



Exeter-Fudan Global Thought Network Symposium

17 – 19 June 2026

University of Exeter, Streatham Campus, Exeter, UK

Wednesday 17 June (Laver Building, 320)

9:00 – 9:30 | Welcome and coffee

9:30 – 9:50 | Opening remarks

- **Gareth Stansfield** (Professor of Middle East Politics and Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, University of Exeter)

9:50 – 11:00 | Special Session—Exeter Research Centres: Strengths and Opportunities for Collaboration

Chair: Gareth Stansfield

- Gemma Clark – Centre for Imperial and Global History
- Sajjad Rizvi – Global and Area Studies
- Tiago de Melo Cartaxo – Exeter Centre for Environmental Law
- Andrew Schaap & Bingshu Zhao – Centre for Political Thought
- Yue Zhuang & Shunran Tu – Global China Research Centre
- Panel Q&A (20 mins)

11:00 – 11:30 | Break and group photo

11:30–13:00 | Panel 1 – Knowledge Systems, Science, and Intellectual Exchange

Chair: Catherine Owen, University of Exeter

- Transmedia Literature as Knowledge Platform: Aspects of Intercultural Meaning-Making



Sandro Jung, Distinguished Professor

Department of English Language and Literature, Fudan University

- Disability rights and inequalities in higher education: A comparative study of Indonesia and England

Lauren Stentiford, Senior Lecturer in Education

HASS, Education, University of Exeter

- Cognitive Linguistics Meets Science Museums

Susana Afonso, Associate Professor of Language, Cognition and Society

HASS, University of Exeter

- The Absence of “Civilisation”: A Discussion of the Chinese Translation of Joseph Needham’s Book Title

Jia Xu, Associate Professor

School of Journalism, Fudan University

- Inclusive Capital and Nineteenth Century Education of the Blind in China and the US: A Comparative Historical Analysis of Agnes Gutzlaff and Kate Foley

Simon Hayhoe, Associate Professor of Special Educational Needs

School of Education (HASS), University of Exeter

- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

13:00–14:30 | Lunch

14:30–15:45 | Panel 2 — Environmental Governance and Ecological Thought

Chair: Yue Zhuang, University of Exeter

- How Can China Possess the Best Infrastructure in the World? Short-term Incentives and Long-term Fiscal Challenges

Ping Zhang, Associate Dean

School of International Relations and Public Policy, Fudan University

- Negotiating Universality: UNESCO Biospheres and the Epistemic Flow between North and South

Tiago de Melo Cartaxo, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Law

Humanities and Social Sciences, Cornwall, HASS, University of Exeter

- Can Locally-Grounded Nature-Based Solutions Rejuvenate Democracy? Exploring the role of the law in reconnecting citizens with their water ecosystems

Severine Saintier, Professor of Commercial law & **Isabelle Rueda**, Senior Lecturer in



Law

HASS, University of Exeter

- Trees, Timber and the Ontological Logics of Heritage in China: Cosmology, Cultural Authenticity and Multiple Temporalities
Yining Fu, PhD candidate (online)
Art History and Visual Culture, University of Exeter
- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

15:45–16:15 | Break

16:15–17:30 | Panel 3 — Landscapes, Gardens, and Spatial Imagination

Chair: Sandro Jung, Fudan University

- As a cultural and spiritual homeland: Kunqu Peony Pavilion: The Young Lovers' Version
Yanli Liang, Professor
School of Chinese Language and Literature, Fudan University
- Knowledge of Garden Plants in Ancient China: A Study of "History of Irrigating the Garden" (Guanyuan shi 灌園史)
Sen Yang, PhD Candidate
Languages, Cultures and Visual Studies, University of Exeter
- Garden Poetics and Imperial Identity: The Qianlong Emperor and the Studio of the Painted Boat
Yue Zhuang, Associate Professor of Chinese and Landscape Humanities
Languages, Cultures and Visual Studies, University of Exeter
- Semi-colonial Aesthetics and Cultural Cosmopolitanism of the Shanghai War Memorial (1924–1943)
Yannan Ding, Associate Professor
Institute of Chinese Historical Geography, Fudan University
- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

19:30 – late | Dinner @ Cote Brasserie, 19–21 Cathedral Yard, City Centre, Exeter EX1 1HB



Thursday 18 June (Laver Building, 320)

