

**OSPFLOR 79F: Italy, China, and the Future of the Global Order**

**The Breyer Center for Overseas Studies in Florence**

**Bing Overseas Studies Program**

**Stanford University**

**Winter 2026 | Units: 3 | Grading Basis: Letter grade | Seminar**

**Instructor:** Professor Oriana Skylar Mastro

**Class Hours:** Mondays 1200-1450

**Field trip on Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

**My Florence talk,** Jan 13, 1400-1450

**Classroom:** TBD

**Office Hours:** By appointment only

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**Course Description:**

*Italy, China and the Future of the Global Order* examines the historical, economic and military relationship between Italy and China. This course situates contemporary relations in the context of bilateral ties between Europe and China that date back to Marco Polo and an increasingly powerful China. It considers economic ties, geopolitical alignments, and the implications of a rising China for Italian security and foreign policy.

In addition, the course interrogates how migration, race, and class differences shape Italian politics and society, paying particular attention to the lived experiences of the Chinese diaspora and the power relations between communities and institutions. Students will apply social science methods to analyze political, economic, and cultural institutions, evaluate the origins and effects of inequality, and assess how structures of power and difference change over time.

*Italy, China and the Future of the Global Order* has three parts:

- 1) The first three weeks will provide students with the historical, geopolitical and domestic drivers of the modern relationship between China and Italy. It focuses on Chinese Grand Strategy and vision for the future, the Century of Humiliation and the European colonial interactions with the Far East and finally the Chinese immigrant experience in Italy.
- 2) Second, students will gain an understanding of the modern economic drivers of the bilateral relationship and the balance Rome attempts to strike between growth and security. Special focus will be put on the domestic and geopolitical drivers – including the Italian-US relationship – of Italy's decision to first sign up for and then withdraw from the Belt and Road Initiative.
- 3) Finally, students will analyse how Italy navigates an increasingly complex security concerns around the rise of China as a member of the EU and NATO alliance. The course will look at bilateral relations during the Cold War and possible Italian responses to Chinese/Russian alignment. This will culminate in an in-class simulation of a NATO military crisis.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze the historical, political, economic, and security dimensions of Italy–China relations, situating them within broader European and global contexts.
- Critically evaluate how structures of power, inequality, and difference, particularly around race, ethnicity, migration, and class, shape the experiences of Chinese communities in Italy and influence Italian politics and society.
- Apply social science methods and empirical evidence to investigate institutions such as the EU, NATO, and the Belt and Road Initiative, assessing their impact on state behavior, social change, and international security.
- Develop and defend evidence-based arguments and policy recommendations through written policy memo, reflection paper, cultural analysis, and participation in a NATO crisis simulation.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND MEANS OF ASSESSMENT**

All required readings for this course will be available on Canvas.

### *Assignments*

#### **Policy Memo on Italy's China Strategy (30% of final grade)**

Due in Week 4, this 3–4-page policy memo (single spaced) will address pressing policy questions on Italy-China relations such as: *How should Italy navigate its relationship with China over the next decade, given its EU, NATO, and transatlantic commitments?* [for example only]

Students will choose a specific policy area, economic cooperation, cultural diplomacy, technology security, supply chain resilience, or security/defense policy, and develop three concrete, evidence-based recommendations. The memo should balance domestic political considerations, historical relations, and current international constraints, showing awareness of Italy's strategic position between great powers. Students are expected to ground their recommendations in social science evidence and frameworks, applying systematic inquiry into political and institutional arrangements.

The memo must follow a policy memo format, beginning with an executive summary and including clearly defined background, analysis, and recommendation sections. Students will be evaluated on the relevance and originality of their recommendations, integration of course materials and independent research, and the persuasiveness of their arguments. This exercise is designed to evaluate students understanding of interplay between Italy's national interests, the evolving global strategic environment, and the specific challenges posed by China's rise as well as teach policy writing.

