

# 2019

## SIS Annual Report



上海国际问题研究院

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## | President's Message



Time keeps rolling on. Looking back at 2019, the world is undergoing unprecedented transformation in a century. Fundamental changes are taking place in the global strategic environment. The global governance system is reorganizing and rebooting with gathering momentum.

***The international strategic landscape is undergoing profound transformation amid growing uncertainty and instability due to intensified strategic competition between major powers.*** The rise of the East and the relative decline of the West adds to the strategic anxiety of Western powers. The foreign policy of the United States pivots again to major-power competition by strengthening strategic containment of China, stepping up efforts to isolate Russia, and trying to divide major countries into ideological camps. Major European countries and the European Union are pursuing power politics and a higher level of strategic autonomy, leading to aggravated conflicts within the alliance with the United States.

***Right-wing populism is gaining ground while digital economy is registering a rapid growth, bringing about opportunities of development as well as risks of decoupling between countries.*** On the one hand, economic globalization magnifies the intrinsic problems deeply seated in the political and economic system of Western powers, embodied by a widening social gap and political polarization, and is being used by right-wing populists to stir up anti-globalization thinking such as protectionism and neo-isolationism. On the other hand, since the onset of digital economy era, the international architecture of production, innovation and competition is restructuring at a faster pace. Balkanization is emerging in cross-border data management in the global digital economy system. Technology is being linked directly with national security with the resurgence of techno-nationalism. The global network of technological cooperation and industrial coordination is facing the risk of breakage and a crisis of fragmentation is arising in front of an open economy system.

***Deteriorating strategic environment leads to a dividing and weakening global governance system.*** Some major powers are showing decreasing political will for cooperation and start cutting back their contribution, resulting in insufficient capacity and a trust deficit in the multilateral governance system. It is evident that existing global governance system finds it difficult to adapt to a world characterized by political multi-polarization, economic globalization, IT application, cultural diversity as

well as a burgeoning round of technological revolution. A new concept of global governance featuring fairness and justice, extensive consultation, joint contribution and governance by all is to be formulated through concerted efforts and will guide the right way to carry out reform for an optimized global governance system.

Despite all challenges, the trend of global governance is unstoppable. It will respond to the overwhelming trend of globalization featuring enhanced connectivity, and never be blocked by any anti-globalization forces in the long run. The ecological environment as well as political and economic security architecture have become more fragile than ever since human beings enter the Anthropocene. It is only through better coordination of the international community and a strengthened global governance system can human society achieve a sustainable development.

***The most pressing task faced by global governance is how to improve its system and elevate its governance capability. A new cycle of global governance agenda is therefore in the making and a reform is gaining momentum.***

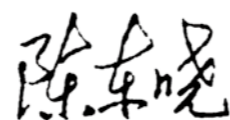
***Firstly, multipolar and diverse actors are joining in and providing new impetus to the reform of global governance system.*** The West-centered world is beginning to unravel. With enhanced capability to improve the existing system and creating new governance mechanism, emerging powers and developing countries increasingly constitute a new driving force for reform. Sub-national actors, enterprises and other social sectors continue to make contributions in the global governance network and play a key role in implementing sustainable development agendas such as climate change. International and regional organizations, NGOs are also serving as an indispensable bridge and bond in providing expertise and promoting coordination.

***Secondly, diverse governance concepts are offering new source of ideas and lessons for global governance.*** For example, the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank are attaching greater importance to designing tailor-made development plans based on local conditions at different times. Instead of adopting one-size-fits-all measures, they advocate to match policies and regulations with actual needs, which is proven to be a better approach to raise the level of cooperation and governance.

***Lastly, emerging challenges and crisis are in turn spurring reform efforts.*** For one thing, all sorts of problems are coming to the fore, including ecological environment crisis such as climate change and global warming, dysfunctional international trade system and a handicapped WTO, international public health emergency triggered by a pandemic outbreak, strategic stability of cyberspace, open cooperation of digital economy, and the implementation of sustainable development agenda. For another, risk awareness of the international community is on the rise. More and more governments and private sectors are marshaling collective efforts to combat climate change. Consensus and momentum are building for carrying out WTO reform. Countries are communicating in-depth to establish rules for digital economy. The new round of technological revolution is offering new means and methods to solve global issues. Summits themed on sea, sustainable transportation and biodiversity to be convened in 2020 by the United Nations are bringing in more efforts to achieve the goal of sustainable development.

We have reason to believe that, after some time of restructuring and momentum gathering, global governance based upon multilateralism will thrive with greater vitality.

Chen Dongxiao  
President of SIIS



# 2019

▶ in Review



Looking back at 2019, the world is undergoing unprecedented transformation in a century and China is in a critical period of realizing the great rejuvenation.

In 2019, by focusing on the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, SIIS further enhanced its capability of providing policy recommendations, conducting academic research, organizing foreign exchanges, leading public opinion, and building innovative platforms so as to better serve China's overall diplomacy and municipal foreign affairs in Shanghai. Excellent results have been achieved.

