



# MONTHLY UPDATE ON CHINA

Report of the 17<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting of  
China Study Guide

JUNE 2018



## INTRODUCTION TO THE MONTHLY UPDATE

### *Caution for the Reader*

1. The study circle is a monthly get-together to share our collective work in whatever form the work is available as of this morning!
2. Our work remains work in progress and un-finished because we are perpetually on the lookout for new ideas, improvements and revisions. We are always revising our work in light of speakers' own reviews and any feedback from the readers.
3. The study circle is both informal and based on voluntary work. We all learn as well as contribute by way of our understanding.
4. The WhatsApp group is an important spill-over of the study circle. It keeps us mutually engaged between one meeting and the next.
5. As an informal and voluntary group it complements other formal organizations each of who contribute in their own way.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE CHINA STUDY CIRCLE

### *Who are we?*

China study circle is an open forum which brings together people with varying interests in China and its remarkable progress to become the world's next superpower from different spheres of life. The rise in China from a poor, stagnant country to a major economic power within a time span of twenty-eight years is often described by analysts as one of the greatest success stories in these present times and this circle provides a baseline to learn and take guidance from it. China study Circle also provides a platform to students who are passionate about studying China. The Study Circle is both informal and based on voluntary work with mutual learning and understanding process.

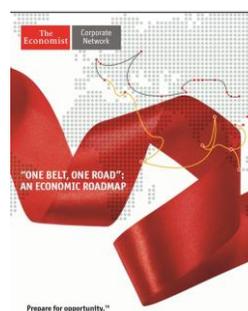
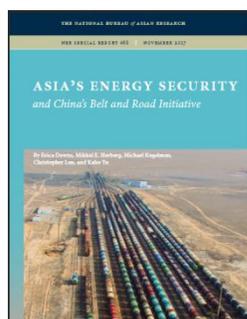
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>MONTHLY UPDATES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Belt and Road Initiative: Notable Publications and Sources .....	3
<b>HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LATEST MONTH:.....</b>	<b>4</b>
High Speed Rail Diplomacy.....	4
Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).....	5
<b>STUDY GUIDE ON CHINA'S REGIONS:.....</b>	<b>6</b>
Eastern China and OBOR/BRI.....	6
<b>SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>SPEAKER'S PROFILES .....</b>	<b>8</b>

## MONTHLY UPDATES

### Belt and Road Initiative: Notable Publications and Sources

By: Neelum Javed



This month's update aimed to further add clarity to the discussion around OBOR/BRI Economic Roadmap and to stimulate more informed consideration about the implications of OBOR around the world. This report explores seven key regional spheres covered by the Belt-Road initiative: Africa, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Russia, South Asia and South-east Asia.

The full document can be accessed on the following link:

[http://gilanifoundation.com/homepage/cpec/17th2.%2017%20Session%20\(Monthly%20Update\)%20-Islamabad's%20Informal%20China%20Study%20Circle%20-.pdf](http://gilanifoundation.com/homepage/cpec/17th2.%2017%20Session%20(Monthly%20Update)%20-Islamabad's%20Informal%20China%20Study%20Circle%20-.pdf)

Since the Circle's inception in December 2016, there has been extensive research on worldwide publications, reports, and their sources on OBOR/BRI compiled into more than 20 voluminous documents. For previous reports presented in this series, follow the link below:

<http://www.gilanifoundation.com/china-study-circle/>

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LATEST MONTH:

### High Speed Rail Diplomacy

*By Tatheer Sherazi*

In this session, the engineering of high speed transport and its benefits for China were discussed.

Currently China has the world's longest, most extensively used passenger dedicated High-speed rail (HSR) network. Almost all HSR trains, track and service are owned and operated by the China Railway Corporation under the brand China Railway High-speed (CRH).

Under (CRH), 'Moscow-Kazan HSR Pilot Project' is underway which will reduce the travelling time by three fourths between Moscow and Kazan.

To access the full report, follow the link below:

<http://gilanifoundation.com/homepage/cpec/17th3.High%20Speed%20Rail%20Diplomacy.pdf>

## Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

*By: Tatheer Shirazi*

Shanghai Five was renamed as Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in 2001 when Uzbekistan joined China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Tajikistan in their efforts to promote regional peace. Pakistan and India joined SCO in 2017.

The primary goal of SCO was to fight the 'three evils': terrorism, extremism and separatism.

The noteworthy events of SCO include the meeting of Heads of State Council of SCO in Astana in 2017. This is significant as Belt and Road was announced and India and Pakistan were granted full membership.

Another important event for SCO is the Qingdao Summit 2018. It was the first time Pakistan and India participated as full-fledged members. The Summit also defined the concrete measures through which China will contribute to the member states in terms of providing trainings and services.

To access the full report, follow the link below:

[http://gilanifoundation.com/homepage/cpec/17th4.Shanghai%20Cooperation%20Organization\(SCO\).pdf](http://gilanifoundation.com/homepage/cpec/17th4.Shanghai%20Cooperation%20Organization(SCO).pdf)

## STUDY GUIDE ON CHINA'S REGIONS:

### Eastern China and OBOR/BRI

*By: Neelum Javed*



China's Eastern region, comprising Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui, Fujian, Jiangxi, and Shandong, is a great contributor to China's economic growth.

This study guide provides an overview of the administrative zones of China with a focus on the Eastern region. The area and population of each city has been mentioned. Apart from this an economic analysis of Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangxi and Anhui is also discussed.

To access the full report, follow the link below:

<http://gilanifoundation.com/homepage/cpec/17th5.%20Eastern%20China%20and%20OBOR.pdf>

## SUMMARY

The 17<sup>th</sup> Monthly session of China study Circle discussed and analyzed various global components of the Belt and Road Initiative that are of significance. The session provided the attendees with a complete and detailed account of where China is headed and how influential it is becoming in world economics. A detailed economic description of Eastern China was given by Neelum Javed. Tatheer Sherazi discussed the features and benefits of High-Speed transport projects in China and Russia as well as the formation and objectives of Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

## **SPEAKER'S PROFILES**

### **TATHEER SHERAZI**

Ms. Tatheer is currently completing her PhD thesis write up. She has been teaching at international Islamic university and Foundation University since 2008 and is currently working as a Research Associate in a Higher Education Commission (HEC) funded project- Business and Politics in the Globalized World. Her area of expertise is China, particularly focused on South Central China.

### **NEELUM JAVED**

Neelum Javed is pursuing her MPhil in International Relations and is also currently working as a Research Associate in a Higher Education Commission (HEC) funded project- Business and Politics in the Globalized World. Her area of expertise is China, particularly focused on Eastern China.

**For More Information, please contact**

**Ms. Fatima Aamir**

**[fatima@gallup.com.pk](mailto:fatima@gallup.com.pk)**

**Disclaimer:** *China Study Circle, an initiative of Gilani Research Foundation, is providing this data in public interest and free of charge. Although all care has been taken to ensure that the numbers are accurate and statistically significant, we do not take any responsibility for its authenticity, accuracy and robustness. The information contained in this report can be used by the reader at his/her own risk. Gilani Research Foundation is not going to be responsible and cannot be held liable for any profit or loss arising out of use of these numbers.*