#### **Cultural Diplomacy Analysis (25% of final grade)**

Due in Week 7, students will produce a 3 page (single spaced) cultural analysis that integrates insights from the Prato field trip, one or more films depicting Italy-China cultural relations, and relevant course readings to examine how migration, cultural production, and public narratives shape bilateral ties. The selected film(s) may focus directly on Chinese communities in Italy, Italian cultural engagement with China, or broader themes of cross-cultural interaction that illuminate the lived experiences of the Chinese diaspora in Italy. Students should analyze how cinematic narratives portray themes such as identity, belonging, economic opportunity, and intercultural tension, and connect these depictions to the realities observed during the Prato visit. The students are expected to critically assess how film and other cultural portrayals align with or diverge from actual community experiences, considering their influence on public perception and their implications for cultural diplomacy and also draw on assigned readings such as Sara Cagle's *To Be Young and Chinese in Prato* and Pierpaolo Mudu's work on "ethnic" hierarchies, as well as at least one additional outside scholarly or policy source. Students must evaluate how these portrayals reflect or obscure structures of power, inequality, and marginalization, and how those power dynamics shape Italian perceptions of China and Chinese communities.

### **NATO Crisis Simulation Participation and Reflection Paper: (25% of final grade)**

We will hold a simulation during the final seminar session, centered on a hypothetical crisis in which escalating tensions between the EU/NATO and China pose a direct challenge to European and transatlantic strategic interests. The aim will be to alter China's strategic calculus, undermining its ability to achieve its objectives and raising the costs to its theory of success, through coordinated diplomatic, economic, and security measures. Students will be assigned roles representing a range of actors and are expected to prepare by researching their assigned position's likely stance, capabilities, and constraints. Grades will be based on both active participation during the simulation and a 1-1.5-page, single-spaced reflection memo due during finals week. The memo should critically assess the student's role and decision-making, identify alternative courses of action they might have pursued, and analyze the strategies employed and their underlying rationale, explicitly linking the exercise to the historical, economic, and security dynamics examined throughout the course. The reflection paper must explicitly connect role decisions to theories of international relations, institutional behavior, and social processes studied throughout the course.

### ***Participation (20%)***

Students must attend every class session prepared to participate. This is a small class, and your absence will be noticeable in how it alters the class dynamic. Since class discussion will go well beyond the readings, absence severely diminishes what you learn from this course.

### ***Grading Policy***

- All late assignments will be penalized two-thirds of a letter grade (i.e., from an A to a B+) for each day or fraction of a day late.
- No student can pass this course without completing all of the assignments.
- Students are responsible for retaining a copy of their assignments until they have received a grade.
- No student can pass the course with more than one absence. Arrival in the course later than 30 minutes into the class session will be recorded as an absence.

### **Grading Scheme**

*Final grades for the course will be based on:*

- **In-class Seminar Participation: 20%**
- **Policy Memo: 30%**
- **Cultural Diplomacy Analysis: 25%**
- **NATO Crisis Simulation Participation and Reflection Paper: 25%**

## **VIDEO RECORDING POLICY**

Lectures will be conducted in-person and your attendance and participation in lectures will factor into your participation grade. As noted in the [university's recording and broadcasting courses policy](#), students may not audio or video record class meetings without permission from the instructor (and guest speakers, when applicable). Students must obtain permission from instructors to record class meetings, ensuring recordings are for personal use only and not for public distribution. This policy safeguards privacy rights and university property. Those requiring recorded lectures for academic accommodation should contact the [Office of Accessible Education](#).

## **REGRADE POLICY**

I hope there will be no reason to contest a grade. If you strongly feel that your grade on an assignment does not reflect the quality of your work, you may appeal through the following procedure: You must submit a regrade assignment within one week of having your graded work returned. Write a 1–2-page memo that explains in as much detail as possible why you think you should have received a different grade. Give the memo to me along with your graded assignment and a letter in which you formally request a re-grade. If the regrade requests are legitimate, I will re-evaluate the work and assign a new grade, which may be higher, lower, or identical to the one you originally received. This new grade will be final.

## **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

Computers will not be allowed in class.

## **THE HONOR CODE**

Violating the Honor Code is a serious offense, even when the violation is unintentional. The Honor Code is available at: <https://communitystandards.stanford.edu/policies-guidance/honor-code>. You are responsible for understanding the University rules regarding academic integrity; you should familiarize yourself with the code if you have not already done so. This includes the restriction of the use of ChatGPT. In brief, conduct prohibited by the Honor Code includes all forms of academic dishonesty, among them copying from another's exam, unpermitted collaboration, and representing as one's own work the work of another. If you have any questions about these matters, see your instructor during office hours.

## **COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**

We believe that a strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the classroom is critical for learning. Diversity can include the many ways we identify ourselves, including but not limited to race, color, national origin, language, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, belief, veteran status, or genetic information, along with

many others not mentioned here. By incorporating these diverse perspectives into our examination of important issues in international security, we strengthen our ability to engage in rigorous discussion and analysis. Throughout our lectures and discussions, we will actively interrogate existing theoretical frameworks and identify how biases and discrimination impacts policy development and implementation.