### 1. Providing Policy Recommendations

In 2019, SIIS took concrete steps in providing consulting for the national and local governments. SIIS conducted a series of strategic and forward-looking research on such priority issues as the major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristic; Belt and Road Initiative; new frontier in global governance, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau affairs and Shanghai's development, and provided more than 250 policy reports to government officials, which were well-received and highly praised.

### 2. Conducting Academic Research

In 2019, SIIS kept on making steady progress in conducting academic and theoretical research. SIIS has undertaken a total of 57 research projects, including task-forces from the National Social Science Fund of China, the Shanghai Planning Office of Philosophy and Social Science, and occasional projects from various government departments, committees and agencies. In 2019, SIIS published 8 monographs and more than 30 papers in core journals. 14 research papers were reprinted by the *Xinhua Digest*, *China Social Science Excellence*, and the *Chinese Social Science Digest*. In 2019, SIIS also launched two research reports in cooperation with her international counterparts, namely, *Perspectives on the Global Economic Order in 2019*, co-published with the Center for

International and Strategic Studies (CSIS), and *BRI in Oman as an Example: the Synergy of Infrastructure Digitalisation and SEZs*, co-published with the China Investment Research.



SIIS Publications in 2019

### 3. Organizing Foreign Exchanges

International exchanges have always been one of the major tasks of SIIS. In 2019, SIIS received 268 delegations from various countries and international organizations, including Mr. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, former president of Iceland, Prof. Tijjani Mohammad-Bande, then president-elect of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly, and many other distinguished guests. A total of 33 academic conferences were held in 2019, such as the conference on the '70 Years of China's Diplomacy: Review, Inspiration and Prospect', 'Arctic Circle Forum China Sub-Forum', '2019 CIEE Sister Cities Cooperation Forum', 'CIEE's Dividends: Toward a Better Business Environment in Yangtze Delta', and the '2019 Round Table of Global Review: Centennial Changes, Regional Order and China's Diplomacy'. In 2019, SIIS also established closer working relationship with her foreign counterparts, creating a network for think-tanks cooperation on the basis of eight BRI Think-tanks Nexus Programs. In June, SIIS organized a delegation from the Yangtze River Delta think-tanks to visit Russia and participated in the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum. In September, the SIIS delegation visited Nepal and called on senior officials such as Madhav

Kumar Nepal, Central Secretariat & Standing Committee Member Chief of Department of Foreign Affairs of NCP and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Gyawali, Minister for Foreign Affairs, in an effort to gain first-hand information for president Xi Jinping's visit to Nepal. Also in September, SIIS, in cooperation with CSIS Indonesia, organized the international workshop on 'Building Regional Security Architecture in Asia/Indo Pacific' and international conference on 'Relationship between China and Asia/Indo-Pacific Countries & the Taiwan Question'.



Mr. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, former president of Iceland, delivers a speech in SIIS.

#### 4. Leading Public Opinion

In 2019, SIIS continued to serve as a resource for the interested citizens in order to help them better understand the world and the China's foreign policy by providing opinions on websites, WeChat account, and other media platforms. In 2019, SIIS dedicated herself on strengthening the ability to have her voice heard on the world stage. When China-U.S. relations is at the time of great uncertainty, SIIS, together with the Shanghai Foreign Affairs Office and other institutions, launched the photo exhibitions under the theme of 'Trans-pacific Exchange and Cooperation: Shanghai Commemorates the 40th Anniversary of

China-U.S. Diplomatic Relations' both in Shanghai and in Houston. After riots broke out in Hong Kong, SIIS research fellow Dr. Zhang Jian was invited to the press conference held by the State Council Information Office and the conference of UN Human Rights Council to give speeches on the current situation of Hong Kong.



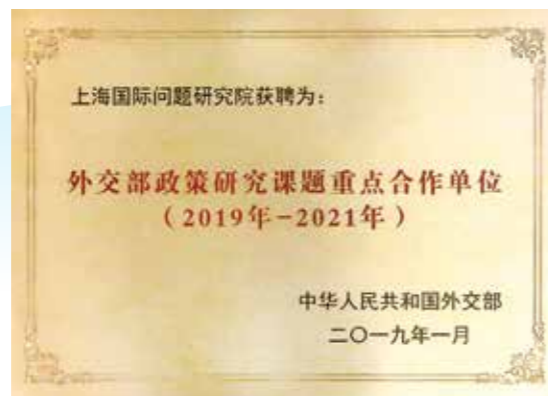
Dr. Zhang Jian, research fellow of SIIS, attends the press conference held by the State Council of Information Office.

#### 5. Building Innovative Platforms

In 2019, in the spirit of pursuing excellence, SIIS reformed the working mechanism by building up a host of innovative research platforms in order to cater for the new research tasks and requirements.

