panellists Professor Monica Attard, Head of Journalism, UTS and former reporter and foreign correspondent for the ABC; and Anthony Galloway, foreign affairs and national security correspondent for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*. They joined UTS:ACRI Director James Laurenceson to discuss the rising prominence of national security as an angle for Australian reporting on relations with the PRC.

The Shortest History of China – in conversation with Linda Jaivin, May 12 2021, online (pictured)

Linda Jaivin, author and Chinese politics, language and culture expert, joined Professor Louise Edwards, Adjunct Professor at UTS:ACRI and Emeritus Professor of Chinese History at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), in conversation to launch her new book, *The Shortest History of China* (Black Inc., 2021). They discussed China's past, its outlook and its ambitions, and what it all means for Australia.

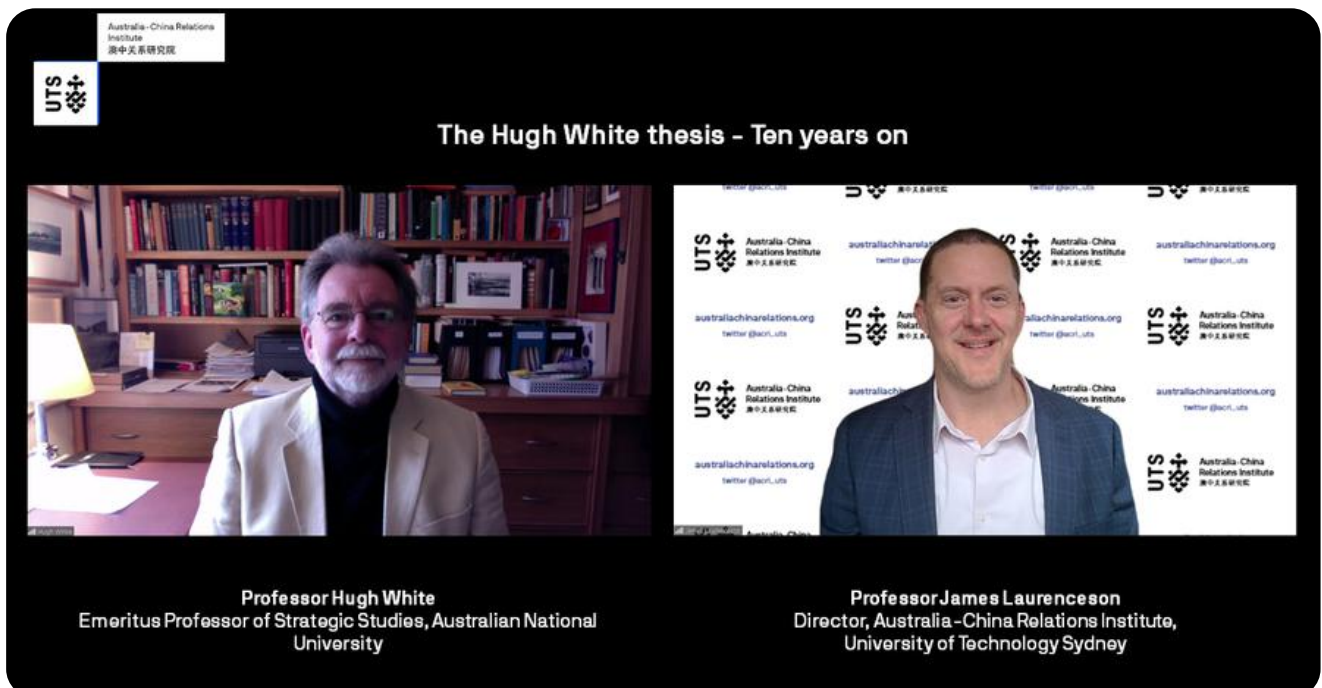


'China Panic: Australia's alternative to paranoia and pandering' – in conversation with David Brophy, June 1 2021, online

Dr David Brophy, author and senior lecturer on modern Chinese history at the University of Sydney, joined Professor David Goodman, Emeritus Professor at UTS:ACRI, in conversation to launch his new book, *China Panic: Australia's alternative to paranoia and pandering* (Black Inc., 2021). Dr Brophy was interviewed on the current state of play in Australia's debate on the PRC, the current trajectory of Australia's PRC policy and recommendations on an alternative way forward.

The Hugh White thesis - Ten years on, August 25 2021, online (pictured)

UTS:ACRI hosted a webinar with Professor Hugh White, Emeritus Professor of Strategic Studies at The Australian National University, in conversation with UTS:ACRI Director James Laurenceson to revisit Professor White's 2010 thesis 'Power Shift: Australia's future between Washington and Beijing', published in the *Quarterly Essay*. Their discussion touched on critiques of 'Power Shift'; the PRC challenge to US strategic primacy in the region; developments in the US-PRC relationship over the past decade; a comparison of Australia's policy approach to the PRC with those of its regional neighbours; how Australia is positioned amidst increasing US-PRC competition, among other topics.



