

CHINA CROSSROADS

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Constricting Belt, One-Way Road? Europe Views the New Silk Road

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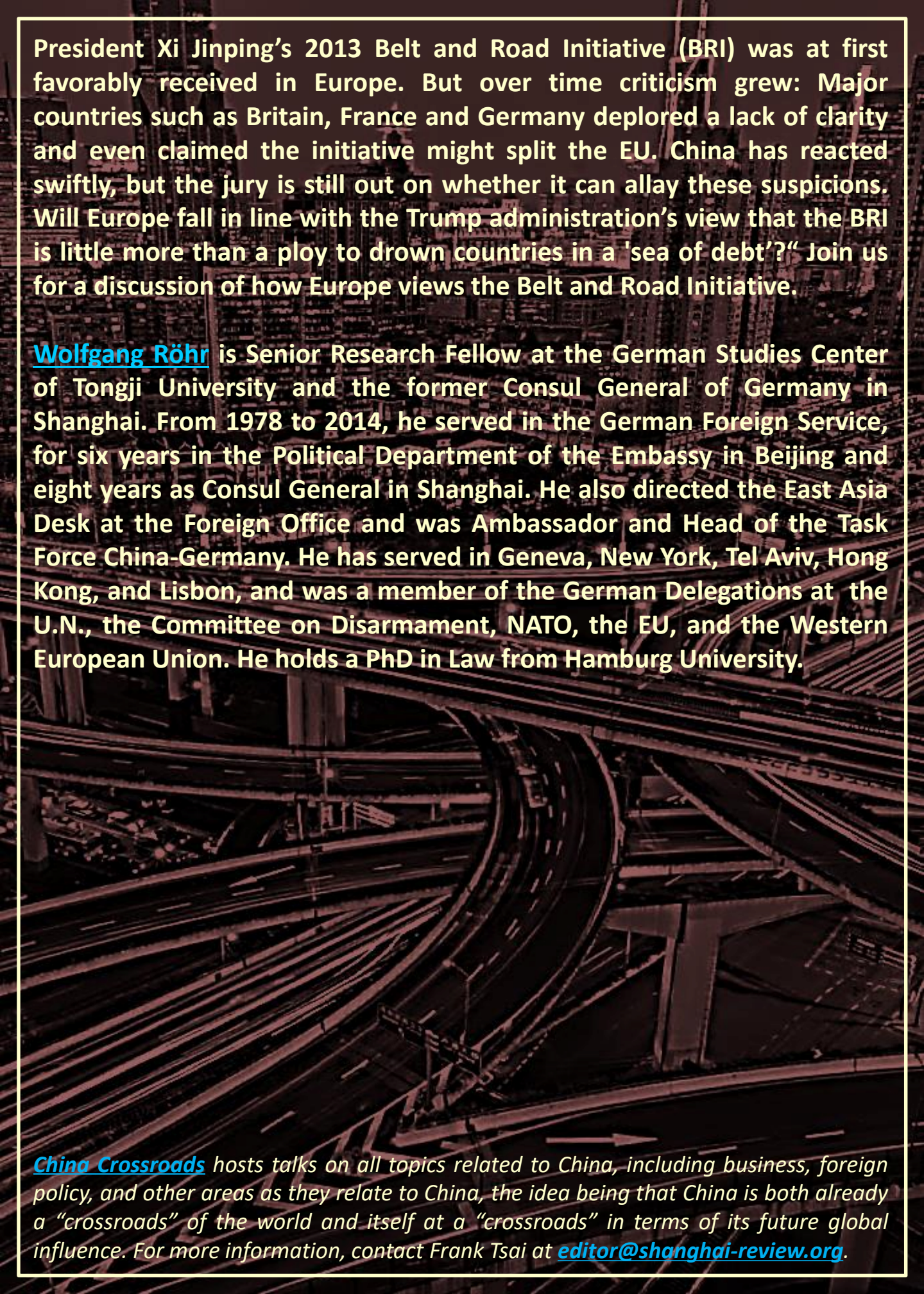
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President Xi Jinping's 2013 Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was at first favorably received in Europe. But over time criticism grew: Major countries such as Britain, France and Germany deplored a lack of clarity and even claimed the initiative might split the EU. China has reacted swiftly, but the jury is still out on whether it can allay these suspicions. Will Europe fall in line with the Trump administration's view that the BRI is little more than a ploy to drown countries in a 'sea of debt'?" Join us for a discussion of how Europe views the Belt and Road Initiative.

[Wolfgang Röhr](#) is Senior Research Fellow at the German Studies Center of Tongji University and the former Consul General of Germany in Shanghai. From 1978 to 2014, he served in the German Foreign Service, for six years in the Political Department of the Embassy in Beijing and eight years as Consul General in Shanghai. He also directed the East Asia Desk at the Foreign Office and was Ambassador and Head of the Task Force China-Germany. He has served in Geneva, New York, Tel Aviv, Hong Kong, and Lisbon, and was a member of the German Delegations at the U.N., the Committee on Disarmament, NATO, the EU, and the Western European Union. He holds a PhD in Law from Hamburg University.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.