In 2019, SIIS was appointed as the 'Key Institute of Policy Research Projects of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs', which is the fourth time that SIIS has won this honorary title. For the sake of this, SIIS set up a series of new research platforms and so far has made great achievements. For example, the Center for BRI and Shanghai, in cooperation with the Shanghai University, jointly published the *Annual Report on Shanghai's Role in BRI Implementation*; the newly-established Center for World Political Parties, featuring comparative studies on political parties worldwide, has made progress both in academic research and network building; the Center for Cyberspace International Governance, established last December, has made achievements in international cooperation and

providing policy suggestions; the Research Platform on People-to-people Diplomacy has carried out a series of activities and launched the fourth Book on people-to-people diplomacy; the Shanghai Institute for International Organizations and Global Governance, which was established by SIIS and the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, has been ranked high as a university-affiliated think-tank through its excellent teaching and academic efforts; the Center for China's Major Countries Diplomacy, focusing on commemorating the 70th anniversary of the founding of PRC, held a host of activities with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Shanghai Association of Social Sciences..



SIIS is appointed as the 'Key Institute of Policy Research Projects of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs'

## Outlook for 2020

In 2020, China will fulfill the 13th Five-year Plan and formulate the 14th Five-year Plan, which marks the decisive victory to build a moderately prosperous society in an all-round way. Also in 2020, the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies will celebrate her 60th anniversary.

In 2020, SIIS will make her own medium-and long-term plan so as to further enhance its capability to serve China's overall diplomacy and municipal foreign affairs in Shanghai.

**First, SIIS will concentrate on five key research focuses.** After years of efforts, SIIS has established all-encompassing programs of international studies. In the future, on the basis of the previous research, SIIS will try to build a number of research highlands with characteristic, especially in the following five major areas: 1. the theory and strategy of diplomacy with Chinese characteristics; 2. China's neighbouring security order and relations among major countries; 3. the theory and strategy of national unity; 4. the theory and strategy of global governance; 5. Belt and Road Initiative and sustainable development.

Base on these five key researches focuses, taking consideration of the general trend of world development in 2020 and China's diplomatic tasks, SIIS will dedicate herself on the study of seven issues in 2020: 1. the trend of global affairs that have direct implications on mainland China, including the situation of the United States, Europe, neighbouring countries, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, the United Nations, etc.; 2. the major strategic and theoretical issues, such as the community with a shared future for mankind, the development and transformation of the multilateral summits, the construction of the standard system of Belt and Road Initiative, the strategic stability of global powers, the building of regional economic security order, the new triangle relations, etc.; 3. the host diplomacy and summit diplomacy; 4. the new frontiers of international governance, such as digital economy, internet, arms control, ocean and polar research; 5. upholding China's sovereign integrity, security, and interests of development; 6. the cooperative research on global public health and security; 7. the city-diplomacy of Shanghai.



**Second, SIIS will broaden her talent pool.** In 2020, SIIS will set the cultivating and training of talents as one of the major targets and constantly optimize the working mechanism so as to provide support of the above-mentioned five research focuses. SIIS will attract and train more cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary talents who specializes in digital economy, international economic law, arms control, new media, and new strategic frontiers. SIIS will also consolidate her talent reserves of regional and national studies, including the study of Southeast Asia, South Asia, Europe, and so on.

**Third, SIIS will strengthen field studies.** To fulfill the research tasks, we need to think of China from the perspective of the whole world and vice versa. That is to say we need to look at the parts from the overall situation and weigh the current circumstances by taking into the consideration of its future development. This requires researchers to get out of the ‘ivory tower’ and do more field study so as to better understand the real society and make better policy prescription. In 2020, SIIS will continue to facilitate research fellows to ‘go out’ to conduct more field study on international and domestic affairs.

**Fourth, SIIS will further consolidate her cultural foundation.** The core value of SIIS is ‘Perfection and Innovation; Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism’, which embodies the Shanghai City Spirit of ‘Tolerance and Diversity, Pursuit of Excellence, Enlightened Wisdom and Humility’. The year 2020 marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of SIIS and SIIS will be more confident to overcome difficulties and more determined to make bigger progress so as to celebrate the anniversary with greater achievements.

# 2019

▶ Highlights



## Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of PRC

The 70-year diplomacy of the People's Republic of China is a historical process of continuous practice innovation and theoretic building. Under the correct and strong leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, China's diplomacy has maintained the priority of safeguarding the core national interests, upheld the guidance of the Chinese version of Marxism and stuck to the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics. While adhering to the independent diplomacy of peace and autonomy and advancing national interests, China has consciously shouldered the responsibility of establishing a new type of international relations and building a community of shared future for mankind. China has contributed Chinese wisdom and solutions to such causes as maintaining world peace, advancing international multi-polarization, holding the key to development and improving global governance. In the coming three decades, China needs to consolidate the foundation of major-power diplomacy, improve its capability and will, give full play to its international leadership role, deepen its strategic thinking and maneuvering, and strengthen its theoretic system building, in an effort to carve out and expand a new horizon for the major-power diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.



