



# Belt, Road, and Beyond

*The CSIS Belt and Road Executive Course*

## About the Course >

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a \$1 trillion, flagship foreign policy effort of Chinese President Xi Jinping, could reshape global networks of trade, transport, and political ties within and between countries for decades to come. But six years since it was announced, the BRI remains shrouded in confusion and controversy. Drawing insights from leading experts and the Reconnecting Asia Project, the most extensive effort to map and analyze these developments to date, CSIS will host a three-day Master's-level introduction to China's BRI. The course will explain what the BRI is, what it is not, and how it is impacting commercial and strategic realities on the ground.

Apply Here

*Applicants are admitted on a rolling basis.*

CSIS | RECONNECTING ASIA

TIME	WED. SEPT. 11	THU. SEPT. 12	FRI. SEPT. 13
9 AM	Welcome & Introductions <i>Nahmyo Thomas</i>	Project Finance 101 <i>John G. Graham</i> <i>Lori Kerr</i>	The Polar Silk Road: China in the Arctic  <i>Heather A. Conley</i>
	Belt and Road Basics <i>Matthew P. Goodman</i>		
10 AM	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
	The View from Beijing <i>Dr. Rush Doshi</i>	BRI on the Ballot: South & Southeast Asia  <i>Dr. Amy Searight</i> <i>Richard M. Rossow</i>	A Road to Paris? BRI, Energy, and the Environment  <i>Sarah Ladislaw</i>
11 AM	LUNCH	LUNCH	
	LUNCH	Lunch Discussion: What is the AIIB? <i>Natalie Lichtenstein</i>	BREAK
12 PM	Five Myths about the Belt and Road <i>Jonathan E. Hillman</i>	BREAK	Lunch Discussion: The U.S. Toolkit  <i>Erol Yayboke</i>
		Looking North: Korea in a Reconnecting Asia <i>Dr. Victor Cha</i>	
1 PM	Mapping Exercise	BREAK	BREAK
	BREAK	A BRI Balancing Act: China in Africa <i>Judd Devermont</i>	The 5G Race <i>William A. Carter</i>
2 PM	A Great Game for the 21st Century: Russia & Central Asia  <i>Dr. Jeffrey Mankoff</i>	BREAK	
	Interactive Tour CSIS Ideas Lab  <i>Paul Franz</i>	Port Negotiation Simulation  <i>Dr. Anthony Wanis-St. John</i>	The Road Ahead: China's Second Belt and Road Forum and International Responses  <i>Matthew P. Goodman</i> <i>Jonathan E. Hillman</i>
3 PM	Deals & Debt Sustainability: Lessons from Latin America  <i>Michael A. Matera</i> <i>Stephanie Segal</i>		BREAK
			Debrief and Closing Remarks
5 PM		Networking Reception	

# Seminar Descriptions >

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DAY ONE

## THE BELT

### *Belt and Road Basics*

CSIS senior vice president and senior advisor for Asian economics, Matthew Goodman, provides an introduction to China's BRI, including its motivations, successes, and controversies to date.

### *The View from Beijing*

As China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong, Xi Jinping aims to restore China's global power status. The BRI builds upon his predecessors' efforts and harnesses China's domestic interests toward achieving these global ambitions. Chinese officials recognize the BRI is not without risks, however, and they are already making course corrections, as Dr. Rush Doshi, fellow at the Brookings Institution and director of the Brookings China Strategy Initiative, explains.

### *Five Myths about the Belt and Road*

Popular descriptions of the BRI abound with colorful characterizations, from a Chinese version of the Marshall Plan, to the return of the ancient Silk Road. Jonathan Hillman, director of the CSIS Reconnecting Asia Project, tests these and other claims.

### *A Great Game for the Twenty-first Century*

#### **Russia and Central Asia**

Dr. Jeffery Mankoff, senior fellow and deputy director of the CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program and author of *Russian Foreign Policy: The Return of Great Power Politics*, discusses China's growing influence in Central Asia and the great power dynamics of Sino-Russian cooperation and competition.

### *Deals and Debt Sustainability*

#### **Lessons from Latin America**

Many emerging markets and low-income economies have turned to foreign loans and complex agreements to finance their infrastructure investment. The resulting debts, and often opaque lending practices, have raised concerns about debt sustainability. Michael Matera, director of the Americas Program and senior fellow at CSIS, and Stephanie Segal, senior fellow of the CSIS Simon Chair in Political Economy, examine these risks and explain how they're playing out across Latin America in places such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Venezuela, the Caribbean, and Central America.

DAY TWO

## THE ROAD

### *Project Finance 101*

Drawing from decades of experience at the World Bank's International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank, and in the private sector, Lori Kerr and John G. Graham cover the basics of how infrastructure projects are conceived, negotiated, financed, and executed in an international context.

