Twentieth-Century China As an Object of Thought
Hui Wang | Modern China

"How [does one] constitute China in the twentieth century as an object of thought?...Any discussion of the birth of the short twentieth century must begin with an analysis of the weakest link. In seeking the roots of the revolutionary moment, one must look not at the geopolitical contestations in Eurasia, but instead the revolutionary conditions produced by the new situation in Asia...."

Europe’s Search for Superstar Firms: The Puzzle of European Champions
Elisabeth Bublitz, Michael Leisinger, Nele Yang | Intereconomics

"...We develop a conceptual framework for the analysis of European champions in the context of the single market and assess related European as well as national policy (initiatives). In sum, the single market needs a broad policy approach to maintain and increase its competitiveness which depends on the performance of the European economy as a whole."

Welfare Reform, Protest and Stability in the Light of Reforms of Old-Age Pensions, Housing and Primary Education
Jørn Holm-Hansen | Russian Politics

"This article addresses the relationship between welfare reform and political stability in Russia...The reforms are analyzed in the light of mechanisms often referred to as neo-liberal: public budgets are relieved by making citizens pay more out of their own pockets, and tasks that used to be public are transferred to non-state actors or people’s self-organizing...."

Mobilization Against “Agricultural Terrorism” and the Political-Economy of Agriculture in Israel
Tomer Dekel | Journal of Rural Studies

"This article addresses political mobilization of farmers and the political-economy of Jewish agriculture in Israel, which is caught in the tension between nationalism and post-nationalism, and between socialism and neoliberalism...[The article explores] how framings of terrorism and pioneering produce Israel’s agricultural spaces and policies in the 21st century [and] how neoliberal logic is internalized by farmers who turn to civil society and self-help...."

Columbus, Juana and the Politics of the Plaza: Battles Over Monuments, Memory and Identity in Buenos Aires
Cheryl Jiménez Frei | Journal of Latin American Studies

"In 2013, Argentina’s then-President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner sparked controversy for her decision to replace a monument of Christopher Columbus in Buenos Aires with one of nineteenth-century mestiza revolutionary Juana Azurduy. This article examines the history and iconography of these monuments, exploring the intersections between public space, art, politics and memory."

Associational Life And ‘the Dark Side’ of Social Capital in South Africa: A Quantitative Analysis of Anti-Immigrant Behaviour
Steven Gordon | Social Indicators Research

"...the frequency of associational involvement has a positive effect on public participation in a range of anti-immigrant behaviours. These empirical results contribute to our understanding of the ‘dark side’ of social capital and challenge existing assumptions about the formation of societal tolerance in an African setting."

The Forests in the Indigenous Lands in Brazil in Peril
Mendelson Lima | Land Use Policy
“The Indigenous Lands in Brazil today resemble a steam locomotive, where the government and the indigenous add wood to the boiler and the conservationists push the brakes. Arranged on the rails and along the way of this locomotive are more than 100 million hectares of the largest tropical forest on the planet.”

BOOKS

**Grassroots Politics and Oil Culture in Venezuela: The Revolutionary Petro-State**  
Iselin Åsedotter Strønen | Palgrave  
“[This book] explores how notions such as class, race, state, bureaucracy, popular politics, capitalism, neoliberalism, consumption, oil wealth, and corruption gained salience in the Bolivarian process.”

**The Lost Soul of the American Presidency: The Decline Into Demagoguery and the Prospects for Renewal**  
Stephen F. Knott | University Press of Kansas  
“Taking on an issue as timely as Donald Trump’s latest tweet and old as the American republic, [this book] documents the devolution of the American presidency from the neutral, unifying office envisioned by the framers of the Constitution into the demagogic, partisan entity of our day.”

**Consumerist Orientalism: The Convergence of Arab and American Popular Culture in the Age of Global Capitalism**  
M. Keith Booker, Isra Daraiseh | Bloomsbury  
“[This book] presents an updated conceptual framework through which to understand the intercultural relationship between East and West, exploring a wide range of cultural production; from an Oscar-nominated Jordanian film to Turkish-Arab soap operas and Arab-diaspora rap.”

JOURNALISM & ESSAYS

**How Asia Transformed From the Poorest Continent in the World Into a Global Economic Powerhouse**  
Deepak Nayyar | The Conversation  
“In 1820, Asia accounted for two-thirds of the world’s population and more than one-half of global income. The subsequent decline of Asia was attributed to its integration with a world economy shaped by colonialism and driven by imperialism.”

