State Owned Enterprise Reform and Party-Business Relations in China
Professor Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard, Copenhagen Business School

Chinese business groups have grown into huge enterprises with significant economic and political clout. As a result of institutional reform, corporate restructuring, and listings in China and abroad, these business groups, especially within the energy sector, have become so big, profitable and well-connected that they are challenging the authority of the central government. Yet, increasingly, business leaders are appointed to government positions as ministers or provincial governors. What is the mechanism of this elite circulation and how does it impact the power relations between Party-state-business in China? Will increasing rotation between leading positions in the Party, government, and business strengthen the Party and government control of the corporate sector or will it strengthen big business’ influence on the decision-making processes and policy outcomes in the Chinese polity? The seminar addresses these questions based on in-depth studies of the Chinese nomenklatura system and advances the notion of fragmented integration to characterize the evolving relationship between business groups and the Party-state. The seminar also argues that in order to abolish vested interests and interest politics, reform of the role, function, and organization of Chinese business groups is necessary.

Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard is Professor and Director of the Asia Research Centre, Copenhagen Business School. He has held visiting research appointments in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, and the US.

His most recent books include Bringing the Party Back In: How China is Governed (2004) (with Zheng Yongnian), The Chinese Communist Party in Reform (2006, and 2009) (with Zheng Yongnian); Hainan – State, Society and Business in a Chinese Province (2009; paperback edition 2013); and Globalization and Public Sector Reform in China (forthcoming). His current research covers state, party and public management in China; the civil service system and administrative reform; the nomenklatura system and cadre management; and the structure and impact of Chinese business groups in China as well as on the global-level playing field.

When: Tuesday 23 April 2013, 6 - 7:30pm
Where: Law School Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)

The Electoral Integrity Project Lunchtime Seminar Series
University of Sydney

Tuesday 23 April 2013
Real Choices: Does It Matter What’s On The Ballot?
Speaker: Professor Larry LeDuc, University of Toronto

Tuesday 7 May 2013
Monitoring Electoral Integrity: The Expert Survey and Electoral Law Database
Speakers: Dr. Richard Franks and Dr. Ferran Martinez, University of Sydney

Tuesday 30 April 2013
Electoral Fraud and Democratisation
Speaker: Dr. Carolien van Ham, University of Twente

Tuesday 14 May 2013
Electronic Voting and Electoral Integrity
Speaker: Professor Rodney Smith, University of Sydney

Time and Where: GIR Boardroom, Room 276, Merewether Building, University of Sydney, 11:45am - 1:30pm
Cost: FREE (No RSVP Required). Enquires to Richard Franks - electoralintegrity@gmail.com
More Information: The EIP Website
Dr. Ryu was born in South Korea and grew up both in Korea and New Zealand. He went completed his AM and PhD in Government (or political science) at Harvard University as a Frank Knox Fellow, specializing in International Relations. His main research expertise covers international relations of East Asia, the foreign policies of China, Japan, and Korea, ASEAN, regionalisation and regional organisations, and identity politics in IR. His PhD dissertation examined the different patterns of interstate relations between Northeast and Southeast Asia since the 1980s, and showed how identity-related issues affected the contrasting evolution of interstate interactions in the two sub-regions of East Asia. He is currently working on three other projects -- human rights in ASEAN; audience costs and national identity; and Korea’s foreign policy.

**Politics in the Pub**

Politics in the Pub is a program of speakers and discussions centring around the broad theme of politics. The convenors describe themselves as ‘people who characterise ourselves as “left” and “democratic” who have established a left politico-cultural focus in Sydney to promote cross fertilisation and discussion.’

