

CHINA CROSSROADS

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Afghanistan and American Decline: The Graveyard of Empires?

Ivan Rasmussen

Assistant Professor of Political Science
NYU Shanghai

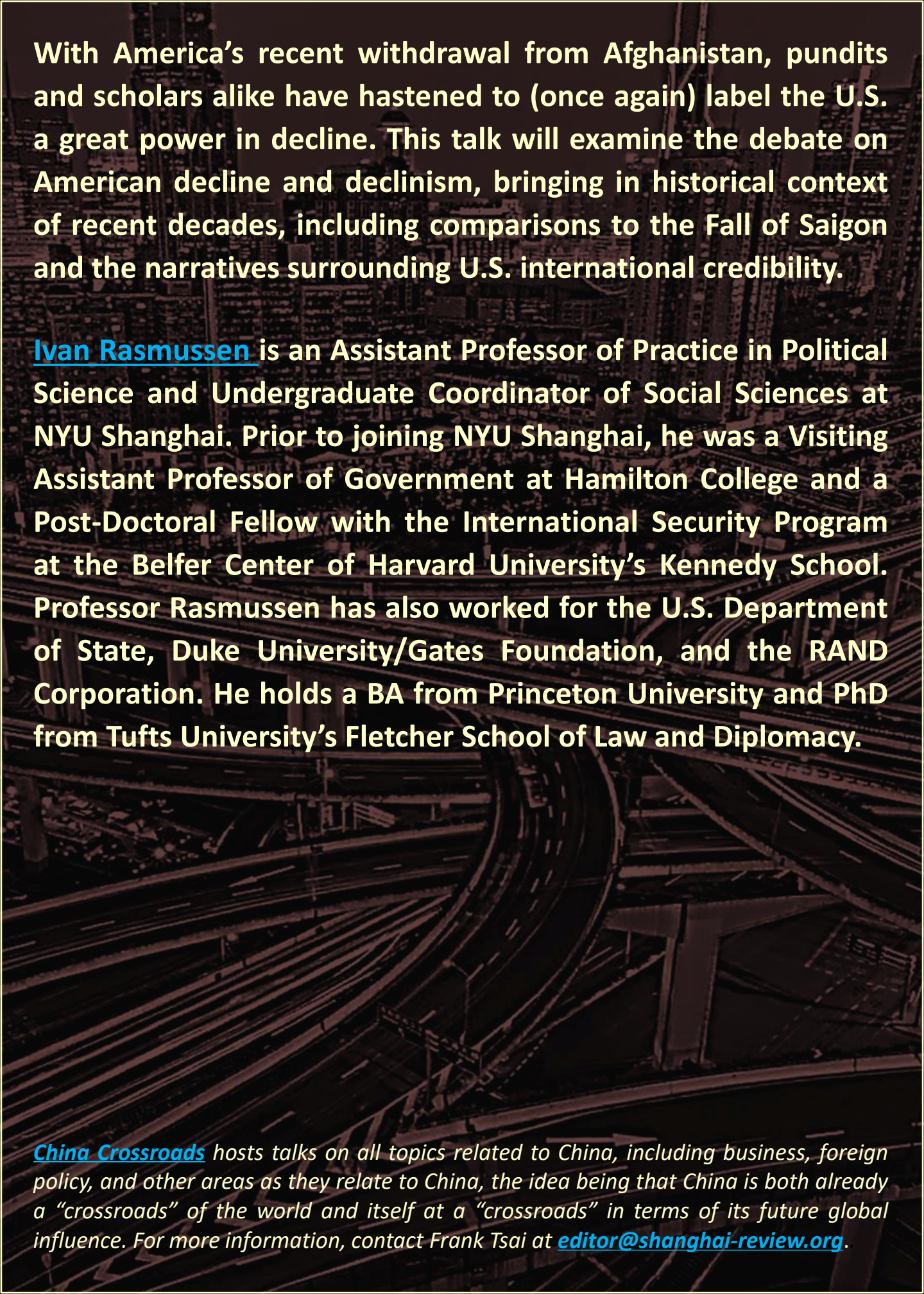


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With America's recent withdrawal from Afghanistan, pundits and scholars alike have hastened to (once again) label the U.S. a great power in decline. This talk will examine the debate on American decline and declinism, bringing in historical context of recent decades, including comparisons to the Fall of Saigon and the narratives surrounding U.S. international credibility.

[Ivan Rasmussen](#) is an Assistant Professor of Practice in Political Science and Undergraduate Coordinator of Social Sciences at NYU Shanghai. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai, he was a Visiting Assistant Professor of Government at Hamilton College and a Post-Doctoral Fellow with the International Security Program at the Belfer Center of Harvard University's Kennedy School. Professor Rasmussen has also worked for the U.S. Department of State, Duke University/Gates Foundation, and the RAND Corporation. He holds a BA from Princeton University and PhD from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

[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.