We strive to create an inclusive and supportive climate for all students. Your suggestions for doing so are encouraged and appreciated. Please let us know of additional ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students.

## **FERPA STUDENT RECORD PRIVACY**

Please read more about this policy at: <https://studentservices.stanford.edu/my-information/student-records-ferpa>

## **ACCESS AND ACCOMMODATIONS**

Stanford is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for disabled students. Disabled students are a valued and essential part of the Stanford community. We welcome you to our class. If you experience disability, please register with the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). Professional staff will evaluate your needs, support appropriate and reasonable accommodations, and prepare an Academic Accommodation Letter for faculty. To get started, or to re-initiate services, please visit [oae.stanford.edu](https://oae.stanford.edu). If you already have an Academic Accommodation Letter, we invite you to share your letter with us. Academic Accommodation Letters should be shared at the earliest possible opportunity so we may partner with you and OAE to identify any barriers to access and inclusion that might be encountered in your experience of this course.

## **COURSE OVERVIEW**

<b><u>Part I: Strategic Overview</u></b>		<b>Possible trips/speakers</b>
<b>1</b>	Historical Foundations – The Silk Road and Marco Polo	
<b>2</b>	Grand Strategy	

<b><u>Part II – Political Relations</u></b>		
<b>3</b>	China and Italy in the 19th & 20th Centuries	
<b>4</b>	China in Italian Domestic Politics	Journalists panel (Francesco, Giulia)

<b><u>Part III: Economic and Cultural Relations</u></b>		
<b>5</b>	Economic Ties – Trade, Investment, and Industrial Policy	Bankers/Ministers (Lorenzo Banca d'Italia)
<b>6</b>	Cultural Relations & Educational Exchange*	
<b>7</b>	BRI In Europe	

<b><u>Part IV: Security Relations</u></b>		
<b>8</b>	Geopolitics – China, Italy, and the EU/NATO Context*	EUCOM commander's talk
<b>9</b>	Russia-China and NATO*	EUCOM commander's talk
<b>10</b>	Simulation	

*Please note that for week six, eight and nine we might meet at a different time to accommodate a field trip and a special speaker.*

**FIELD TRIP:** *We will have a field trip to Prato on Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>.*

## **Part I: Strategic Overview and Geopolitical Context**

### **Week 1: Historical Foundations – The Silk Road and Marco Polo** (total readings: 88 pages)

- Michael Yahuda, “The Sino-European Encounter: Historical Influences on Contemporary Relations” in *China-Europe Relations*, Routledge, 2007, 13-32. (20 pgs)
- Jonathan Spence, “First Clash with the West’ in *The Search for Modern China*,” 1990, 137-164. (25 pgs)
- William Callahan, “National Insecurities: Humiliation, Salvation and Chinese Nationalism,” *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*, Vol 29, 2004, 199 – 218. (17 pgs)
- Nebil Karaduman, “Sino-European Relations During the Yuan Dynasty,” *Concepts, Sources and Methodologies in Eastern European Studies*, 2018, p 541 – 557 (26 pgs)

**Multimedia:** In the Footsteps of Marco Polo (1h 28m), <https://www.pbs.org/show/in-the-footsteps-of-marco-polo/>.

#### **Optional Readings**

- Glenn Melancon, “Honour in Opium? The British Declaration of War on China,” *The International History Review*, 1999, p 855 – 874. (20 pgs)
- Timothy Brook, *Vermeer’s Hat: The Seventeenth Century and the Dawn of the Global World*, 1st U.S. ed. (New York: Bloomsbury, 2008), chap. 1. (25 pgs)
- Yucheng Hu and Yinan Wang, “The Changing Status of Macau before and after the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between China and Portugal,” *International Journal of Frontiers of Sociology*, 2022, p 59 – 63
- John Willis Jr, “Trade and Diplomacy with Maritime Europe, 1644 – 1800” in *China and Maritime Europe; Trade, Settlement, Diplomacy and Missions, 1500 – 1800*, Cambridge University Press, 2011, p 183 – 254
- Marco Polo, *The Book of Ser Marco Polo, the Venetian: Concerning the Kingdoms and Marvels of the East*, 3rd ed., rev. ed., trans. and ed. Henry Yule; rev. ed. by Henri Cordier (London: John Murray, 1903). (58 pgs)