**Friday 26 April 2013**

**US-Australian Relations - Imperialism In East Asia**

**Speakers:**
- Dr Erik Paul - Research Fellow & Visiting Professor CPACS
- Dr Ken McNab - President, Centre Peace & Conflict Studies, University of Sydney

**Friday 3 May 2013**

**Privatisation of Government Assets - Is There Anything Left To Flog?**

**Speakers:**
- Joe Nagy - Finance and Economic Coach;
- Phillip Toner - Senior Research Fellow, University of Sydney

**Friday 10 May 2013**

**Venezuela - A New Democracy or a Command Capitalist State?**

**Speakers:**
- Federico Fuentes - Author *Latin American Turbulent Transitions*
- Rodrigo Acuna - PhD candidate, Latin American Affairs

When: 6pm - 7:45pm (dinner afterwards in nearby restaurant)
Where: The Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills (across from Chalmer St exit and Devonshire St. tunnel at Central Station)
Cost: FREE (no RSVP required)
More Information: www.politicsintheub.org.au. Enquires to Charles Bradley - odl_bradley@pacific.net.au

The current program can be found [here](http://sydney.edu.au/arts/government_international_relations/News_and_Events/colloquium.shtml)
Climate Change: Avoiding Devastating and Long-Term Impacts
Professor Steve Sherwood, University of New South Wales

Hosted by Australian Institute of International Affairs

The climate change debate has not gone away. While the normative perception is one that we should ‘do something,’ exactly what, besides reducing carbon, and more importantly how, is nebulous, contested and undecided. What exactly are the consequences of inadequate management of climate change? How can it be avoided? How credible is the science of both those pushing for addressing the problem, and the sceptics?

Professor Steve Sherwood will summarise the evidence that humans are causing global warming, show what is predicted for the next few centuries, and describe what new research shows may be the most devastating longer-term impact. He will also discuss the reasons why the basic facts surrounding energy use and climate change are not being accepted by large parts of the public, by placing current events in the intertwined contexts of political realities and of past scientific revolutions, which have tended to require long periods of time to proceed to completion. Steve will also make some comments on what actions are needed in the near term to avert massive climate change by the 22nd century.

Professor Steve Sherwood is a Professor at the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science and Director of the Climate Change Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. He graduated university with degrees in physics, engineering and a Ph.D in Oceanography. He was worked at Yale University in the department of Geology and Geophysics, as a research scientist at the Goddard space flight centre and researcher at the school of earth sciences of Victoria University, Wellington. Prof. Sherwood has been a prolific writer, his most recent book is Climate Change and Australia: Warming to the Global Challenge (Federation Press, 2012).

Audi Festival of German Films
30 April - 14 May 2013 - Sydney

The Audi Festival of German Films, orchestrated by the Goethe-Institut Australia, is the key event for German culture in Australia’s arts calendar.

Showcasing Germany’s thriving creative industry, the festival brings a fine selection of contemporary, award-winning, internationally acclaimed German-language movies with English subtitles to Australian cities, towns and their communities. Building on the success of previous years, we are delighted to be expanding the festival in 2013 to include Newcastle and Byron Bay for the first time.

The event is supported by a network of partners, friends and sponsors, many of whom we have worked with for a number of years. The same is true for the independent Australian-German selection jury. This aspect transforms the festival into a truly Australian event of the highest artistic and inspiring ideals, whilst simultaneously acknowledging, and catering to, the cinematic tastes and expectations of local audiences.

Feature Film - Camp 14, Total Control Zone

One of the most confronting documentaries you will ever see is this account of life inside a North Korean prison camp. Shin Dong-Hyuk was born in Kaechon’s Camp 14 and escaped at the age of 23 to South Korea where he now lives as an extremely traumatised man. Telling his story for the first time on camera to German documentary maker Marc Wiese, Shin relates tales of brutality, deprivation and de-humanisation that can hardly be believed — until Wiese also interviews a former North Korean prison guard and an ex-secret police officer who leave no doubt that if hell on Earth actually exists, it is at Camp 14. With extremely rare footage taken inside a prison camp and potent images of Shin surrounded by rampant consumerism at South Korean shopping malls, Camp 14 — Total Control Zone is a once-seen, never forgotten experience.

Marc Wiese was born in Dortmund. He has been directing documentaries for television and cinema for over fifteen years. He is known for films such as Kanun – Blood for Honour (2008), The Picture of the Napalm Girl (2010), Camp 14: Total Control Zone (2012).

