

Lecture: Understanding China's Economy

Elective Course at the Bachelor of Science (BSC)

Background

China's economic success since the country started its reform and opening up policy under Deng Xiaoping in 1978 is unrivalled. Today, the economy is the second largest in the world and will become the largest one in about five years from now. The country is also underway to become a leading technological powerhouse and has the second largest financial markets of the world. Social progress is impressive as well. In the last forty years, the country has raised 800 million people from extreme poverty and GDP-per-capita reaches a high middle-income level. Internationally, China is the largest global trade nation with a high level of Foreign and Overseas Direct Investment as well. The Chinese currency, the Renminbi or Yuan, is part of the Special Drawing Rights of the IMF since 2015 and frequently used in international trade.

Against this background, the lecture focusses on the performance and challenges of China's domestic economy including current economic policy. Furthermore, the international (economic) rise of China will be discussed and the consequences for the 'West': partner, competitor, or system rival? The elective starts with a more theoretical reflection about the question how to describe China's economic system at best in comparison with advanced economies that includes the historical development of China's economy as well.

Learning Objectives

After the course students will be able to:

- Understand the development and the domestic as well as international features of China's economy.
- Apply macroeconomic concepts of the closed and open to analyse and evaluate the development of China's economy.
- Develop justified opinions to complex questions like the relationship between economics and politics in China and the relationship to Western countries.

Sessions

Session 1:	The Political Economy of China
Session 2:	The Development of China's Capital Markets
Session 3:	China's State Sector
Session 4:	Challenges of China's Economy
Session 5:	Macroeconomic Policies of China
Session 6:	The Rise of China: A Threat for the 'West' and How to Deal with It?

Lecturers

Prof. Horst Löchel, Prof. of Economics and Co-Chairman of the Sino-German Center at Frankfurt School

Tim Jablonski Research Assistant at the Sino-German Center at Frankfurt School

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