National Chengchi University College of International Affairs Center for Chinese Communist Party International Strategy Research Annual Report Academic Year 113

Center Name	Center for Chinese Communist Party International Strategy Research
Director	Chiung-Chiu Huang
Implementation Period	August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025
Participants	**I. Key Personnel** **1. On-Campus** ● **Director:** Chiung-Chiu Huang, Professor, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies ● **Advisor:** Kun-Shuan Chiu, Emeritus Professor, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies **2. Off-Campus — Adjunct Research Fellows** ● Kai-Tai Tang ● Yi-Pin Chen ● Chun-Liang Pao ● Teng-Chi Chang ● Ya-Ling Lin ● Kung-Sung Nguyen **II. Other Personnel** **1. On-Campus — Research Assistants** ● Yin-Shan Huang, Ph.D. Student, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies ● Chung-hsuan Chen, Ph.D. Student, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies **2. Off-Campus**
Report Submission Date	July 31, 2025

Work Achievements and Future Work Plan

I. Work Achievements for the Current Academic Year (Including Attachments)

1. Book Launch with Professor Chih-yu Shih

Book: *Relations and Roles in China's Internationalism: Rediscovering Confucianism in a Pluriversal World*

Online book launch and discussion with Professor Chih-yu Shih.

1.1 Date and Time

October 2, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

1.2 Venue

Online event via Google Meet
https://meet.google.com/mkr-zgzn-rbx

1.3 Participants (Name, Affiliation, and Position)

- **Chih-yu Shih:** Professor, School of Political Science and International Relations, Tongji University, China; Emeritus Professor, National Taiwan University
- **Huang Chiung-chiu:** Professor, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies, National Chengchi University; Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations
- **Wan-ping Lin:** Visiting Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
- **Sinan Chu:** Research Fellow, Institute of Asian Studies, German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA)
- **Beatrix Campbell:** Assistant Professor of International Relations, Leiden University, the Netherlands
- **Pinar Bilgin:** Professor of International Relations, Bilkent University, Türkiye

1.3.1 Moderator

Huang Chiung-chiu, Professor, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies, National Chengchi University; Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations; Director of the Center for China's International Grand Strategy.

1.3.2 Speaker

Chih-yu Shih, Professor, School of Political Science and International Relations, Tongji University, China; Emeritus Professor, National Taiwan University.

1.3.3 Staff

- Huang Yin-shan, Doctoral Student, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies
- Kao Hui-min, Doctoral Student, Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies

1.4 Event Overview

Renowned political scientist Professor Chih-yu Shih introduced his latest book, *Relations and Roles in China's Internationalism: Rediscovering Confucianism in a Pluriversal World*, at this online book launch. The book explores the underlying dynamics of contemporary international relations and geopolitics, combining Eastern and Western theoretical perspectives to offer a forward-looking analytical framework. In addition to introducing the book, Professor Shih shared detailed insights into his research and writing process, followed by in-depth discussion and a question-and-answer session with participants.

1.5 Agenda (Please see attachment)

1.6 Event Outcomes, Impact, and Highlights

On October 2, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., the Center for China's International Grand Strategy and the Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies at National Chengchi University jointly hosted a successful book launch for Professor Chih-yu Shih's latest work, *Relations and Roles in China's Internationalism: Rediscovering Confucianism in a Pluriversal World*. The Institute of International Relations at National Chengchi University served as the co-organizer.

The event was moderated by Professor Huang Chiung-chiu of the Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies at National Chengchi University, who is also a Research Fellow at the Institute of International Relations. The invited discussants were Wan-ping Lin, Visiting Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science; Sinan Chu, Research Fellow at the Institute of Asian Studies, German Institute for Global and Area Studies; Beatrix Campbell, Assistant Professor of International Relations at Leiden University; and Pinar Bilgin, Professor of International Relations at Bilkent University.

Professor Shih began by presenting the key arguments of his book and emphasizing the profound connection between Confucian thought and international relations. He examined how Confucianism maintains social order through reciprocal hierarchical structures and how rulers must rebuild their reputations when that order is challenged. He further discussed emotional mobilization, friendship, and patience as key strategies for restoring harmony. Comparing Confucianism with Western liberalism, he argued that Confucian thought places greater emphasis on integrating with the people and avoiding the creation of exceptional or exclusionary categories. Professor Shih concluded by discussing how Confucianism and liberalism may learn from and transform one another through their encounters. Although conflicts may arise in the short term, he suggested that these interactions could ultimately help reconstruct order and establish new relationships with strangers.

The first discussant, Wan-ping Lin, emphasized that Professor Shih's theories of "relations" and "roles" offer a fresh perspective on global diplomacy. She explained that role-playing and relationship maintenance, as discussed in the book, could foster harmonious international interactions while moving beyond the hierarchical structure traditionally associated with the Confucian concept of *Tianxia* ("All Under Heaven"). She also noted that Professor Shih's theoretical framework incorporates post-national and decolonial perspectives, challenging the logic of violence and conflict prevalent in mainstream international relations theories. Using the Russia–Ukraine war as an example, she raised questions about how Confucian international relations theory might address practical challenges such as unequal distributions of interests and the desire for revenge. She also explored whether Confucian theory could endure and gain support within the prevailing international order.

