

# CHINA CROSSROADS

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## How Will Chinese Industry Reach Net-Zero Carbon Emissions?

**Tom Hancock**

Founding Partner at CP Global Insight

Former China Correspondent at FT and Bloomberg

**Erlend Ek**

Founding Partner at CP Global Insight

Former Energy Advisor at the Norwegian Embassy

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China wants to decarbonize its economy, without deindustrializing. Accounting for nearly two-thirds of global industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, its trajectory will have decisive global consequences for climate goals and international competitiveness. This session will present findings from a recent research project examining China's emerging state-led policy and financing system for industrial decarbonization. The project explores: (1) China's policy and financial architecture driving industrial emissions reduction, and its likely impacts, (2) Sectoral pathways in steel, cement, and petrochemicals as outlined in authoritative Chinese planning documents, including the role of technologies such as green hydrogen and carbon capture. With China deploying industrial policies similar to those that shaped its dominance in solar, batteries, and EVs, understanding these developments is essential for assessing future competitive pressures and regulatory influences globally.

Tom Hancock is a Founding Partner at CPGI, focused on the connections between China's macroeconomic and industrial policy. He is also a writer for Gavekal Technologies on developments in Chinese biotechnology. His areas of expertise are PRC macroeconomy and politics, as well as sector-level trends in finance, real estate, steel and consumer businesses. He has recently focused particularly on biotech. He was senior China economy reporter at Bloomberg News, a China correspondent for the Financial Times focused on consumer sectors, and a China correspondent for Agence France-Presse covering Chinese politics and social trends. He then moved to Brussels, developing a deeper understanding of EU-China trade relations. Tom has a Masters in Philosophy from the University of Cambridge.

Erlend Ek is a Founding Partner at CPGI, where he focuses on macro-level analysis at the intersection of economic and social policy, with particular emphasis on foundational sectors including energy, industry, agriculture, and trade. His work supports C-suite strategic planning by examining the structural drivers of political economy and long-term resource allocation. He specialises in interpreting the balance between growth, equity, and sustainability, and in analysing how these dynamics shape risk, opportunity, and competitiveness across markets. Through extensive professional experience across multiple Chinese cities, he has developed expertise in the country's policy and economic landscape. From 2018 to 2022, he was seconded to lead energy affairs work at the Norwegian Embassy in Beijing.

*[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](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).*