For more information on the Audi Festival of German Films, including screening dates, and locations as well as information on the festivals in other states, please see their website.
WEDNESDAY 1 MAY 2013
THE GREENING OF DEMOCRACY
Professor John Keane, University of Sydney

John Keane is Professor of Politics at the University of Sydney and at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB). In 1989 he founded the world’s first Centre for the Study of Democracy in London.

During his many years in Europe, The Times ranked him one of Britain’s leading political thinkers and a writer whose work has ‘world-wide importance’. In 2009, following several public lecture tours of Iran, the government of that country accused him (falsely) of being a ‘MI6/CIA agent’ and ‘mastermind’ of the democratic opposition.

Among his best-known books are The Media and Democracy (translated into more than 25 languages); the best-selling biography Tom Paine: A Political Life (2009); a The Future of Representative Democracy (2011). He writes a column for the Melbourne-based web platform The Conversation.

WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 2013
LEBANON: POLITICAL CHALLENGES IN THE FACE OF REGIONAL TURMOIL
H.E Lawyer Dr. Ziyad Baroud, Saint Joseph University, Beirut

Dr Ziyad Baroud is a prominent Lebanese politician and civil society activist. From 2008 to 2011, he served as minister of Interior and Municipalities, considered to be among the most powerful positions in the country, in two consecutive cabinets in the governments of Fuad Siniora and Saad Hariri. He currently practises law at his own firm and teaches law at the St Joseph University in Beirut.

Baroud is a renowned expert on issues of decentralisation and electoral law reform. During his time as a cabinet minister, Baroud was widely credited for advocating a new culture of political responsibility and openness. He is today credited with overseeing Lebanon’s best-managed round of elections (in 2009).

WEDNESDAY 15 MAY 2013
COSMOPOLITANISM AND NATIONHOOD IN THE POLITICAL THOUGHT OF THOMAS PAINE
Dr. Robert Lamb, University of Exeter

Robert Lamb is Senior Lecturer in Political Philosophy at the University of Exeter in the UK. His main research and teaching interests are in the history of modern liberal thought, its relationship to contemporary political philosophy and the methodological questions involved in interpreting past ideas.

Robert, originally from the west of Scotland, is a graduate from the Universities of Strathclyde, York and Exeter and has previously held visiting positions at UC Berkeley and the University of St Andrews. His work has been published in various journals, including The Review of Politics, Journal of the History of Ideas, History of Political Thought, European Journal of Political Theory and History of the Human Sciences.

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2013
BEPPE GRILLO GOES TO ROME – AN ANALYSIS OF THE RISE AND POSSIBLE FUTURES OF THE MOST UNLIKELY WINNER OF ITALY’S 2013 GENERAL ELECTION
Dr. Giovani Navarra, University of Sydney

Giovanni’s research interests include the relationship between authoritarian regimes in Asia and the language and tactics of democracy; the role new communication media have in politics; the meaning of representation and the role of civil society in contemporary democracies. He is currently working on a project focusing on the effects communication media have on prevailing power-dynamics between state and citizens in the authoritarian regimes of the Asia-Pacific region. He is also completing a book exploring the changing meanings of power and civic engagement in technologically advanced societies.

During 2012 he was a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Social Science Research Center of Berlin. Dr. Navarra holds a PhD in Politics from the University of Westminster, United Kingdom, and a Degree in Philosophy from the University of Catania, Italy.
Environmental Justice has been an issue for environmental and social movements for the past three decades. Starting in the US, and originally focused on the inequity in the distribution of environmental risks to poor communities and communities of colour, the use of the concept has spread across the globe, and been applied to an ever-widening range of issues. Communities have also used environmental justice to discuss not only inequity, but also the lack of recognition for their issues and cultures, the exclusion from political decision-making, and the endangerment of the very functioning of their communities.