#### **My Florence talk, 1400-1450**

This opening session introduces the Stanford Faculty in Residence. More than just an introduction, this is a personal narrative: a story of how and why Florence became part of the faculty member’s intellectual life, research interests, and personal journey. Students gain insight into the faculty member’s academic background, areas of expertise, and relationship with Italy, while beginning to reflect on their own expectations and goals for the quarter. What does it mean to study in Florence—not just as a tourist, but as a scholar, a guest, and a participant in its living culture? Students are encouraged to come prepared to ask questions, share first impressions of the city, and begin thinking about how they’ll make Florence their own.

### **Week 2: Grand Strategy** (total readings: 53 pgs)

- Oriana Skylar Mastro, “Chinese Grand Strategy,” in John Baylis, James Wirtz, and Jeannie Johnson (eds), *Strategy in the Contemporary World*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021). (18 pgs)

- Rush Doshi, "The Long Game: China's Grand Strategy," *Brookings*, p 1 – 17, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-long-game-chinas-grand-strategy-to-displace-american-order/>. (18 pgs)
- Alistair Iain Johnson, "Is China Trying to Undermine the Liberal International Order?" in *China Questions 2: Critical Insights into US-China Relations* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard) eds. Maria Adele Carrai, Jennifer Rudolph, and Michael Szonyi, 81-88. (8 pgs)
- Jerker Hellström, "Security - Decoding China," Decoding China Dictionary, March 26, 2023, <https://decodingchina.eu/security/>. (2 pgs)
- The Economist, "How Xi Plans to Overtake America," 2024, <https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2024/03/31/how-xi-jinping-plans-to-overtake-america>. (7 pgs)

### **Multimedia**

- Elizabeth Economy, "Xi Jinping's Vision for China," CSIS Podcast, Jan 20, 2022, <https://www.csis.org/podcasts/chinapower/xi-jinpings-vision-china-conversation-dr-elizabeth-economy>.
- IISS, Podcast, "China's Grand Strategy from Mao to Xi," 2018, <https://www.iiss.org/events/2018/11/china-grand-strategy-mao-to-xi/>

## **Part II: Political Relations**

### **Week 3: China and Italy in the 19th & 20th Centuries (total readings: 61 pages)**

- Guido Samarani, "The Italian Presence in China: Historical Trends and Perspectives (1902 – 1947)" In *Italy's Encounters with Modern China*, p 49-67. (15 pgs)
- ———. "History and Memory: Italian Communists' Views on the Chinese Communist Party and the PRC During the Early Cold War." In *Europe and China in the Cold War*, 134–50. 2018. (15 pgs)
- Orazio Coco, "The Penetration of Italian Fascism in Nationalist China: Political Influence and Economic Legacy," *The International History Review*, 2021, p 264 – 280. (14 pgs)
- Enrico Fardella, "A Significant Periphery of the Cold War: Italy-China Bilateral Relations, 1949 – 1989," *Cold War History*, 2016, p 1 – 17. (17 pgs)

### **Optional readings:**

- Gabriele Natalizia & Matteo Mazziotti, di Celso (20 Feb 2025): "The structural roots of Italy's expanding foreign military deployments," *Contemporary Italian Politics*, DOI: 10.1080/23248823.2025.2468041. (17 pgs)
- Maurizio Marinelli, "Internal and external spaces: The emotional capital of Tianjin's Italian concession," *Emotion, Space, and Society*, Jan 27, 2010, doi:10.1016/j.emospa.2010.01.009. (9 pgs)
- Guido Samarani, "An Historical Turning Point: Italy's Relations with China Before and After 8 September 1943," *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, 2010, p 590 – 602. (12 pgs)

### **Week 4: China in Italian Domestic Politics (total readings: 70 pages)**

- Goaheng Zhang, *The 2007 'Chinatown' Riot in Italian Debates*, in *Migration and the Media*, University of Toronto Press, p 70 – 107. (32 pgs)