### *BRI on the Ballot*

#### **South and Southeast Asia**

There are few places the BRI is as warmly embraced and fiercely contested as South and Southeast Asia, where the initiative has been a key issue in several elections. Dr. Amy Searight, senior adviser and director of the CSIS Southeast Asia Program and Richard M. Rossow, senior adviser and Wadhvani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies put this full range of regional reactions into context.

### *What is the AIIB?*

A "lean, clean, and green" force for international development or a tool for Beijing's strategic aims? The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank generated controversy when it was announced in 2013 but has since attracted 100 participating countries. Hear firsthand about the process behind the creation of this \$100 billion institution from Natalie Lichtenstein, AIIB's inaugural general counsel.

### *Looking North*

#### **Korea in a Reconnecting Asia**

Dr. Victor Cha, CSIS senior adviser and Korea Chair, explains South Korea's aspirations to expand connectivity with its northern neighbors, including transportation and energy linkages with China, North Korea, and Russia.

### *A BRI Balancing Act*

#### **China in Africa**

With nearly two decades of experience working in the policy and intelligence communities on sub-Saharan Africa, the director of the CSIS Africa Program, Judd Devermont, leads a discussion on how all BRI projects may not be created equal. On a continent that is now host to the first overseas Chinese naval base, there is a pressing need to balance responses to the strategic risks posed by Chinese projects with local development imperatives.

## *Port Negotiation Simulation*

If BRI projects are so risky, then why do partner countries agree to them? Step into the shoes of dealmakers and experience the complexities of negotiating a port project with expert coaching from Dr. Anthony Wanis-St. John, an instructor of international negotiation at American University's School of International Service.

DAY THREE

## **BEYOND**

### *The Polar Silk Road*

#### **China in the Arctic**

Since its announcement in 2013, the Belt and Road has expanded considerably, including to the world's newest blue water ocean: the Arctic. Heather Conley, CSIS senior vice president for Europe, Eurasia and the Arctic will lend insight into Beijing's long-term strategic interests in the Arctic in its search for energy and mineral and protein resources as well as identify new shipping routes and discuss China's emerging Arctic capabilities.

### *A Road to Paris?*

#### **BRI, Energy, and the Environment**

Xi Jinping has said that the BRI must be green, sustainable, and fuel high-quality growth. Critics say Beijing is exporting old technology and locking countries into dirty fuel sources. Sarah Ladislaw, senior vice president and director of the CSIS Energy and National Security Program, examines the BRI's actual impacts on global climate change.

### *The U.S. Toolkit*

October 2019 will mark the launch of the U.S. Development Finance Corporation (USDFC), a new development agency created under the BUILD act to sharpen the U.S. ability to deliver infrastructure projects abroad. Erol Yayboke, deputy director and senior fellow of the CSIS Project on Prosperity and Development, will discuss the role of the new agency in the context of the broader U.S. development toolkit.

### *The 5G Race*

China's national champions are racing to deploy fifth generation (5G) networks that could transform the global economy. This global competition has sparked a debate about the security risks of Chinese technology, the future of the global 5G industry, and the spread of digital authoritarianism. William A. Carter, deputy director and fellow of the CSIS Technology Policy Program, explains where the 5G race stands, what's at stake, and what to expect.

## *The Road Ahead*

### **China's Second BRI Forum and International Responses**

Matthew Goodman and Jonathan Hillman lead an interactive discussion of China's second international Belt and Road forum and reactions from the international community—including a discussion of how China's partners and competitors, including the United States, should respond.

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## **Apply Here**

*Applicants are admitted on a rolling basis. Limited space is available.*

**Tuition:** \$4,000 per person

*\*A limited amount of financial aid is available for candidates in the not-for-profit sector.*

**Duration:** Wednesday, September 11 – Friday, September 13, 2019

**Location:** CSIS Headquarters in Washington, D.C.  
1616 Rhode Island Ave. NW

**Contact:** Barbara E. Petzen at [bpetzen@csis.org](mailto:bpetzen@csis.org)

## About the Reconnecting Asia Project >

The Reconnecting Asia Project has assembled a unique and growing database of detailed information on over 14,000 infrastructure projects. Leaders in government, the private sector, and academia use these resources to shape policy, identify commercial opportunities, and conduct research. Reconnecting Asia and its scholars have been cited in *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Financial Times*, and other leading outlets.

## About CSIS >

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is a bipartisan, nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. founded by David M. Abshire and Admiral Arleigh Burke in 1962. For over 50 years, CSIS has been dedicated to developing practical solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges. Voted the world's number one defense and national security think tank for the past eight years, CSIS has become one of the preeminent international policy institutions focused on defense and security, regional stability, and transnational challenges ranging from energy and climate to global development and economic integration. Tom Pritzker, executive chairman of Hyatt Hotels Corporation and chairman and CEO of the Pritzker Organization, became chairman of the CSIS Board of Trustees in November 2015. Former senator Sam Nunn (D-GA), who served as chair for 16 years, remains on the Board as chairman emeritus. John J. Hamre became the Center's president and chief executive officer in April 2000.



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