

# CHINA CROSSROADS

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## Trump's Grab for Greenland: What It Means for US-Europe Relations, Arctic Security, and World Order

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In this talk, our first speaker Professor Xu Guangmiao will contrast "deal logic" of U.S. territorial acquisition (Alaska, Puerto Rico, Guam) with the "rule logic" of Arctic sovereignty (Svalbard, Greenland), and show how Trump's grab for Greenland tests the 20th-century framework of legitimate territorial acquisition, Arctic security, and the international order in general. On (1) Greenland, she will contend that Greenland's best interest lies in a "quality-driven, non-rushed" independence process, supported by close cooperation with Denmark. On (2) Arctic security, she will focus on the shifting dynamics within NATO, the likely deterioration of Russia-Europe relations after the war in Ukraine, and two key variables: whether Trump wins the midterm elections and whether the war in Ukraine ends in a frozen conflict. On (3) the international order: Can deals ever lead to lasting rules that stabilize the future international order? She will not draw firm conclusions, but open this question for up discussion — drawing on historical precedents such as the Congress of Vienna and the Yalta Conference., Our co-speaker, Philip Giurlando, will engage with her points, while offering his views on what Greenland means for EU politics, transatlantic ties, and NATO.

[Xu Guangmiao](#) is Associate Professor of International Relations at ECNU's School of Politics and International Relations and ECNU's Center for Russia Studies. She has also taught at Wuhan University, where she earned her BA and PhD. She has also been a Visiting Scholar at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. Her research areas include Arctic Governance and Russia Studies.

[Philip Giurlando](#) is Assistant Professor at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University and author of [Eurozone Politics](#) (2015) and editor of [Populist Foreign Policy](#) (2023). He holds a PhD in Comparative and International Politics from Queen's 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](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).