



## The Hopkins China Forum

cordially invites you to:

## U.S.-China Trade Tensions and Operational Risks for MNCs in China

## **Erlend Ek**

Trade Research Manager, China Policy

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**General Manager, Beijing Office, Control Risks** 

Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 19:00pm –20:15 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

18:45 - Doors Open

19:00 - Lecture

19:45 - Q&A

20:15 - Mixer/Live Jazz

Escalating trade tension between China and the United States has revealed that the 'New Era' is not easily compatible with 'America first'. In Beijing's view, there are three issues in play. The most explicit—market access—is easiest to resolve: China has already set a course of increased 'opening'. On the second—strategic dominance—China is patient, but believes it has earned a place as peer of the US and will not give it up. The third is the most uncertain: the survival of existing global institutions such as the WTO. If Trump drives the world to abandon multilateral institutions, China fears, it may find itself held more responsible for global institutions than it is ready to accept. Tension between these two countries is likely to remain for a long time, while emerging technologies are disrupting old patterns as well. The speakers will give their account of the issues at play and discuss how to mitigate risks emerging from this increasingly uncertain environment.

<u>Erlend Ek</u> is Head of Research on International Trade at <u>China Policy</u>, a globally-recognized research and strategic advisory, headquartered in Beijing. Erlend advises a global client network, his team tracks Chinese policy-making and debate on market access, investment, trade agreements and food security, mapping the strategic dimensions of trade policy. Erlend has spent years following agriculture policy, and is known for his deep knowledge of and extensive reporting on trade in agricultural commodities. Erlend studied Social Anthropology at Oslo University and University College London, and Chinese at Xiamen University.

Zhang Yifei is Beijing General Manager at Control Risks, where he advises international and domestic companies in China on risk management solutions. He helps companies to better understand what specific risks their businesses face and assists them to design mitigation solutions to seize opportunities for growth. He has extensive experience advising MNCs in China on business intelligence, reputational due diligence, and compliance, and supports Chinese companies in going-abroad projects, and especially in helping them understand and prepare for complex security-related issues. He graduated from Georgetown University with an MA in Security Studies and from the University of Pennsylvania with a BA in Political Science.