In Australia, environmental justice is increasingly being applied to battles surrounding the mining of coal and gas. In this Sydney Ideas forum, academics and community leaders will discuss the social and environmental justice implications of this mining, and the importance of justice as an organising theme.

Each panellist will present a short paper, then the floor will be open for questions from the audience.

Panellists
- **Professor Linda Connor**, Chair of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Sydney will talk on *Living with a Fossil Fuel Resource Curse: The Real Environmental and Social Costs*.
- **Drew Hutton** from the Lock the Gate Alliance will talk on *Using Democratic, Extra-Legal Strategies forAchieving Social and Environmental Justice*.
- **Professor David Schlosberg**, Network leader for the Sydney Network on Climate Change and Society at University of Sydney, will talk on *Defining Environmental Justice in the Australian Context*.
- **Jeff Smith**, Executive Director of the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO) NSW will talk on *Democracy, The Rule of Law and EDO NSW*.

**When:** Thursday 2 May 2013, 6 - 7:30pm  
**Where:** Law School Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney  
**Cost:** FREE (RSVP Required)  
**RSVPS:** Visit the Sydney Ideas Website

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**Environmental Justice in Australia Symposium**

**Co-Hosted by Sydney Social Justice Network in partnership with Sydney Network on Climate Change and Society and the Australian Centre for Climate and Environmental Law**

**Friday 3 May 2013**

**SESSION 1: COAL**

Chair: Linda Connor, The University of Sydney  
Speakers:  
- Scott Franks, Tocomwall  
- Peter Martin, Southern Highlands Coal Action Group  
- James Whelan, The Change Agency  
- Dr. Wayne Smith NSW Department of Health

**SESSION 2: COAL SEAM GAS**

Chair: Phil McManus, The University of Sydney  
Speakers:  
- Rosemary Lyster, The University of Sydney  
- Jessica Harwood, NSW Farmers Association  
- Kim de Rijke, University of Queensland

**SESSION 3: NGOS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Chair: Rosemary Lyster, The University of Sydney  
Speakers:  
- Michelle Maloney, Queensland Environmental Defenders Office  
- Elizabeth McKinnon, Victoria Environmental Defenders Office  
- Cam Walker, Friends of the Earth  
- Rebecca Pearse, University of New South Wales

**When:** Friday 3 May 2013, 9am - 5pm  
**Where:** Law School Foyer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney  
**Cost:** FREE (RSVP Required)  
**RSVPS:** Please email Michelle St. Anne - michelle.stanne@sydney.edu.au
Why Are Sri Lankan Tamils Seeking Refuge in Australia?

Co-Hosted by The Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and the Sydney Peace Foundation, University of Sydney

Refugees of war and repression in Sri Lanka have a genuine fear of persecution in a country rapidly deteriorating into dictatorship. Tamil communities are terrorised by a tyrannical regime, and political and judicial safeguards are being destroyed. But even if their claims are accepted, asylum seekers here in Australia are detained indefinitely because ASIO deems them to be a potential security risk. Some have even gone on hunger strike. ASIO assessments cannot be challenged in court and the victims have no right to see the evidence against them. How do we change this?

Panelists

- Brami Jegan, Sri Lanka Human Rights Project, Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Sydney
- Professor Ben Saul, Professor of International Law, University of Sydney
- Dr Lesley Lynch, New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties ASIO Campaign

When: Wednesday 8 May 2013, 4:30 - 6pm
Where: Room 346, Law School Annexe, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
Cost: FREE (No RSVP Required)
More Information: Please email CPACS- arts.cpacs@usyd.edu.au

America in an Asian Century

Dr. Bates Gill, US Studies Centre, University of Sydney
Hosted by the Australian Institute of International Affairs

We have heard a lot about Australia in the Asian Century, and have an eponymous white paper. But what about the role of the United States in this future?

There are many American scholars and thinkers who dispute the notion altogether. There are others who point to the wide disparity of countries that come under the label of ‘Asia’ - China and Japan, of course, but also India and Pakistan, Indonesia and the rest of East Asia, the countries of the Caucasus, Iran, Afghanistan and Russia.

