

Research project and supervisory team

Supervisory Team	Wilfred M. Chow (School of International Studies: Web Page Link) David Kiwuwa (School of International Studies: Web Page Link) Shuo Yang (School of Economics: Web Page Link)
Short introduction & description of research project	The School of International Studies at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) invites applications for a fully funded PhD position under the Strategic Scholarship Fund in Global Order and International Relations of China and Europe, commencing in Fall 2025. The successful candidate will join a research team studying the political, economic, and institutional dimensions of historical and contemporary relations between China and Europe, with a focus on foreign policy, trade, technology, infrastructure, and strategic interactions in the field of international relations. This position is suited for someone with keen interests in research on Sino-European relations, international political economy, international diplomacy, infrastructure and digital governance, and foreign policy analysis. The candidate should possess strong analytical foundations (both qualitative and quantitative), with an eagerness to master advanced methods—whether in dataset design, policy analysis, or experimental research). Beyond technical skills, we seek candidates who thrive in collaboration, relish the challenges of field-building research (from co-authoring papers to mentoring junior researchers), and aspire to influence academia or policy through rigorous scholarship. As the first Sino-foreign university in China, UNNC offers a unique interdisciplinary environment at the crossroads of European and Chinese scholarship. The School of International Studies provides a globally engaged academic community with extensive networks across Asia and Europe, fostering cutting-edge research on transnational governance and diplomacy. PhD applicants should be highly motivated to pursue research-oriented careers in academia, policy, or think tanks. Research focus: • Historical and contemporary Sino-European relations (politics, economics, security) • International political economy (trade, investment, technology transfer) • Infrastructure and digital governance in cross-continental contexts • Foreign policy and strategic competition (EU-China dynamics, multilateral engagement) Requirements: • Passion for international relations, European/Chinese studies, and pursuing a research career • Background in qualitative and quantitative methods (experience with data collection/dataset management preferred) • Strong motivation to develop advanced quantitative skills (support provided; aptitude essential) • Outstanding academic background • Proactive, collaborative, and responsible attitude with team leadership potential
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