On August 27, 2019, the Conference on '70 Years of China's Diplomacy: Review, Inspiration and Prospect', instructed by Shanghai Foreign Affairs Office and co-organized by SIIS and the Shanghai Society of International Relations, was held in the Jin Jiang Grand Hall.



On September 29, 2019, SIIS distinguished researchers were conferred the 'Honorary Medal for Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of PRC'.







On October 16, 2019, SIIS and the Shanghai Society of Social Sciences co-organized the conference on ‘Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of PRC: the Theoretical Innovation of Chinese Diplomacy in the Changing World’.

## China-U.S. Relations

2019 marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States. When Sino-U.S. relations encounter difficulties, we need even more groundbreaking thinking to find a new balance. Today, China-U.S. relations are at a new historical juncture, which requires us to re-examine the common interests and challenges faced by the two countries and redefine our common responsibility for maintaining the stability of the entire world economic system. Only in this way can we come out of the trap of zero-sum game. China-U.S. relations, at her 40th, should bear in mind three things: first, looking ahead and see the general trend clearly; second, seizing the opportunity and avoid being bewildered by the temporary difficulties; and third, managing the differences between the two countries in a constructive way.

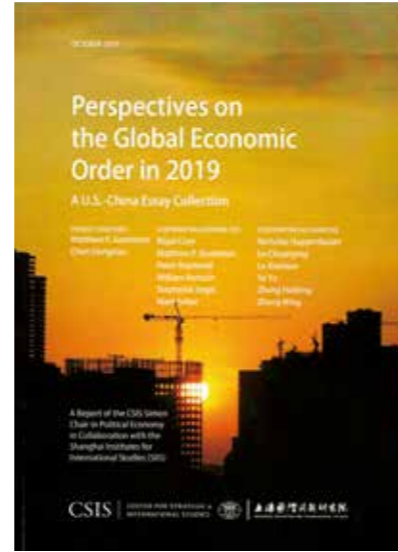


On July 3, 2019, SIIS, in collaboration with other institutions and agencies, organized the photo exhibition under the theme of ‘Trans-pacific Exchange and Cooperation: Shanghai Commemorates the 40th Anniversary of China-US Diplomatic Relations’.





In 2019, SIIS and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) maintained a close working relations and conducted in-depth research on U.S. policy towards China and the future of China-U.S. relations. SIIS and CSIS jointly published a report on Perspective on the Global Economic Order in 2019.



On October 17-19, 2019, SIIS and the Shanghai Institute for International Strategic Studies co-hosted the conference on 'China-U.S. Relations: Meet the Challenges of the New Era'. Prof. Thomas Christensen from the Columbia University, Dr. Mary Gallagher from the Michigan University, Dr. Steve Miller, chief editor of the National Security, Dr. Jonathan Pollack from the Brookings, Mr. Daniel Rosen form the Rhodium Group, Dr. Andrew Scobell from the RAND Cooperation, Dr. Scott Snyder from the Council on Foreign Relations, and Dr. Michael Swaine from the Carnegie attended the conference.



On December 5 and 6, 2019, SIIS, in collaboration with the International Economics and Finance Institute of Ministry of Finance and the Center for Strategic and International Studies, co-hosted the 9th China-US Dialogue on the Global Economic order in Beijing. The dialogue was participated by senior representatives from three organizers, and Peking University, University of International Business and Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Shandong University of Finance and Economics, China Center for International Economic Exchanges, China Development Bank, State Administration of Foreign Exchange Investment Center, Ministry of Finance, Boston University, Johns Hopkins University, Syracuse University, Covington and Burling, LLC, Scowcroft Group, and the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum.



## China-Russia Relations

Since China and Russia/Soviet Union established diplomatic relations 70 years ago, the scope of cooperation between the two countries has expanded from the traditional fields such as energy and aerospace to emerging fields such as electronic communications, big data, transportation and logistics, and agricultural trade. Currently, China and Russia cooperation are starting to bear fruit in large aircraft manufacturing, e-commerce, Arctic exploitation and governance. President Xi pointed out that both China and Russia shoulder the important task of national rejuvenation. In the new era, the development of the China-Russian comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership should adhere to the concept of people-oriented, so that every individual can enjoy the dividends and be the beneficiary of Sino-Russian cooperation at all levels.



On March 22, 2019, SIIS, in collaboration with other institutions, hosted the conference on ‘70 Years of China’s Diplomacy and China-Russia Relations: Review and Outlook’.



On June 5-12, 2019, SIIS president Chen Dongxiao led a delegation to visit Russia. The delegation attended the 13th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum and met with experts from the Moscow University, Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, Moscow State Institute of International Relations and have discussions on the changing international order and its future, major power relations, China-Russia comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership, and future cooperative agendas between China and Russia.