Also, attitudes in the United States towards what many now call the Indo-Pacific region are changing. The Obama administration has espoused a “pivot to Asia”, and is moving away from involvement in wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In Sydney recently, former US under-secretary for Asia, Kurt Campbell, pronounced the US-China relationship as the most important for the administration, and secretary of state John Kerry appears to be making progress in talks with China.

There are few people more qualified to talk about the prospects for the United States in Asia than Dr Bates Gill, chief executive of the US Studies Centre at the University of Sydney,

Dr Gill became CEO of the US Studies Centre in October last year, after a five year appointment as the director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. He previously led major Asia - and China - related research programs at public policy think tanks in Washington, DC (Brookings Institution and Center for Strategic and International Studies) and in Monterey, California (Monterey Institute of International Studies). He has also served as a consultant to US companies, foundations, and government agencies, especially with regard to their policies in Asia. He received his PhD in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia, and, in addition to his experience in the USA, has conducted research travel throughout Asia and has lived and worked for lengthy periods in France, Switzerland, Sweden, and China.

When: Thursday 9 May 2013, from 5:30pm
Where: The Glover Cottages, 124 Kent Street, Sydney (located adjacent to the Kent St Fire Station)
Cost: AIIA members $15; Senior members / student member $10; Visitors $25; Student Visitors $15
RSVP: Register here
Rule of Law: Past, Present and Future  
Zaki Tun Azmi, Former Chief Justice of Malaysia  
Hosted by the Sydney Law School Distinguished Speakers Series

When the British arrived in Penang in the 18th Century, they introduced English Common Law. It spread to the colonies of Malacca and Singapore then across other states of Malaysia. The application of these laws eventually led to the independence of Malaysia in 1957.

Mr Azmi will discuss the laws that relate to the rule of law and separation of powers. Today, many of these laws have been abolished and replaced with legislation with more transparent enforcement. Mr Azmi will also touch on his personal Islamic shariah laws which only apply to Muslims and native laws.

Zaki Azmi is the former 12th Chief Justice of Malaysia. He was elevated directly to the apex court as a Judge of the Federal Court in September 2007. Shortly thereafter, Zaki Azmi was appointed President of the Court of Appeal. Prior to his elevation to the Federal Court, Zaki Azmi served for 15 years in the Judicial and Legal Service and was in private practice for another 22 years.

Mr Azmi is nationally and internationally recognised and acknowledged as instrumental in introducing sweeping reforms to the Malaysian judiciary. As a result of these successes, Zaki Azmi was invited by distinguished bodies such as the Singapore Academy of Law to speak on and share his experiences with the international legal community on the subject of reform of the judiciary.

After his retirement as Chief Justice, Zaki Azmi was appointed the Chairman of the Civil Service Transformation Commission by the Government of Malaysia. Zaki Azmi’s pre-eminence in the field of law has been recognized with accolades by both domestic and international bodies.

When: Thursday 9 May 2013, from 6pm  
Where: Sydney Law School, New Law School Building, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney  
Cost: Full Fee $25; Sydney Law School Alumni $20; USydney Student $10  
More Information and RSVP: The Distinguished Speakers website

Struggle Without Breaking: Behind The Rising East Asian Maritime Tension  
Dr Chong-Pin Lin, Taiwan’s National Defense University  
Co-Hosted by Sydney Ideas and the China Studies Centre

In recent years, East Asian maritime disputes have become more frequent and intense with the backdrop of shifting regional power balance from US primacy to China rising. Two countervailing forces have been at work. On one hand, national leaders have found that external toughness yields internal returns, which has compelled the maritime tension to rise. Such factors include China's post-2008 assertiveness, the US expanding its East Asian presence, and the growing territorial defiance of China’s neighbours.

On the other hand, rising economic interdependence has prevented a crisis of territorial disputes from boiling over into open military conflict. The restraining factors include Beijing’s decades-long guideline of ‘struggle without breaking’, the rising accommodation school in the US, and the hedging strategy of China’s neighbours.

