

## Roundtable 7

# China-CEE Cooperation under OBOR: Sharing Opportunities and Forging Synergies

**Organizer:** School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University

**Co-organizer:** Latvian Institute of International Affairs

Estonian Foreign Policy Institute

Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI)

**Host:** Zhang Ji



## Zhang Ji

Deputy Director of Center for French Studies, Fudan University

### Introduction of the Host

Zhang Ji is Associate Professor of School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Deputy Director of Center for French Studies, Fudan University. He is the council member of Shanghai Institute for European Studies, “Shanghai Pujiang Expert”, and reviewer of several academic journals including *Chinese Journal of European Studies* and etc.. His research interest includes diplomacy studies, European studies, French Foreign and Security Policy, Chinese Foreign and Security Policy etc. He was a visiting scholar at Sciences Po. Paris in 2008-2009. His recent publications in Chinese include: *Two-way dynamics of Europeanization: France and Common Security and Defense Policy of European Union* (2014), *National Security Councils of the Major Countries* (2014), *“China-EU Cooperation under the One Belt One Road Initiative: From a Two-level EU Perspective”* (2015), *“Despecialization of the Sino-French Strategic Relationship”* (2013), *“The Decision-Making System of China’s Foreign Policy”* (2013). He was invited to participate the EU-China ( 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> round), UK-China (4<sup>th</sup> round) High Level People-to-People Dialogue, and the 7<sup>th</sup> round of U.S.-China High level Consultation on People-to-People Exchange.

## • Theme Interpretation •

As one of the headmost regions positively responded to “One Belt One Road” (OBOR) Initiative, Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries has become the pioneer of Sino-European cooperation under OBOR. The boosting comprehensive cooperation between China and CEE countries under OBOR, from infrastructure construction and productivity cooperation to people-to-people exchanges, has injected new vitality into the established “16+1” cooperation mechanism. The abundant early-stage achievements and deepening synergies of development strategies are striking, while the risks and challenges faced by both sides as well as their potential influences on strategic relationship among major powers in Eurasia also cannot be ignored.

This Roundtable Conference will focus on the China-CEE Countries cooperation and synergies under OBOR Initiative

and deeply discuss following issues:

- The synergies already produced or can be created between OBOR and the development strategies of the CEE countries
- Cooperation at different levels, from regional, sub-regional to national: respective priorities as well as the trans-national and trans-level cooperation and competition
- Challenges, obstacles, risks may occur and how to address them
- Eurasian implications of China-CEE Cooperation under OBOR: the relations with EU, Russia, NATO...
- Policy implications and recommendations