- Kauste and Li, “Out of Place: everyday forms of marginalization, racism and resistance among Chinese migrants in Prato,” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 48 (9): 2037–55. doi:10.1080/1369183X.2020.1801399. (16 pgs)
- Politico, “Italy hosts largest number of shadow Chinese police stations worldwide, report says,” 2022, <https://www.politico.eu/article/italy-hosts-most-illegal-chinese-police-stations-worldwide-report/>. (3 pgs)
- The FT, “The Catholic Church Reassures Hong Kong flock over secrecy of confessions despite security law,” 2024, <https://www.ft.com/content/51dd903d-eac0-41c2-a07b-f97d86e692df>. (3 pgs)
- Euronews, “Why second generation Chinese immigrants in Italy don’t want citizenship” 2023, <https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2023/01/30/why-second-generation-chinese-migrants-in-italy-eschew-citizenship> (5 pgs)
- The Economist, “Long-term Chinese Immigrants in Italy – Special Report,” 2018, <https://www.economist.com/special-report/2018/05/17/long-term-chinese-immigrants-in-italy#> (7 pgs)
- The Economist, “A Corner of Italy that is Forever China,” 2023, <https://www.economist.com/europe/2023/10/12/a-corner-of-italy-that-is-forever-china>. (4 pgs)

### **Optional Readings**

- Goaheng Zhang, *The Chinese Mafia in Italy, 1992 – 2006*, in *Migration and the Media*, University of Toronto Press, p 45 – 75
- Antonella Ceccagno, “The Chinese in Italy at a Crossroads: The Economic Crisis,” In *Beyond Chinatown: New Chinese Migration and Global Expansion of China*, 2007, p 115 – 133
- Angela Chang, “20<sup>th</sup> Century Chinese Migration to Italy,” *History Compass*, 2012, p 179 – 187
- Sun, “Reversal of Fortune: growth trajectories of Catholicism and Protestantism in Modern China,” *Theory and Society*, 2019, p267 – 298
- Li, “Catholic Communities and Local Governance in Northeast China,” *China Review*, 2018, p 107 – 130
- The Guardian, “Italy hosts 11 of 100-plus unofficial Chinese ‘police stations’,” 2022, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/dec/05/italy-home-11-unofficial-chinese-police-stations-world>. (2 pgs)
- Valentina Pedone, *A Journey to the West: Observations on the Chinese Migration to Italy*, (Firenze: Firenze University Press, 2013), Chap 1 and 3. (39 pgs)

## **Part III: Economic and Cultural Relations**

### **Week 5: Economic Ties – Trade, Investment, and Industrial Policy (total readings: 105 pages)**

- Richard Maher, “The Elusive EU-China Strategic Partnership,” *International Affairs*, 2016, p 959 – 976. (19 pgs)
- Duncan Freeman and Gustaaf Geererts, “Europe, China and Expectations for Human Rights,” *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, 2011, p 179 - 203. (26 pgs)
- Jing Men, “The Chinese Perspectives on EU policies toward China,” *IAI*, 2023, p 1 – 17. (18 pgs)

- Li and He, "The Remaking of China-EU Relations in the New Era of US-China Antagonism," *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, 2022, p 439 – 455. (14 pgs)
- Agatha Kratz et al., "Chinese FDI in Europe," *Rhodium Group*, June 2024. (28 pgs)

### Optional Readings

- Jonathon Holslag, "The Strategic Dissonance between Europe and China," *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, 2010, p 325 – 345. (22 pgs)
- Carlo Pietrobelli, Roberta Rablotti, and Marco Sanfillipo, "Chinese FDI Strategies in Italy: The 'Marco Polo' Effect," *Journal of Technological Learning, Innovation and Development*, 2010, p 3 – 19. (17 pgs)
- Alice Politi, "The Paradigm shift in EU-China Relations and the limits of the EU's current strategy toward China: a relational perspective," *Asian Affairs*, 2023, p 670 – 693. (20 pgs)
- Filippo Boni, "Strategic Partnerships and China's Diplomacy in Europe: Insights from Italy," *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 2023, p 740 – 757
- Honghua Men and Pengfei Liang, "The China-Italy Comprehensive Strategic Partnership: Overview and Pathways to Progress," *China Quarterly of International Strategic Studies*, 2020, p 389 – 411.

