

AMMS



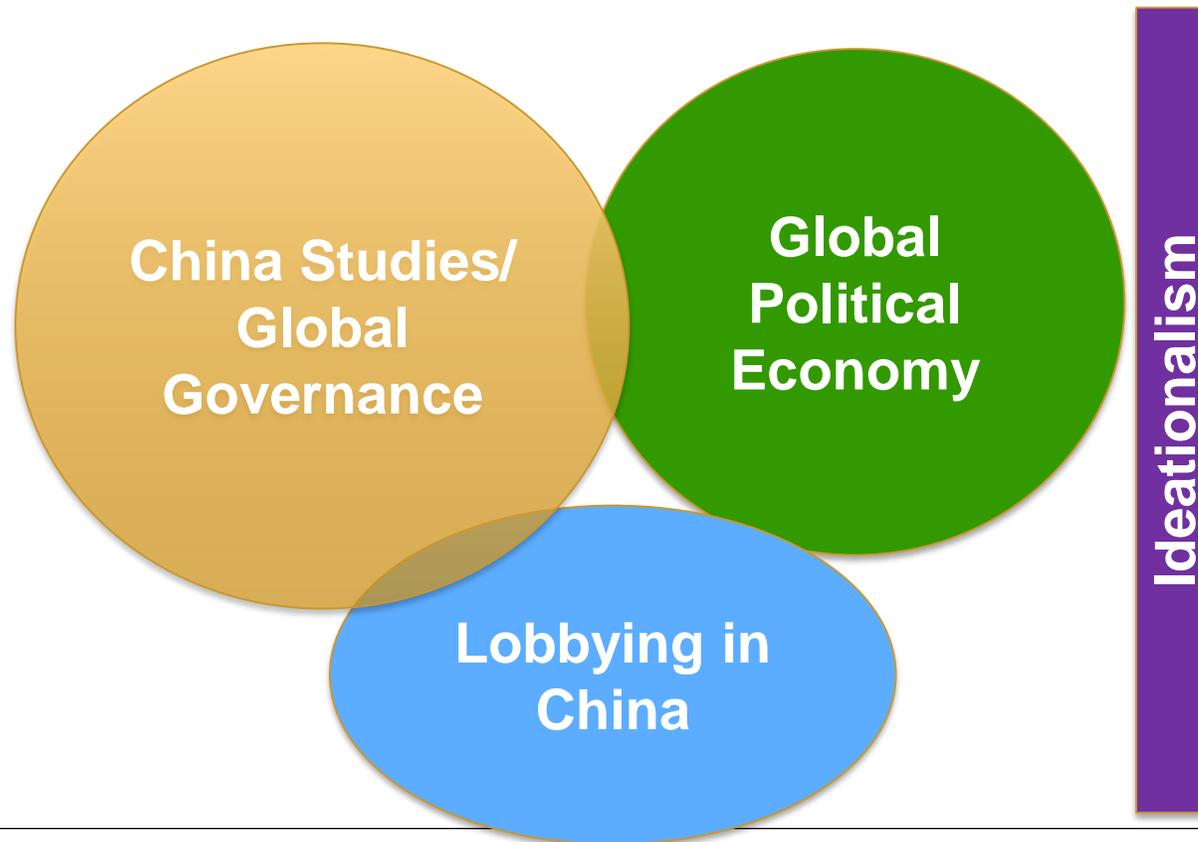
Academic Reflections

Professor Dr Stefanie Weil
November 2021

Antwerp Management School

Who am I?

- **Prof. Dr. Stefanie Weil**
- **Associate Professor | Academic Director PhD Program for executives & Master of Global Management (China track) at Antwerp Management School**
- **Professor of International Relations at the University of Antwerp**



Speech of Dr Wang Yuzhe – Section The Higher Level of opening up

Most salient arguments of Dr. Wang Yuzhes speech:

- **Negative view on Global Governance System**
- **14th Five-Year Plan aimed to “develop of a higher-level open economy system” – will tackle domestic & international challenges**
- **China’s ‘ramp up to economic and financial liberalization’ – deeper regional cooperation**
- **China aims to deepen reform & change its development model (Green Finance, internationalization of the RMB & Digital Economy)**
- **Interests & emotion combined – ‘Striving for mutual benefit and win-win; feeling value consensus**
- **China’s R&D development has made great progress BUT the market depends on imports**
- **Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI)**

Speech of HE Yun, Director of the Policy & Regulatory Division of Chongqing Development & Reform Commission (NDRC)

Most salient topics of Mr. He Yuns speech:

- **Belt & Road Initiative**
- **Connecting China, East Asia and South-East Asia**
- **Building important Economic Centers**
- **Scientific and Technology Centers**
- **China is investing and opening up**

1

Investments

- Implementation of the 14th 5-year plan
- China's Outward FDI's into Europe
- Upscaling of the economy (digital economy)
- Liberalization with Chinese characteristics
- CAI (Comprehensive Agreement on Investment)

2

Reflection Overview

China's international Power

- International Responsibility
- China's unique economic system
- EU as an international actor

3

Normative Discourse

- China as a normative actor
- Decentring EU
- Chinese & European Discourse – from 'Change through Trade' to Threats

Reflections 1/3

Investment

- The 14th 5-year plan is defined on macro level - Beijing started to implement policies on domestic level – (How) can Western businesses participate & benefit? (fragmented authoritarianism gives momentum to negotiations/lobbying, keyword Tech Centers & Hubs)
- Chinese governmental officials below federal level are open to FDI's (argument Dieter Vanonckelen)
- China is investing in Science & Technology – Upscaling: necessity to increase reliability of Chinese Patent Law & cooperation with Western business
- China is upscaling its economic model – focus on digital economy, China needs European know-how, but the market remains state-driven
- Western business is building pressure from outside & inside China – Western business is in a stronger position to building up pressure because of Chinese investments into Europe

Reflections 2/3

China's International Power – Global Governance Approach

- China's international power is rising– Beijing must take up international responsibility and comply with international standards
- China's economic system is unique in the world – multiple expressions Guanxi Capitalism, Capitalism with Chinese characteristics – doing business in China contrasts with business practices in Europe – expert knowledge needed
- Chinese state institutions help Chinese business to invest in the EU – Where are the European 'Institutions' in China? Chambers are very helpful, but their daily work becomes increasingly difficult

Reflections 3/3

Normative Discourse – Constructivist / Ideationalist Approach

- 14th 5-year plan: combined interest & emotions (China as a normative actor?)
- Does the West understand China's concepts of 'Striving for mutual benefit and win-win; feeling value consensus'?
- A political discourse with Chinese characteristics
- EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) – No? (Which) strings attached, Decentring Europe, EU as a normative actor – EU's discourse is threatening & normative towards China

AMMS

Thank you!

Antwerp Management School
Opening minds to impact the world