

**International Academic Forum on
“Evolution of the International Order
and Global/Regional Governance,”
organized by Tongji University and
University of Belgrade (November 21,
2024, Belgrade)**

The International Academic Forum titled “*Evolution of the International Order and Global/Regional Governance*” was successfully held at the University of Belgrade on November 21, 2024. The forum was co-organized by the School of Political Science and International Relations at Tongji University, Shanghai, China, and the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, along with the Center for Ethnological and Anthropological Studies of Asia, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Serbia. The event brought together over 40 professors, graduate students, and undergraduate students from both institutions.

Amid significant transformations in the global order and the challenges of global governance, the Forum featured discussions on topics such as “*The Evolution of the International Order and Current Issues in Global Governance*,” “*World Regions and Shifts in International Governance*,” “*The Role of China and Europe in Shaping Global Structures*,” and “*Serbia-China Relations within the Belt and Road Initiative*.”

The Forum agenda consisted of several sessions held throughout the day in the Faculty of Philosophy Ceremonial Hall. It began with opening remarks from the organizers: Prof. Vesna Vučinić Nešković, representing the University of Belgrade, and Prof. Lilei Song, representing Tongji University.

The first morning session featured presentations of Tongji doctoral students’ research topics, followed by discussions

with the faculty and doctoral students from the University of Belgrade. After a coffee/tea break, the second session included a lecture by Prof. Vučinić Nešković, titled “*State and Nation in Yugoslavia and Serbia*.” During the buffet lunch, Chinese and Serbian students and faculty members enjoyed lively and engaging conversations, fostering mutual exchange and connection.

The third session featured a lecture by Dr. Katarina Zakić from the Institute for International Politics and Economics in Belgrade, titled “*Sino-Serbian Cooperation within the Belt and Road Initiative*.” The fourth session concluded the academic program with presentations and discussions among master’s and doctoral students from Tongji University and the University of Belgrade. Following the events at the Faculty of Philosophy, the National Museum of Serbia hosted the delegation with a guided tour of its national art collections.

To conclude, the Forum highlighted the academic strengths of both participating groups: Chinese graduate students demonstrated their proficiency in contemporary international relations theories and global governance frameworks, while Serbian students showcased their expertise in socio-cultural anthropology, emphasizing their analytical skills, methodological rigor, and theoretical insights. Professors and students alike actively contributed to the discussions, offering valuable and diverse perspectives on these complex topics.

The Forum not only highlighted the academic engagement between Tongji University and the University of Belgrade but also fostered the exchange of expertise in international relations, setting a foundation for future collaborative activities.

Forum organizers: Prof. Vesna Vučinić Nešković (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade), and Prof. Lilei Song (School of Political Science and International Relations, Tongji University)

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