09:00 – 09:30 | Welcome and coffee

09:30–11:00 | Panel 4 – Politics, Governance, and Global Order

Chair: TBD

- Street-Level Discretion in a “Triple-high” Bureaucracy: How Rules, Politics and Informality Shape Frontline Agency in China
Catherine Owen, Associate Professor of International Relations
HASS Cornwall, University of Exeter
- Between the South and the East: Chinese Outbound NGOs under Institutional Pluralism
Jie Wu, Associate Professor, School of Journalism
School of international relations and public affairs, Fudan University
- Can a Free West Live with the ‘Rest’? Republicanism as the Building Bloc of a Post-Western International Order
Kevorg Oskanian, Lecturer in International Relations
SPSPA, University of Exeter
- Ideological Debate and the Dynamics of Stigma: China’s Attitude toward Liberal Democracy since 1978
Caice Jin, PhD Candidate
SPSPA, University of Exeter
- Nationality Regulation in Postcolonial Malaysia: Law, Policy, and the Federal Constitution
Vadim Atnash, Research Fellow
HASS, University of Exeter
- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

11:00–11:30 | Break

11:30–12:45 | Panel 5 – Empire, Mobility, and Transnational Histories

Chair: Andrew Schaap, University of Exeter

- From migration to transformation: The case of contemporary Cornish heritage in Mexico
Katy Humberstone, Mexican Diaspora Research Lead



Languages, Cultures, and Visual Studies / Institute of Cornish Studies,
University of Exeter

- Russo-English envoys to the Soviet cultural world
Emily Lygo, Senior Lecturer
LCVS, University of Exeter
- Parliamentary Empire: Understanding Settler Democracy and its Legacies
David Thackeray, Professor of British and Imperial History
Department of Archaeology and History, University of Exeter
- The racial identity, the Australian Labour Movement and the Decline of Imperial Federation from 1910 to 1921
Chuanyou Zhou, PhD Candidate in History (online)
Department of Archaeology and History, University of Exeter
- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

12:45–14:00 | Lunch

14:00–15:30 | Panel 6 – Identity, Society, and Cultural Values (I)

Chair: Yannan Ding, Fudan University

- Moral tales and ancient wisdom in Rome and China
Rebecca Langlands, Professor of Classics
Classics, Ancient History, Religion and Theology, Humanities and Social Sciences,
University of Exeter
- The Concept of the Maritime, or How to Decolonize the Uncolonizable with Hegel and Coleridge
Yi Wu, Assistant Professor of Philosophy
School of Philosophy, Fudan University
- Decolonizing English Medium Instruction in Higher Education: Challenging Linguistic Imperialism and Western Curricula through Global Englishes
Nicola Galloway, Director for Global Engagement
HASS, Education, University of Exeter
- ‘Covering for Family Members’ in a Comparative Light: Familial Love, Uprightness, and Utility
Bingshu Zhao, Postdoctoral Research Associate
SPSPA, University of Exeter



- Parrhesia and Sanctity: A Comparative Study of Thomas Becket and Yue Fei in Their Historical Contexts
Shunran Tu, PhD Candidate
History, University of Exeter
- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

15:30–16:00 | Break

16:00–17:15 | Panel 7 – Identity, Society, and Cultural Values (II)

Chair: Jie Wu, Fudan University

- (Not) Return to Work: A comparative study of Chinese stay-at-home mothers' narratives in Shanghai, Singapore, and New York
Xiao Mei, Associate Professor
School of Social Development and Public Policy, Fudan University
- Civility and Exemplary Citizenship in Contemporary China. The Micro-politics of Altruism
Andrew Schaap, Associate Professor of Politics
HASS Cornwall, University of Exeter
(co-authored with Dr Chayma Boda, EHESS, Paris)
- Everyday Politics of Democratic Management: Women's Trade Union Participation in Post-Socialist Daqing, Northeast China
Lemeng Shi, PhD student
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Exeter
- Rethinking Youth Culture Beyond Western Frameworks: Rural Chinese Youth's Social Media Practices as Situated Cultural Production
Yuanya Zhang, Postdoc Researcher
School of Education, University of Exeter
- Panel Q&A (15 mins)

17:15–17:30 | Closing remarks

- **Sandro Jung**, Distinguished Professor
Department of English Language and Literature, Fudan University
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Friday 19 June (Laver Building, 320)

Global Thought Network Workshop:

Next Steps — Recognising success and planning for the future

09:00 – 09:30 | Welcome coffee and pastries

9.30-9.50 | Introduction

Four broad areas for discussion and overview of funding & collaborative opportunities for the network

Chairs: Yue Zhuang, Andrew Schaap, Catherine Owen

10:00-10.45 | Break out discussions (participants to self-select)

- Global and Area Studies, Facilitator Sajjad Rizvi
- Knowledge, Heritage and World Literature, Facilitator Yue Zhuang
- Governance, Institutions and Societies, Facilitator Catherine Owen
- Joint Education Initiatives and Student Mobility, Facilitator Andrew Schaap

Groups will explore ideas for joint projects, publications, funding, seminar series, reciprocal visits of staff and PhD students, joint/dual programmes.

10.45-11.30 | Report back & identify key actions

11.30-11.45 | Close