As the shelf lives of the compelling factors are short, while those of the restraining factors are long, the propensity for tension to erupt beyond control is low. In order to do that, it is necessary for Japan to pursue both a Japan-US alliance and a Japan-China entente as essentials, allowing the long lasting anguish of having to choose between the West and Asia to be overcome. This is the ultimate aim of a country such as Japan which lies between two superpowers, as it also is in the case for Australia.

Dr Chong Pin Lin is Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute of Strategic Studies at Taiwan’s National Defense University. He served for eight years in the government of Republic of China, as Deputy Defense Minister; Senior Advisor in the National Security Council; the First Vice Chairman and Spokesman of the ministerial-level Mainland Affairs Council; and MAC Second Vice Chairman.

He has authored many books including Perchance Prescient (2008), Notes from an Earthly Journey (2009), and Global Shift: Exploring the Roots of Rising Disasters (2012).

When: Tuesday 14 May 2013, 6 - 7:30pm  
Where: Law School Lecture Theatre 024, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney  
Cost: FREE (RSVP Required)  
Child sexual abuse is a serious concern for the community and only a small proportion of perpetrators are ever ‘brought to justice’. The criminal justice approach provides only one avenue of redress and one that many victims are not keen to use or do not see as an adequate means of resolution. The aim of this forum is to generate discussion about how best to address the legal and societal ‘justice gaps’ in and outside the criminal justice system and how to minimise the trauma and meet the needs of those who have been sexually abused.

The betrayal of trust inherent in child sexual abuse is a key element of the abuse and contributes to the often very long-lasting impact on the victims. Many victims suffer in silence.

There is little reliable information to guide those involved, including the professionals, about the ways in which historical and institutional abuse is dealt with, and the likely benefits, pathways and outcomes of any prosecution. There is also little information about other ways of reaching an appropriate resolution. This forum is particularly timely given the recent establishment of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

This forum will provide an opportunity to discuss alternative and systemic approaches in the light of the impact of the abuse and the process on victim complainants as well as the investigative and evidentiary issues.

Speakers Include:
- **Professor Kathy Daly**, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University
- **Dr Gary Foster**, Anglicare Queensland
- **Dr Cathy Kezelman**, President, Adults Surviving Child Abuse
- **Joanne McCarthy**, Fairfax Media
- **Detective Michael Newbury**, South Australian Police
- **Kara Shead**, NSW Crown Prosecutor

Lawyers/barristers: attendance at this forum is equal to 6 MCLE/CPD units.

**When:** Friday 31 May 2013, 9am - 5pm (Registration from 8:30am)
**Where:** Law School, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
**Cost:** Full Fee: $110, Alumni, SYdney Staff and NGO’s: $88
**More Information and Registration:** Visit the website

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**Everything Political** is an events newsletter designed to publicise details of all forthcoming research and public events in the field of politics, very broadly defined. The newsletter is not confined to events (co-)hosted by the University of Sydney; it hopes to include all interested parties who wish to publicise and promote politics-themed events. Everything Political will be published on the last Thursday of each month.

Everything Political is a new public service to all members of staff, and to interested publics outside the University. Its main purpose is to raise the level of visibility and co-operation among research and teaching staff interested in politics. The newsletter will enable people to plan their events in advance, so avoiding clashes and duplication.

**Event Submission**
Everything Political is an initiative of staff based at the University of Sydney, the University of Western Sydney and the University of New South Wales. It will be published on the last Thursday of each month. If you wish to submit details of an event for inclusion in the newsletter, please email: sdi@sydney.edu.au by the 17th of the month. We require the following information for every event:

- Brief summary of the event, including titles, speakers, relevant subject details and details of the sponsoring organisations
- When, where (maps included, where possible), cost and RSVP or further information details
- An image in JPEG, GIF or High Res format related to your event

**Subscription**
Please email your details including name, organisation (where applicable) and email address to idhr@sydney.edu.au

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