### Week 6: Cultural Relations and Educational Exchange (total readings: 51 pages)

- Sara Cagle, "To Be Young and Chinese in Prato," *Italy segreta*, January 24, 2024. <https://italysegreta.com/chinese-in-prato/>. (9 pgs)
- "Realism in European and World Cinema: Beijing Bicycle and Bicycle Thieves," Screen Analysis. (4 pgs)
- Huang, Zhong, "The bicycle towards the pantheon: A comparative analysis of Beijing Bicycle and Bicycle Thieves," *Journal of Italian Cinema & Media Studies*, 2014. (10 pgs)
- Pierpaolo Mudu, "The people's food: the ingredients of "ethnic" hierarchies and the development of Chinese restaurants in Rome," *GeoJournal*, 2007. (15 pgs)
- MaryAnn McDonald Carolan, *Orienting Italy: China through the lens of Italian filmmakers*, Introduction Chapter, Albany, State of New York Press, 2022. (13 pgs)

### Multimedia: Beijing Bicycle and Bicycle Thieves

### Week 7: BRI in Europe (total readings: 73 pages)

- Timothy Heath, "China's Evolving Approach to Economic Diplomacy," *Asia Policy*, 2016, p 157 – 192. (35 pgs)
- Yu Xiao and Fabio Parenti, "China-Italy BRI Cooperation: Toward a New Cooperation Model?," *Area Development and Policy*, 2022, p 204 – 221. (14 pgs)
- Garima Mohan, "Europe's Response to the Belt and Road Initiative," Report, *German Marshall Fund*, 2018, (10 pgs)
- Jasper Roctus, "Remoulding China's 'Empty' Belt and Road Initiative: An Opportunity for the EU," *Security Brief*, 2020, (8 pgs)
- CFR: Italy Withdraws from the BRI: <https://www.cfr.org/blog/why-italy-withdrawing-chinas-belt-and-road-initiative>. (6 pgs)

### Optional Readings

- Nicola Casarini, “The Future of the Belt and Road in Europe: How China’s Connectivity Project is Being Reconfigured across the Old Continent – and What it Means for the Euro-Atlantic Alliance,” Report, *Istituto Affari Internazionali*, 2024, 16 pages.
- Mark Beeson, “Goeconomics with Chinese characteristics: the BRI and China’s evolving Grand Strategy,” *Economic and Political Studies*, 2018, p 240 – 256. (13 pgs)
- Benner, Gaspers, Ohlberg, Poggtti, Shi-Kupfer, “Authoritarian Advance: Responding to China’s Growing Political Influence in Europe,” *Global Public Policy Institute*, 2018, p 1 – 43. (44 pgs)
- FT, “Italy formally pulls out of China’s Belt and Road Initiative,” <https://www.ft.com/content/946636dc-2fa1-4b2b-a83b-84478f804a83>. (3 pgs)

## **Part IV: Security Relations**

*Injections will come throughout the two weeks prior to the simulation*

**Week 8: Geopolitics – China, Italy, and the EU/NATO Context** (total reading: 75 pages)

- Bartsch et al, “From a China Strategy to no Strategy at all,” *MERICS*, July 2023, p 91 – 96. (6 pgs)
- Jonathan Holslag, “China, NATO and the Pitfalls of Empty Engagement,” *The Washington Quarterly*, 2019, p 137 – 150. (12 pgs)
- Joshua Yaffa, “How Donald Trump Got NATO to Pay Up,” *The New Yorker*, June 23, 2025, <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2025/06/30/how-donald-trump-got-nato-to-pay-up>. (23 pgs)
- Lisolette Odgaard, “The EU’s Arms Embargo Against China: What is it Worth?,” Research Report, *European Union Institute for Security Studies*, 2016, p 23 – 30. (9 pgs)
- Stefano Pelaggi, “The Evolution of Italian-Taiwanese Relations in Light of the Growing US-PRC Competition,” *Il Politico* (Univ. Pavia, Italy, 2023) 88, no. 2: 58-75. (18 pgs)
- Francesca Ghiretti, “The EU’s approach to China: What happened to systemic rivalry?,” *MERICS*, May 11, 2023. (7 pgs)

### **Optional:**

- Eberhard Sandschnieder, “Is China’s Military Modernisation a Concern for the EU?,” Research Report, *European Union Institute for Security Studies*, 2006, p 39 – 47. (9 pgs)
- Kristopher Ramsay, “Cheap Talk Diplomacy, Voluntary Negotiation and Variable Bargaining Power,” *International Studies Quarterly*, 2011, p 1003 – 1023. (20 pgs)
- Jamie Shea, “Keeping NATO Relevant,” *Carnegie Endowment for Peace*, 2012, (17 pgs)
- Pierre Haroche and Martin Quencez, “NATO Facing China: Responses and Adaptations,” *Global Politics and Strategy*, 2022, p 73 – 86. (13 pgs)
- Alessandro Marrone and Gaia Ravezzolo, “NATO and Italy in the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alliance: Perspectives Beyond the Washington Summit,” *Istituto Affari Internazionali*, 2024, p 1 – 21. (17 pgs)