## China-Europe Relations

Since the founding of the PRC, China-Europe relations, though having twists and turns sometimes, have generally maintained a steady and upward momentum of development. After China's reform and opening up, under the principle of equal treatment and mutual benefit, China and Europe, by carrying out pragmatic cooperation, have made efforts to build a partnership of peace prosperity, progress, and cultural respect. In a world of great changes unseen in a century, China and the Europe, as two major political and economic entities in the world, should learn from the experiences of mutual exchanges in the past 70 years with a strategic vision, seek common ground while reserving differences, abandon zero-sum game thinking, treat each other on equal footing, and tap into the potential of their comparative advantage so as to benefit the ordinary people, and strive to build a community with a shared future.



On 21 June, 2019, SIIS hosted a workshop on 'China-CEECs Cooperation - Past and Future'. Consul General of Czech in Shanghai, Mr. Vassilis XIROS, Consul General of Greece in Shanghai, Mr. Dejan MARINKOVIC, Consul General of Serbia in Shanghai, Mr. Angel GEORGIEV, Vice Consul General of Bulgaria in Shanghai, and officials from Consulates General of CEECs countries in Shanghai attended the workshop.



On July 10-19, 2019, a delegation led by SIIS president Chen Dongxiao visited Belgium, France, Germany, and the European Commission.



On July 29-30, 2019, SIIS and the EU-EAC Jean Monnet Network co-organized the workshop on 'China-Europe-Africa Cooperation in the Changing Global Order: Opportunities and Challenges'.



## China-India Relations

China-India relations have been on the track of steady progress since the Wuhan summit. China and India are both emerging powers with many shared interests, which requires both countries to maintain good relations amid rising global uncertainties. On October 11-12, 2019, at the invitation of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, president Xi Jinping visited Chennai in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu to attend the second informal summit. The summit turned out to be a great success in that both countries mapped out the direction and path for the bilateral relations in the next decades, reflecting the far-sightedness of the two top leaders on China-India relations and current global and regional situation.



On May 24, 2019, the delegation of the National Defence College of India led by Major General Harkirat Singh visited SIIS. Prof. Yang Jiemian, Chairman of SIIS Academic Affairs Council hosted the meeting. The two sides exchanged views on the current geo-political situation in the Middle East and China-India relations etc. Prof. Li Weijian, senior fellow of the Center for West Asian & African Studies, Prof. Liu Zongyi, secretariat general of the Center for China-South Asia Cooperation, Prof. Jin Liangxiang, Dr. Zhang Weiting and Mr. Zhou Yiqi from the Center for West Asian & African Studies participated in the discussion.



On September 18-22, 2019, SIIS delegation visited India and called on the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, Observer Research Foundation New Delhi and Kolkata Offices, Vivekananda International Foundation, Institute of Chinese Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Centre for Land Warfare Studies. The scholars exchanged views with senior diplomats, retired generals, experts and academics regarding China-India relations, India's economic and social development, changes in the global and Asia-Pacific situation, and regional security architecture, and so forth.



## China's Relations with Neighbouring Countries

After the 18th CPC National Congress, China grasped the general trend of the overall domestic and international situation, put forward a host of new ideas and initiatives with Chinese characteristics, promoted a series of important diplomatic practice, thus forming the Xi Jinping's thought on Diplomacy that provides a guidance for great power diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era. The neighbouring areas not only shaped the outside environment of China, but also serve as the starting point of China's diplomacy. Under the overall planning of president Xi Jinping, the theory and practice of China's foreign policy towards the neighbouring countries embodies both inheritance and innovation, forming an important part of Xi Jinping's thought on Diplomacy.



On September 2-12, 2019, the SIIS delegation led by vice president Yan Anlin visited Indonesia, Singapore and Vietnam.



On September 15-26, 2019, the SIIS delegation led by president Chen Dongxiao visited Nepal and Myanmar.



On December 18-19, 2019, the Third Conference of CICA Non-governmental Forum was held in Chongqing. SIIS hosted the roundtable on Security Situation and Security Architecture in Asia with the theme 'Asian Security Cooperation: A Region in Transformation and Missions Ahead'.