AUKUS, nuclear submarines and Australia-PRC relations, October 12 2021, online (pictured)

Glenda Korporaal, UTS:ACRI Adjunct Industry Fellow and columnist for *The Australian*, led a discussion with Professor Allan Gyngell, National President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs and former Director-General of the Office of National Assessments; Professor Caitlin Byrne, Director of the Griffith Asia Institute at Griffith University; and Dr Jingdong Yuan, UTS:ACRI Adjunct Associate Professor and Associate Professor at the University of Sydney, on the AUKUS trilateral security partnership within the context of Australia's relationship with the PRC.

PRC climate and energy policies: status, trends, implications for Australia, November 4 2021, online

Professor Zhongxiang Zhang, Director of the China Academy of Energy, Environmental and Industrial Economics, gave a presentation on the PRC's climate commitments, including an assessment of its efforts to achieve carbon neutrality; the effectiveness of its recently-launched national emissions trading scheme; and the future of the PRC's domestic coal power. The event was chaired by Professor Stuart White, Director of the Institute for Sustainable Futures at UTS.



Inside the 'black box' of Chinese-language media in Australia – in conversation with Wanning Sun, November 17 2021, online (pictured)

Wanning Sun, Professor of Media and Communication Studies at UTS and UTS:ACRI Advisory Board member joined Hamish McDonald, former Asia-Pacific Editor at *The Sydney Morning Herald*, in conversation for a deep-dive into Chinese-language media in Australia. The discussion centred on the findings of a series of five UTS:ACRI briefs on Chinese-language media in Australia authored by Professor Sun.

Behind the headlines: Why Australian companies are still doing business with China - Report launch, December 7 2021, online

UTS:ACRI launched the report *Behind the headlines: Why Australian companies are still doing business with China*. Author Glenda Korporaal, UTS:ACRI Adjunct Industry Fellow and columnist for *The Australian*, delivered a presentation based on the report's main findings and participated in a wide-ranging discussion with Kristy Carr, Chief Executive Officer of Bubs Australia Limited; and Dr Merriden Varrall, UTS:ACRI Advisory Board member and Director of the Australia Geopolitics Hub at KPMG, on a panel moderated by Professor Tim Harcourt, UTS:ACRI Research Associate and Industry Professor and Chief Economist at the UTS Institute for Public Policy and Governance.





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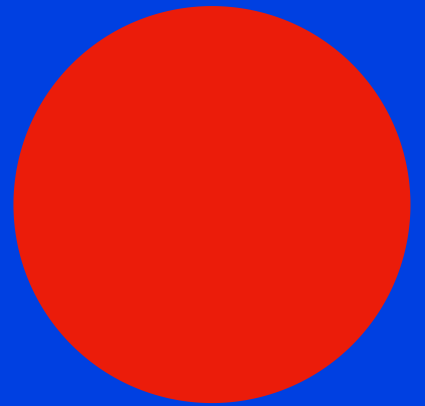
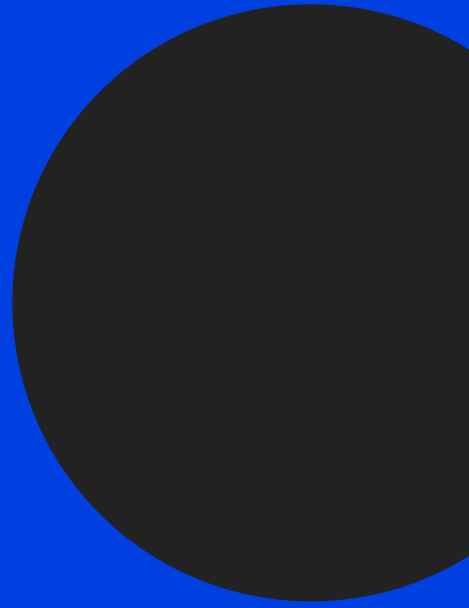
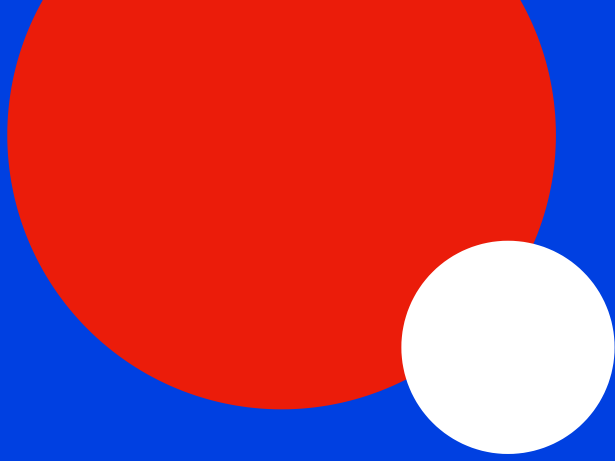
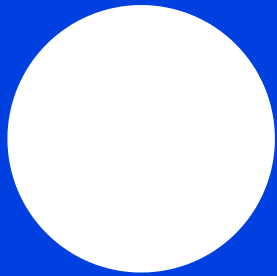
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