



CALL FOR PAPERS

CHINA AND CENTRAL EUROPE: SUCCESS OR FAILURE?

Call for English language, country-specific papers to be published in a study volume. The volume will be edited and published by the Center for Strategic and Defense Studies (National University of Public Service (NUPS), Budapest, Hungary). The volume reviews the political, economic and institutional, 16+1 based relationship of China and 10 Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries between 1989 and 2017 from the perspective of the following CEE countries: Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

The volume will contain 10 country-specific reports, each 40.000 characters long. Seeking best quality and most suitable form, the authors will be local experts of the CEE countries who ideally deal with the foreign policy of their country and with Chinese foreign policy issues, selected through a competitive process. Each author is fully responsible for the content of his/her own chapter.

Interested potential authors need to submit a 500-word-long abstract via E-mail to the editor by December 1, 2017, outlining the key theses that he/she deems important to include in the paper in line with the proposed structure of the papers (see below). The editor will be a Hungarian expert of China-CEE relations, Dr. Tamás Matura (Corvinus University of Budapest), responsible for the coordination of the work of the authors (tamas.matura@gmail.com). All applicants will be notified via E-mail by December 15, 2017 and selected contributors will also be informed about the due process of contracting.

Authors will receive a symbolic financial compensation: a gross amount of ca. 460-480 EUR (depending on the HUF/EUR exchange ratio), for which all related author's and copyrights are to be transferred to NUPS. The formal requirements of the single papers are listed below (Guidelines for authors). The volume will be published in English in 2019.

Important milestones / deadlines of the 1st & 2nd phase: Country-specific studies

September 1 – December 1, 2017:	Identifying and contacting prospective authors
December 15, 2017:	Contracting authors and coordinating writing
April 1, 2018:	Submission of manuscripts, 1 st review begins
May 15, 2018:	Manuscripts are returned to authors
June 15, 2018:	Submission of finalized papers
July 30, 2018:	2 nd review finished, manuscripts finalized

3rd phase: Comparative studies

Based on the country-specific chapters, comparative studies will be written, complementing the original country studies, i.e. on the relations of the Visegrád countries with China. These will be published as part of the study volume.





Conceptual starting point (as exemplified by Hungary):

Chinese-Hungarian relations have undergone a profound change since Hungary's accession to the EU. Before 2004 China was not a major foreign policy partner to Hungary. Following the country's accession to the European Union however, political and economic relations with Beijing have been gaining significance year by year. Today Budapest nurtures strong political ties to Beijing while economic cooperation is more profound than ever before. The 16+1 framework was forged in Budapest in 2011 and launched in Warsaw in 2012. The regional cooperation with China has experienced fast and steady development, however, the further expansion and deepening of the framework is questionable.

Research question:

It seems that EU and non-EU members of the CEE region have different achievement with and different approaches towards China. It is a major question, how the political and scientific discourse in the CEE countries see the relationship with China? Is it a success or a failure? How could the cooperation be further developed? What are the main obstacles, and what are the most promising opportunities? Does China play a geopolitical role in the region, or is it simply a business minded actor?

Proposed structure of papers:

1. *Bilateral political relations since 1989*

- Shared and converging interests in the bilateral context;
- Diverging interests in the bilateral context;
- Unresolved disputes and problematic issues;
- Public opinion and domestic rhetoric towards China;
- 'Rivals' of China as a great power partner in the region: Russia / U.S. / Germany;
- Pointing out if and how things have changed since accession to the EU (where appropriate).

As a general approach, chronological overview of the processes and trends is desirable, highlighting important milestones, turning points and breaks.

2. *Economic relations since 1989 (please provide data where possible)*

- Commercial (export-import) relations (high/low exposure vis-à-vis China);
- Trends in commercial relations: is China's share increasing or decreasing, especially since accession to the EU, or the share of Chinese FDI of the total FDI in the given country?
- Chinese foreign direct investments and company ownership structure in respective CEE countries;
- Chinese banking sector activity and financial cooperation.

3. *Policy field-specific relations*

- The role and importance of 16+1 (if applicable);





- Cooperation with China in the context of the EU and EU-China relations;
- Support or opposition towards China's opportunistic business activities in Europe;
- Future prospects: more or less China?
- The Market Economy Status: pros and cons from the national point of view.
- ...

5. Conclusions and outlook: What factors may further enable developing closer ties with China (if deemed desirable) in the next 5 years?

Submission deadline for abstracts: December 1, 2017 (tamas.matura@gmail.com).

Please indicate your institutional affiliation and position, also providing E-mail and telephone contact together with the abstract.