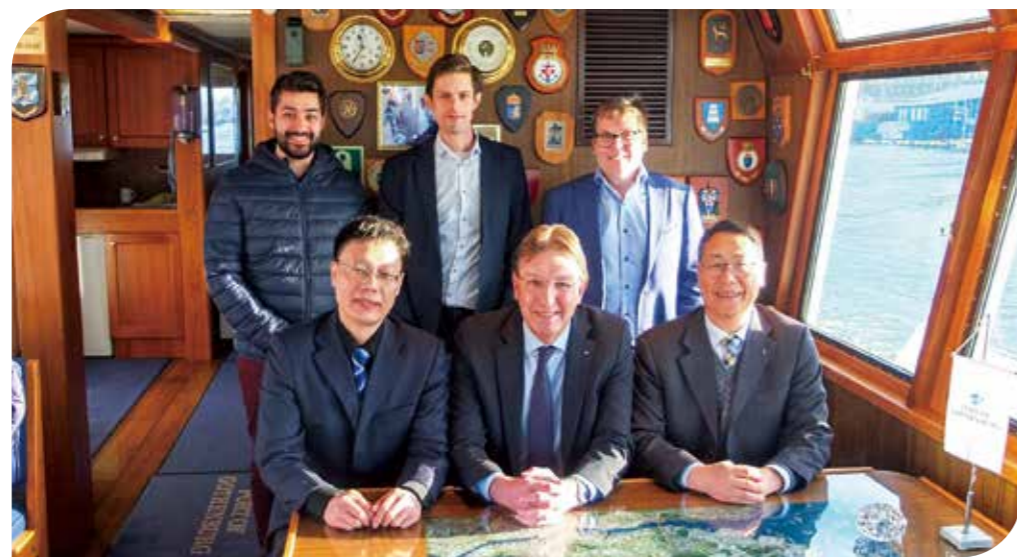


## Global Governance and New Frontier



Since the beginning of the 21st century, the international society has been fraught with challenges. Global issues, such as terrorism, economic crisis, transnational crime, pandemics, climate change, are emerging. At the same time, the interests of countries are complex, intertwined, and sometimes in contradiction with each other. So the traditional and emerging powers need to push aside the struggle for power and work together to deal with issues. The international society as a whole, especially the major powers, have unshirkable obligations and responsibilities to deal with increasingly prominent financial and economic problems, traditional and non-traditional security issues, and to carry out the proper utilization

and management of new frontiers. After the global financial crisis in 2008, the Chinese government formally adopted the concept of global economic governance for the first time; in 2012, the report of the 18th CPC National Congress adopted the concept of global governance; at present, China is already an important participant, builder and supporter of global governance and an active contributor to promote the multilateral governance system.



On January 15-24, 2019, the SIIS delegation visited Finland, Sweden and Norway and called upon the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, Gothenburg Port Authority, and attended the 13th conference of Arctic Frontiers held in Tromsø, Norway.



On February 21-22, 2019, SIIS and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung co-held the International Conference on 'Global Climate Governance and China's Role: Between Katowice and New York'. Participants had in-depth discussion on the results of COP 24, collective adaptation efforts and merging security challenges from climate change, just transition and global structural transition, the UN system of climate governance, and the outlook of the 2019 UN Climate Summit.

On March 28-29, 2019, SIIS and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation co-sponsored the '2019 SIIS African Forum'. The conference was attended by 15 foreign representatives from international organizations such as the United Nations, the African Union and the African Development Bank, as well as participants from Ethiopia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Gambia.







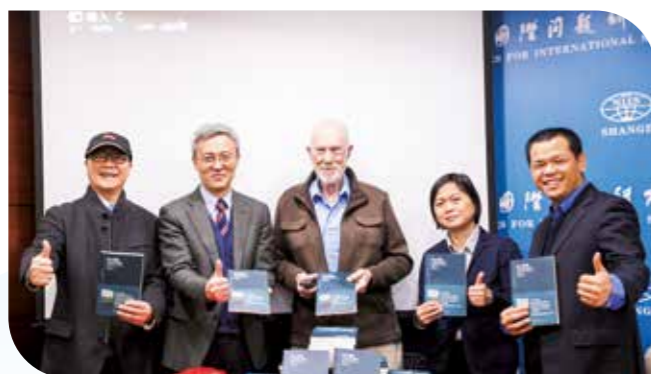
On May 12, 2019, H.E. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, Chairman of the Arctic Circle, former president of Iceland, visited SIIS and delivered a speech entitled ‘The Global Arctic within the New International Framework’.



On July 6, 2019, Prof. Tijjani Mohammad-Bande, president-elect of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly, led a delegation to visit the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies. Prof. Chen Dongxiao, president of SIIS, and Prof. Yang Jiemian, chairman of SIIS academic affairs council, met with the delegation.



