Introduction

How should Canada and the rest of the international community respond to China’s dramatic re-emergence as a major global power? Our 2013 Annual Conference will address this question at a time when global economic, financial, environmental and political challenges severely tax the capacity of existing diplomatic and institutional mechanisms to manage global competition, co-operation and conflict.

National responses to “the China challenge” generally involve some combination of engagement and containment. While engagement has been the dominant approach in recent decades, an increasingly uncertain global policy environment suggests that this may change with potentially grave implications for China and the world. The conference will explore the complex set of forces shaping such a potential re-alignment and, within that context, assess the risks associated with various policy options.

Program

Day 1: Friday September 27

6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Cash bar and Registration
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 – 9:30 Keynote Address

Keynote Address: Amar Bhattacharya
Challenges and Opportunities in the emergence of China and the BRICS

Amar Bhattacharya is director of the G-24 an inter-governmental agency created in 1971 to co-ordinate the position of the developing countries on monetary and development issues.

Led by China, the BRICS have emerged as the new powerhouse in the global economy. But their prospects look more uncertain after initially withstanding the impact of the global financial crisis. What are the likely prospects of the BRICS and other developing countries in the wake of the crisis, and what opportunities and challenges do they hold for the global economy and the transformation of the developing world?

Day 2: Saturday September 28

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Continental breakfast and Registration
8:45 – 10:15 Session 1

Session I: China’s Growth and Development: Nature, Scale and Global Implications

Panelists:

Shi Xuejua, Director, Political Development and Government Innovation Centre, Beijing
Andre Laliberté, University of Ottawa
Manfred Bienefeld, Carleton University
Peggy Mason, Moderator
Session II: International Responses: Assessments, Critiques and Comparisons

Panelists:

J. Stapleton Roy, former U.S. Ambassador to China
Léonce Ndikumana, Director of African Development Policy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Mark Kruger, Bank of Canada, Former Minister Counselor, Economics and Finance, Canadian Embassy in Beijing
Nadia Abu-Zahra, Moderator

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch
1:30 – 3:00 Luncheon address

Luncheon Address: Charles Burton
Human Rights & the West’s Engagement with China
Charles Burton is a professor at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, specializing in comparative politics, government and politics of China, Canada-China relations, and human rights.
Roy Culpeper, Moderator

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Break
3:30 – 5:30 Session III

Session III: China’s Potential Impact on Various Major Global Challenges
Panelists:
He Xiaojun, Deputy Director, International Poverty Reduction Centre in China
Huhua Cao, University of Ottawa
Paul Bowles, University of Northern British Columbia
Madelaine Drohan (the Economist), Moderator

Day 3: Sunday, September 29

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast
9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Session IV

Session IV: Wrapping Up: Conference Conclusions & Recommendations

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10:45 – noon G78 AGM

Post Conference: Group of 78 Annual General Meeting