"Overall, China’s IP Regime Has Made Significant Strides in Just a Few Decades. For Instance, China’s World Leadership in Patent Quantity — Though Not in Quality — Signals Its Commitment To Develop a Robust Innovation Ecosystem At Home."

Yukon Huang, Jeremy Smith | Foreign Policy  
“Overall, China’s IP regime has made significant strides in just a few decades. For instance, China’s world leadership in patent quantity—though not in quality—signals its commitment to develop a robust innovation ecosystem at home.”

**The Politics of Sectarianism: What Causes Sectarian Conflict, and Can It Be Undone? (on the Middle East)**  
Nader Hashemi | ABC  
“Trump has pursued a political strategy aimed at mobilizing a white national identity against minority populations (African-Americans, Muslims and Latinos). A recent study revealed that in counties where Trump held a political rally there was a 226 percent increase in hate crimes.”

REPORTS, DISSERTATIONS, & MISCELLANEOUS

**Engineering Global Consent: The Chinese Communist Party’s Data-Driven Power Expansion**  
Samantha Hoffman | Australian Strategic Policy Institute  
“This report recommends strengthening data privacy laws and foreign influence transparency schemes... recommends greater investment in data literacy and data transparency programs, and it calls for a rethink
for how governments deal with foreign propaganda in the digital age.”

**Job Loss, Credit and Crime in Colombia**

Gaurav Khanna, Carlos Medina, Anant Nyshadham, Christian Posso, Jorge A. Tamayo | NBER

“[This working paper shows that] workers in booming sectors with more opportunities for legitimate reemployment exhibit smaller increases in arrests after job losses. Greater exposure to expansions in consumption credit also lowers the job loss-crime elasticity.”

**Bolivia’s Economic Transformation: Macroeconomic Policies, Institutional Changes, and Results**

Andrés Arauz | Center for Economic and Policy Research

“Bolivian authorities are promoting important investments in food sovereignty and are striving to become an agricultural powerhouse, in order to diversify the economy... and they are also attracting considerable investment in order to industrialize their raw materials, with the goal of becoming a global leader in the export of lithium batteries.”

**VIDEOS**


Robert Jansen | Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies

“Brazil’s president's criticism of left-wing politicians, praise of military dictatorship, support of pension reform and privatizations, defense of the traditional Brazilian family, and the promise to address rampant crime rates through violent policing helped him gain the support of many conservative segments. This panel analyzes different aspects of Bolsonaro’s government and Brazil’s current political landscape.”

**Europe’s Strategic Role in Tackling Today’s Global Challenges**

Christos Stylianides, Grzegorz Ekiert | Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies

“As global challenges have become more pressing and more complex, EU is becoming an indispensable global actor. European Commissioner of Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management presents EU's role in combating climate change, brokering international agreements and delivering development aid.”

**Ghana’s Economic and Agricultural Transformation: Past Performance and Future Prospects**

Xinshen Diao | International Food Policy Research Institute

“Despite over 30 years of continuous growth in per capita income and rapid urbanization, Ghana has failed to industrialize, leaving most of its workers trapped in low productivity work in agriculture and services. Using empirical analysis of the performance of Ghana’s economy and its agriculture sector over the past four decades, the recently published book offers key insights into harnessing agriculture’s potential for transformation in the country.”

**PODCASTS**

**America’s Immoral Interventions in Central America**

Avi Chomsky | Free Man Beyond the Wall

“This is an episode... on Reagan’s disastrous wars in Central America [and] provide history going back over 200 years detailing one of America’s dirtiest secrets in relation to their foreign policy.”

**Brexit, Austerity & the Conservative Merchants**

Danny Dorling | Surviving Society

“This [episode] talks about the important histories that help to locate how Leave marginally won the EU referendum in 2016... and discusses voting demographics/patterns; the Conservative party (and its leaders!), Empire, and racism.”

**Is This the Future Liberals Want? (on Trump in 2020)**

Matt Karp | The Majority Report

 “[This episode] discusses the prospects of Trump in 2020 and the potential pitfalls of ‘progressive technocracy’ defining the future of the Democratic party. In losing the class configuration, [the host] believes, voters have put the individual politician above the policy platform, leaving the foundation of any movement unstable at best.”