

CHINA CROSSROADS

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The Benefits of Trust for Society: A Discussion of Denmark and Beyond

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Former Ambassador of Denmark to Bangladesh

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Social trust has been shown to benefit business and governance. How does this play out in Denmark? What about other parts of the world? What are the reasons why trust has these benefits? This talk will discuss trust in general and trust in Denmark, but its centerpiece will be a wide-ranging discussion with the audience for insights on trust in China.

[Mikael Winther](#) is Consul General of Denmark to Shanghai. Ambassador Winther has had a distinguished career as a Danish diplomat serving most of his time in Asia and in management positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Copenhagen. Winther has served three times as Ambassador of Denmark. He was Ambassador of Denmark to Iraq from 2008 to 2010 and Ambassador to Thailand for 6 years from 2010-2016 also accredited to Myanmar and Cambodia. He was also Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Thailand from 2015-16. The third time that the Danish Government appointed Mikael Winther as Ambassador was to Bangladesh 2016-2018. Ambassador Winther was the Deputy Head of Mission in Vietnam from 2001-2005 and First Secretary in Thailand from 1995-1998. Before joining the Danish Foreign Service, he served as a program officer in UNIDO in Manila, the Philippines from 1989-91. He also served two times as Head of Section in the Danish Ministry of Agriculture from 1987-89 and from 1991-1993 respectively. In a career spanning nearly three decades, Ambassador Winther has also served in a number of positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Denmark. Those includes Deputy Head of Department and Head of Section of Quality Assurance of Development Cooperation; Head of Division of Asia Department; and Head of Section in Humanitarian Affairs, Department for Multinational Organizations and Department for North America & Trade Policy. Winther has also worked as an Associate Professor at Copenhagen University's Institute for Political Science and at Copenhagen Business School's Institute for International Economics.

[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.