

One Belt, One Road Can China's ambitious plan to reshape world trade succeed?

Oxford Analytica Conference Call
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'One Belt, One Road' has emerged as the signature foreign policy initiative of the Xi Jinping administration. It envisions a vast, Chinese-built transportation network spanning inland Eurasia and coasts of the Indian Ocean.

The 'Silk Road Economic Belt' comprises railways, roads and logistics facilities that connect China to Europe via Central Asia, with branches extending to Pakistan, Iran and the Caucasus. The '21st Century Maritime Silk Road' is a series of ports around the Indian Ocean Rim.

To fund the initiatives, Beijing has established an Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), in which numerous US allies are now participating -- which is seen as a diplomatic defeat for Washington.

China's motives are economic: developing its impoverished western regions, generating new overseas demand to support domestic industries struggling with overcapacity, and ultimately boosting exports by cutting freight costs.

But the implications are also geopolitical: the 'belt' will open inland trade routes that are insusceptible to pressure from the US Navy, while controversial new port facilities may lay the foundation for China to establish a blue-water naval presence of its own.

- What opportunities will 'One Belt, One Road' create for foreign investors?
- What are the risks for China? What challenges will it encounter?
- Which industries and countries will benefit most, and which will lose out?
- Will Chinese political influence follow where the transportation routes lead?
- How will Russia react to a greater Chinese presence in its 'backyard'?
- Looking further ahead, what does it mean for China if 'One Belt, One Road' fails? And what does it mean for the world if it succeeds?

Please join us on Thursday, **26th May 2016 at 15:00 UK time** to discuss these issues among others with a panel of Oxford Analytica's expert advisors.

Chair

Paul Maidment, Director of Analysis and Managing Editor, Oxford Analytica

Paul Maidment joined Oxford Analytica in December 2014 as the Director of Analysis and Managing Editor of the Oxford Analytica Daily Brief.

He is an award-winning journalist who founded the New York-based digital editorial consultancy Bystander Media in 2010. A pioneer in combining digital and print journalism, he was previously Editor of Forbes.com and Executive Editor of Forbes, transforming a magazine website into the leading online destination for business, finance and up-scale lifestyle. Before joining Forbes in 2001, Paul was the founding Editor of the Financial Times' award-winning web site FT.com and Assistant Editor of the newspaper. His early career as an editor and foreign correspondent encompassed The Economist, the Asian Wall Street Journal and the BBC in the U.K. the U.S. and Asia — a depth of journalistic experience and breadth of media that gives him a unique perspective on the changes transforming publishing and the world economy. Paul was inducted into the Digital Hall of Fame in New York in 2010.

Panellists will include:

Rana Mitter, Deutsche Bank Director of the China Centre, Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China, University of Oxford

Deutsche Bank Director of the China Centre at the University of Oxford, where he is Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China. He is the author of several books, most recently *China's War with Japan, 1937-45: The Struggle for Survival* (Penguin, 2013: North American title *Forgotten Ally*) which was named a Book of the Year in The Economist and the Financial Times and won the RUSI Duke of Westminster's Medal for Military Literature 2014. He is a regular presenter on BBC Radio and comments in media around the world.

3

Vanessa Rossi, Advisor on Global Economics and Finance, Oxford Analytica

Advisor in global economics and finance in Oxford Analytica; formerly Senior Research Fellow at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House. Vanessa Rossi has extensive experience within private, government and academic sectors including the European Commission and senior roles with consulting groups in the UK and Germany. Her previous positions include the Research Director for Swiss Bank Corporation, London, and Director of International Economics, Oxford Economics; also graduate researcher at Princeton University and extensive range of publications and media work.

Nuriya Kapralou, Economic Consultant, Contributor to Oxford Analytica on Russia/CIS

Contributes research to the Russia/CIS section of OA since 2010. She is currently working as an Economic Consultant for a range of clients in insurance, real estate and shipping. She was born and raised in Kazakhstan, where she also started her career working for a United States Agency for International Development. She subsequently moved to UK, where she worked for 7 years for ING Bank corporate finance department structuring transactions for large European and CIS corporates.