The second discussant, Sinan Chu, observed that Professor Shih's work challenges Eurocentrism in international relations theory and offers a new conceptual framework for understanding global politics. He praised Professor Shih for drawing on Confucian thought without becoming entangled in contemporary Chinese nationalism or geopolitical disputes, instead applying insights from ancient philosophy to modern international relations. Chu further highlighted the book's emphasis on *Tianxia* and its vision of a world order centered on interconnectedness. He noted that the book calls on countries to address differences and unfamiliarity through dynamic interactions. He particularly emphasized Professor Shih's critique of contemporary interpretations of *Tianxia* in international

relations and argued that the inclusiveness of Confucian thought provides a forward-looking theoretical foundation for global politics.

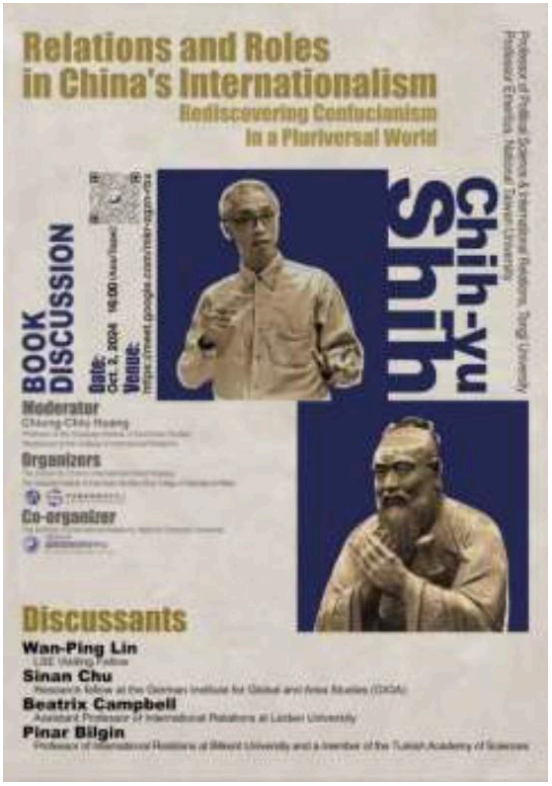
The third discussant, Beatrix Campbell, focused on two key themes in Professor Shih's book. The first was the centrality of relationality in Confucian international relations theory. Through this concept, Professor Shih seeks to move beyond the binary thinking characteristic of traditional Western international relations theories and offer a vision of global order that is not centered on the West. The second theme was the development of post-Western regionalism. Using the Belt and Road Initiative as an example, Campbell explored how this policy challenges traditional European models of regionalism and the legitimacy issues it raises.

Finally, Professor Pinar Bilgin discussed the interactions and transformations between theory and policy, as well as between Asian philosophy and Western international relations theory, explored in Professor Shih's work. She noted that the book brings Confucian thought into dialogue with Western international relations theories, challenges conventional binary thinking, and emphasizes the importance of relationality in China's international behavior. She also discussed the unrealized potential of Confucian thought, suggesting that if China were to apply these philosophical ideas more effectively, they could have a far-reaching impact on global patterns of international relations.

The book launch provided participants with a platform for in-depth dialogue on Confucian thought and contemporary international relations theory. It also stimulated further reflection on the future development of Confucian internationalism.

1.7 Attachments

1.7.1 Event Poster



1.7.2 Event Photos





1.7.3 Agenda

「Book Launch with Professor Chih-yu Shih」

Relations and Roles in China's Internationalism: Rediscovering Confucianism in a Pluriversal World

Organizer: Center for China's International Grand Strategy & Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies, National Chengchi University

Co-organizer: Institute of International Relations, National Chengchi University

Moderator: Chiung-chiu Huang

Time: 10/2 4:00pm (Taipei time)

Venue: Google Meet
https://meet.google.com/mkr-zgzn-rbx

Greeting, Professor Chiung-chiu Huang, 3-5 minutes Professor of East Asian Studies, National Chengchi University
Author: Chih-yu Shih, 5-7 minutes Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Tongji University Emeritus Professor, National Taiwan University
Discussant 1: Wan-ping Lin, 12-15 minutes London School of Economics (LSE) Visiting Fellow **Discussant 2: Sinan Chu, 12-15 minutes** Research fellow at the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) **Discussant 3: Beatrix Campbell, 12-15 minutes** Assistant Professor of International Relations at Leiden University **Discussant 4: Pinar Bilgin, 12-15 minutes** Professor of International Relations at Bilkent University and a member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences
Audience, 5-8 minutes
Expressing gratitude, Professor Chih-yu Shih, 1-2 minutes

1.7.4 Press Release Link

https://www.nccu.edu.tw/p/405-1000-17858,c87.php?Lang=zh-tw

II. Work Plan for the Next Academic Year

The Center plans to organize the following activities during Academic Year 114. The titles and dates are tentative.

1. **Guest Lectures (September–December 2025)**
   Organize lectures on China studies or key contemporary issues in Asia-Pacific international politics, in collaboration with the Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies.
2. **Rethinking the Methods and Possibilities of Contemporary China Studies (March 2026)**
   Invite international scholars to serve as keynote discussants. English will be the primary language of the event.
3. **Current Affairs and Policy Roundtables or Research Workshops**
   Collaborate with the Institute of International Relations to organize roundtable discussions on current affairs and policy issues, or hold research workshops.
4. **Commentaries on Current Affairs**
   Plan to publish commentaries on current affairs under the names and affiliations of the Center's advisors, director, and affiliated research fellows.