## Week 9: Russia-China and NATO (total reading: 103 pages)

- Bruce Russett and Alan Stam, "Courting Disaster: An Expanded NATO vs. Russia and China," *Political Science Quarterly*, 1998, p 361 – 382. (22 pgs)
- Michael Cox, "Best and Bosom Friends: Putin, Xi and the Challenge to the West," *LSE*, 2022, p 1 – 19. (18 pgs)
- Oriana Mastro, "Russia-China Alignment and Implications for Global Security," *Security Studies*, 33, 2024, p 254 – 290. (37 pgs)
- Bechná, Zinaida, and Bradley A. Thayer. "NATO'S NEW ROLE: The Alliance's Response to a Rising China," *Naval War College Review*, 2016, p 65–82. (13 pgs)
- Elena Kropatcheva, "NATO-Russian Relations and the Chinese Factor: An Ignored Variable," *Politics*, Vol 34, 2014, p 149 – 160. (8 pgs)
- Henry Foy, "Meloni pitches her alternative peacekeeping plan for Ukraine," *Financial Times*, March 27, 2025, <https://www-ft-com.stanford.idm.oclc.org/content/53a73132-cf02-4561-b91f-c91f7ad52f13?> (5 pgs)  
Full interview here (optional): <https://www-ft-com.stanford.idm.oclc.org/content/96d02345-1079-47d0-b208-1e80bcd6f684>.

## Week 10: SIMULATION

### Additional resources:

Pelaggi, Stefano. 2023. *Where Eagles Do Not Dare: Moderate Revisionism in International Politics*. Springer Nature. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-81521-8>.

Giulio Pugliese & Alice Dell'Era, *Italy's Security Engagement in Northeast Asia: Drivers and Outlook*, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Global Governance Programme, 2025.

Lorenzo Termine, *The Engagement of Italy with Indo-Pacific Security: A Compass to Navigate Pitfalls and Advance Interests*, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Global Governance Programme, 2025.

### *Podcasts*

The Chinese Underworld:

<https://www.investigativejournalismforeu.net/podcast/ij4eu-podcast-the-chinese-underworld-in-europe/>

Old World, New Silk Road: Italy and Europe:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/6C75YVpctgqj8o6zrzsfv>

CNAS: Brussel Sprouts

<https://www.cnas.org/brussels-sprouts>

Dan Snow: British Empire, China and Opium

<https://shows.acast.com/dansnowshistoryhit/episodes/the-british-empire-china-and-opium>

The Rest is History: China

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/the-rest-is-history/id1537788786?i=1000507652890>

RUSI: Transatlantic Cooperation on Policy toward China and the Indo Pacific (2024)  
<https://rusi.org/podcasts/global-security-briefing/episode-71-transatlantic-cooperation-policy-towards-china-and-indo-pacific>

RUSI: Chinese Power and the Eurozone Crisis (2011)  
<https://www.rusi.org/podcasts/rusi-analysis/analysis-podcast-chinese-power-and-eurozone-crisis>

CSIS/ChinaPowerProject: Changing Dynamic between China and Europe (2022)  
<https://www.csis.org/podcasts/chinapower/changing-dynamics-between-china-and-europe-conversation-meia-nouwens-and-veerle>

CSIS/ChinaPowerProject: Europe and China as Partners or Rivals (2020)  
<https://www.csis.org/podcasts/chinapower/europe-and-china-partners-or-rivals-conversation-mikko-huotari>

CSIS/ChinaPowerProject: China and the 16+1 Mechanism (2018)  
<https://www.csis.org/podcasts/chinapower/china-and-161-mechanism-conversation-dr-justyna-szczudlik>

CSIS/ChinaPowerProject: EU-China Relations (2018)  
<https://www.csis.org/podcasts/chinapower/china-eu-relations-conversation-theresa-fallon>

### ***YouTube / Discussions / Documentaries***

How the US-China Rivalry impacts Italy:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5M5GJ2IIUsw>

Made in Italy by the Chinese:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEIu5A9SBtI>

Milan's Chinaland:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=er7ShvBw9TQ>

The Bridge Between Europe and China: The New Silk Road  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIWS-EXWmWY>

Inside Italy's designer bag sweatshops | 101 East Documentary  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=owXegVj1NC4>