

JOINT RESEARCH SEMINAR

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT &
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ASIA-PACIFIC STUDIES, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

China's policies strengthen Hong Kong as Asia-Pacific's premier financial centre

16 Mar 2023 (Thurs)
4:30 – 6:00 pm (UTC+8)
Rm221, Chen Kou Bun Building

Critics repeatedly claim that China's sovereign control undermines the city as Asia-Pacific's leading financial centre. They fail to understand that the city's financiers and firms consist of sophisticated, complex internal networks. Major financiers and firms in these networks reach externally throughout Asia and globally to the world's leading financial centres. This resilient network remains strong. Mainland Chinese financial and non-financial firms increasingly use Hong Kong as their platform for international business. This enhances the city's attractiveness because foreign financial firms who operate in Asia-Pacific, and especially in China, need access to these firms. China's policies directly support Hong Kong's position as the top financial centre of Asia-Pacific. China reorganized its Hong Kong and Macau Office in Hong Kong. A senior government liaison official reports directly to a Vice Premier in Beijing. Therefore, Hong Kong officials and private-sector financial firms benefit from policy support at the top levels of China's government. The senior Foreign Ministry official in Hong Kong brings the authority of the Beijing ministry to the city's international affairs. China's policies, therefore, ensure that the city's status in Asia-Pacific finance is secure.

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David Meyer is Senior Lecturer in Management at Olin Business School, Washington University in St. Louis, teaching international business, with a focus on Asia. Prior to this he was Professor of Sociology & Urban Studies at Brown University. He received his PhD from the University of Chicago. His publications include six books and monographs and over 65 articles and book chapters. His book, *Hong Kong as a Global Metropolis* (Cambridge University Press, 2000), interpreted it as the pivot of Asian business networks. His research focuses on financier network behavior, Asian financial centers, especially Hong Kong, and Asian economic development. His newest book is *The Networked Financier* (Oxford University Press, 2023) which draws on his database of digitally recorded interviews with leading global financiers.



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