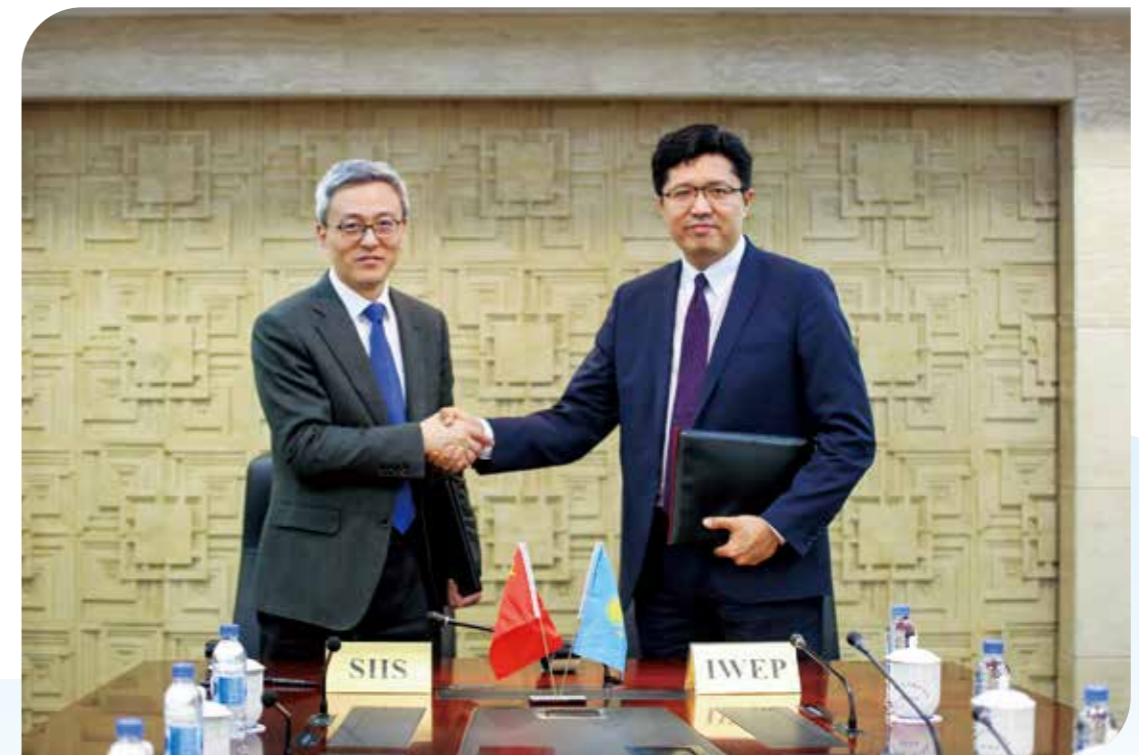
On September 9-10, 2019, SIIS held the 5th International Roundtable on Military Cyber Stability.



On December 9, 2019, SIIS held the Launching Ceremony of *Governing Complex Systems: Social Capital for the Anthropocene* and the seminar on ‘New Agenda & New Challenges of Global Governance’.

## The Belt and Road Initiative

The Belt and Road Initiative is a grand project. While promoting regional cooperation and high-quality development, China and other countries along the route should actively exchange and learn from each other, and jointly build the theoretical support of BRI in order to establish a theoretical paradigm for its long-term development. In 2019, China put forward that ‘idea is the forerunner of action’. Therefore, it is of practical and theoretical significance to build a set of ‘high-quality co-construction concept’ that conforms to the fundamental interests of countries in the BRI, meets the requirements of an open world economic system, and helps the international community to forge consensus. The concept of ‘high-quality co-construction’ should reflect the new concept of international development cooperation, and it should include at least three dimensions: first, ‘fitness’ should be taken as the practical guiding principle of the ‘high-quality co-construction’; second, ‘system balance’ should be taken as the core goal of the ‘high-quality co-construction’; third, ‘institutional cooperation’ should be taken as the key path of the “high-quality co-construction”.



On February 25, 2019, SIIS, in collaboration with SASS Institute for International Studies, and the Institute of World Economics and Politics, co-held the international conference on ‘China-Kazakhstan Cooperation under the Framework of BRI’. SIIS and IWEP signed MoU after the conference.





On April 16, 2019, SIIS and the Shanghai Academy published the *2018 Annual Report on Shanghai's Role in BRI Implementation*. The report is the first study of Shanghai's participation in BRI.



Highlights in 2019



On May 28, 2019, SIIS held the launching ceremony of *Belt and Road and Central and Eastern Europe* followed by the seminar on China-Central and Eastern Europe Cooperation.



On November 11-12, 2019, SIIS delegation attended the 5th Annual Conference of Astana Club which is held in Nursultan, Kazakhstan.



## Hong Kong and Taiwan Studies

On January 2, 2019, at the gathering in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of issuing the Message to Compatriots in Taiwan, president Xi Jinping delivered an important speech entitled ‘Striving together to Realize the Great Rejuvenation of the Nation and Promote the Peaceful Reunification of China’. The speech serves as guidance to the work regarding the cross-Strait relations, which comprehensively expounded the major policy propositions to promote the peaceful reunification and national rejuvenation in the new era. In the speech, president Xi put forward that the ‘realizing people-to-people affinity and increasing recognition of peaceful reunification’ is a requirement for promoting the peaceful reunification of the motherland. Actually, it is the mission and the only way for the two sides of the strait to move towards peaceful reunification.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has made great progress in diplomatic theory and practice concerning Hong Kong and Macao affairs. Xi Jinping's diplomatic thought concerning Hong Kong and Macao affairs combines national reunification with the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, firmly opposes any act of splitting the country and undermining national unity, and points out that the purpose of diplomacy involving Hong Kong and Macao affairs is to safeguard national sovereignty, security, development interests and maintain the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong and Macao. The diplomacy related to Hong Kong and Macao affairs should be closely focused on safeguarding and ensuring the sovereignty while giving full play to the indispensable role of Hong Kong and Macao in China's foreign exchanges.



