



## The Hopkins China Forum and



## The Georgetown Alumni Club

cordially invite you to:

## U.S.-China Commercial Relations: The View from Capitol Hill

## Wayne Morrison

Specialist in Asian Trade and Finance Congressional Research Service

> Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 19:15pm –20:30 pm

9 Qinghai Lu (just to the South of Nanjing West Road) 青海路 9 号,近南京西路,地铁二号线南京西路站

19:00 – Doors Open 19:15 – Lecture 20:00 – Q&A 20:30 – Mixer/Drinks/Dinner/Live Jazz

Please RSVP to Frank Tsai of Hopkins China Forum by writing to editor@shanghai-review.org.

U.S.-China commercial ties have risen dramatically over the past three decades. In 2015, China overtook Canada to become the largest U.S. trading partner. China's rise as a major economic and trading power has made it a major focus for many in Congress. China often becomes part of broader congressional debates over U.S. trade policy and the perceived impact of trade on the U.S. economy and jobs. Often, however, these debates are clouded by the growing complexity of international trade, such as when multinational firms utilize global supply chain networks for inputs and China is the final point of final assembly, and it is unclear who ultimately benefits from such arrangements. China has also become a major factor in the current U.S. debate over the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), even though China is not a party to that agreement. China's economic slowdown is being closely followed by Congress. Many hope that it will induce Beijing to undertake significant new economic reforms, such as lessening the role of the state sector in the economy, reducing trade and investment barriers, boosting IPR protection, and expanding private consumption. However, others are concerned that a slowdown might lead to greater resistance to economic reforms by various Chinese stakeholders and that distortionary policies and practices will continue (or even worsen), hampering the ability of U.S. firms to do business in China and negatively impacting U.S. firms and workers in the United States. An important indicator of where China is heading will be whether or not it can conclude a "highstandard" bilateral investment treaty (BIT) with the United States by the end of the year.

**Wayne Morrison** is a Specialist in Asian Trade and Finance at the Congressional Research Service, where he has, for 30 years, provided objective, non-partisan analysis for members of Congress and their staff. He is its leading specialist on China's economy and U.S.-China commercial relations.

**About Hopkins China Forum:** Hopkins China Forum events are organized under the auspices of The Johns Hopkins University and its affiliated alumni associations worldwide. For more information on Hopkins events in Shanghai, please contact Frank Tsai at the Johns Hopkins University Alumni Association – Shanghai at <u>editor@shanghai-review.org</u>.