On February 27, 2019, SIIS vice president Yan Anlin and Dr. Zhang Jian were appointed as advisers by the Hong Kong & Macao Affairs Office of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government.



On July 29, 2019, SIIS and Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at the University of Tokyo co-organized the 10th Conference on ‘China-Japan Relations and the Taiwan Question’.



On October 18-19, 2019, SIIS and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung co-held the 16th Conference on ‘China – EU Relations and the Taiwan Question’ in Shanghai.



On September 11, 2019, Dr. Zhang Jian delivered a speech on ‘Hong Kong: Facts and Truth’ at the UN Human Rights Council.



## Shanghai's Economic Development and Internationalization

At present, the global multilateral trading system with WTO as the core is facing a systematic crisis, entering a period of accelerated change and structural transformation. The China International Import Expo (CIIE) is the only national exposition in the world with importation as its theme, which is of great significance in promoting the sustainable development of global trade cooperation system. The CIIE is not only a great idea, but also a kind of institutional innovation to promote global trade cooperation. CIIE will serve as a strategic pillar for China to achieve the 'rise of innovation within the international system'. To achieve this strategic goal, we need to renovate the function of CIIE to make it a new type of trading platform.



On November 5, 2019, the '2019 CIIE Sister Cities Cooperation Forum: sharing CIIE opportunities for greater opening-up and cooperation', jointly sponsored by SIIS, the Shanghai Foreign Affairs Office and the Shanghai people's Association for Friendship with Foreign countries, opened in Shanghai. This forum is one of the supporting activities to serve the second China International Import Expo. The forum invited high-level delegates from 18 countries and 22 cities from Europe, the Americas, Asia and Africa, as well as Chinese guests, to discuss about CIIE and new opportunities for the world, and striving for open and win-win development through sister cities partnership. Amb. Sha Hailin, vice chairman of the standing Committee of the Shanghai Municipal people's Congress and president of Shanghai people's Association for Friendship with Foreign countries, attended the forum and delivered an opening speech.



On November 6, 2019, co-sponsored by SIIS and the Shanghai Society of International Relations, the international conference on 'CIIE's Dividends: toward a Better Business Environment in Yangtze Delta' was held in Shanghai under the guidance of the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce and Shanghai Foreign Affairs Office.

On December 20, 2019, SIIS held the conference on 'People-to-people Diplomacy and Urban Capacity Building in International Exchanges'. Around 30 experts attended the conference and shared their view on 'CIIE and the innovation of people-to-people diplomacy'. The conference was followed by the launching ceremony of *Affinity: People-to-people Diplomacy in Shanghai*.



On December 26, 2019, SIIS research fellows visited the National Exhibition and Convention Center to study the CIIE and people-to-people diplomacy.



## ▶ About SIIS



Founded in 1960, the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS) is a government-affiliated high-caliber think tank dedicated to informing government decision-making by conducting policy-oriented studies in world politics, economics, foreign policy, and international security. SIIS maintains intensive and extensive exchanges and cooperation with research institutions at home and abroad, bolstering China's international influence and soft power.

SIIS boasts an authorized size of over 100 full-time research fellows and staff, including 60% senior fellows. In 2006, SIIS was ranked one of the top ten Chinese think tanks and one of the top ten global think tanks. SIIS comprises six institutes and six research centers, namely, the Institute for Global Governance Studies, the Institute for Foreign Policy Studies, the Institute for World Economic Studies, the Institute for International Strategic Studies, the Institute for Comparative Politics and Public Policy, the Institute for Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macao Studies, the Center for American Studies, the Center for Asia-Pacific Studies, the Center for Russian and Central Asian Studies, the Center for West Asia and Africa Studies, the Center for European Studies, and the Center for Maritime and Polar Studies. In addition, SIIS is an institutional member of the Shanghai International Strategic Studies Association and the Shanghai International Relations Association.

*Global Review* (bimonthly, Chinese) and the *China Quarterly of International Strategic Studies* are the two flagship journals of SIIS and have become a prestigious academic platform for domestic and international scholarship.



## SHANGHAI INSTITUTES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

### 6 Institutes

- Institute for International Strategic Studies
- Institute for Global Governance Studies
- Institute for World Economy Studies
- Institute for Foreign Policy Studies
- Institute for Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macao Studies
- Institute for Comparative Politics & Public Policy Studies

### 6 Centers

- Center for Asia-Pacific Studies
- Center for American Studies
- Center for Russian & Central Asian Studies
- Center for West Asian & African Studies
- Center for European Studies
- Center for Maritime and Polar Studies

