

A review of academic activities at PKUIAS

The unveiling ceremony of the Institute of Area Studies, Peking University (PKUIAS) was held at the Yingjie Exchange Center on April 12, 2018. More than 200 officials and scholars participated, including Liu Xincheng, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and executive vice chairman of the Central Committee of the China Association for Promoting Democracy (CAPD); Tao Hongjian, counsellor of the Ministry of Education; and He Yaomin, vice president of Renmin University of China.

PKUIAS is a comprehensive academic platform for area studies that has as its main tasks the conducting of academic research, the cultivation of talent, serving as a think tank, and hosting international academic exchanges. Relying on the research bases at PKU, PKUIAS mobilizes the university's diversified academic strengths and long-existing networks at home and abroad. It integrates and revitalizes relevant academic teams and resources that are scattered in different faculties, and inspires the enthusiasm and initiative of their teachers and students, to construct a more rational, comprehensive, multi-leveled and coordinated interdisciplinary subject composition within the university. By strengthening research ability and exploring the interaction of different subjects, PKUIAS will not only meet the demands of the country but also foster a new type of academic talents.

Area studies is a field of study that synthesizes geographical, cultural, economic, political, sociological, folkloric, human behavioral, and institutional and organizational studies of world countries and regions within one platform. It conducts comprehensive studies that span humanities, social sciences, economic and technological developments both inside a given country and worldwide. Area studies aims to construct a comprehensive knowledge system to serve the world and its people. PKUIAS insists on the guidance of basic research and conducts both fundamental and predictive studies covering major issues in the key countries and regions. It provides a research paradigm with Chinese characteristics while making full use of PKU's advantages, to contribute to the country's area studies and international academic exchanges and development.

Liu Xincheng shared his insights in how to conduct area studies in terms of the institute's think tank function.

First, he pointed out that China is entering the world center from the edge, changing from an outside and observer of global governance to a participant and rule-maker. The Community of Common Destiny and Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposals are concrete manifestations of the transformation of China's international role, and its influence is universal. To complete this transformation in its role, China should proactively learn about the world's different regions, countries and ethnic groups. Liu said that there are two advantages to establishing area studies institutions at universities. Universities have the advantages of conducting comprehensive studies and making independent and objective analysis. In addition, universities have advantages in their pooling of talent, disciplines, governance and foreign exchange platforms, which helps them to conduct comprehensive, in-depth and continuous studies.

Second, he gave suggestions about how to develop area studies centers. He said that the key is to set clear functions and goals for these centers. A good center should meet the following three criteria. First, it should be able to make an in-depth interpretation of the major events occurring in the target country and the target area. Second, it should be able to make predictions on the development of the target country and the target area. Third, it should be able to provide effective suggestions on strengthening mutual understanding between China and the target countries, or provide effective advice for organizations and personnel who travel between the countries.

He emphasized that area studies centers in Chinese universities should distinguish themselves from the international think tanks of Western countries, and should not regard the target country as an "enemy" but as a "friend." In cooperation and exchange, all parties should be equal participants in a democratic consultation, who learn from each other and develop together.

PKUIAS Director Qian Chengdan said that the world has been experiencing dramatic changes not seen since the end of World War II. Among these major changes, China's development is the biggest one, which has fundamentally changed the global situation. Right now, the Chinese nation is at a moment of experiencing a great rejuvenation, and we must make correct responses toward all these changes. The precondition of making appropriate responses is understanding. Therefore, understanding the world has become an urgent priority and an unavoidable task. Since the Opium War, Chinese people have started to look out into the world and tried to

understand the world. But constrained by many factors, our understanding of the world is far from sufficient. With the deepening of China's reform and opening-up, China has become inseparable from the world, which requires us to understand the world accurately and to understand each country and region. Area studies rightly serves as a tool to understand and study the world. In recent years, the Chinese government has attached much importance to area studies, and the Ministry of Education established the Expert Committee of Area Studies a few years ago. Many colleges and universities have gradually set up research centers for area studies. The establishment of the PKUIAS signifies that area studies at PKU has been raised to the school-construction level.

PKU's departments have a rich and long tradition of academic excellence. Not only its traditional schools and departments such as the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Department of History, Department of Philosophy and School of Foreign Languages but also the new rising School of International Studies, Law School, School of Government, Graduate School of Education, Department of Sociology, School of Journalism and Communication and School of Arts have a large number of scholars engaged in foreign issues who have a lot of academic achievements. However, under the existing administrative system and academic discipline system, the talent and research fields are separated without forming a comprehensive force. In order to change this, PKU has made many efforts and has done a lot of work in the past few years. In 2016, under the direct guidance of the school leaders, PKU established the IAS Committee to coordinate the construction of area studies. At present, PKU has about 50 area studies centers, covering the major regions of the world. All of these are important foundations for the future work of PKUIAS. PKU has accumulated rich resources for conducting area studies, and the establishment of PKUIAS will provide a basis for the integration of these resources, thereby contributing to PKU thorough discipline adjustment and strategic upgrading.

PKUIAS has four main tasks. The first is academic research. PKUIAS will insist on the guidance of basic research and conduct fundamental, original and predictive studies, achieving a balance between theories and practice, history and reality. The institute will break existing discipline boundaries, launch a multidisciplinary research model which features programs led by questions, form an interdisciplinary team, and fully play the core role of academic leader. In the research process, we will discover talent and will try the system of resident scholars and part-time professors, recruit

talent from all walks including international scholars, and develop their respective strengths. PKUIAS will also hold various kinds of academic activities, including the All Under Heaven Forum (天下论坛), Broadyard Workshop (博雅工作坊), and New Buds Salon (新芽沙龙). Through holding these activities, the institute hopes to investigate research topics, gather research and publish journals, monographs and books.

The second is talent cultivation, which is both the priority and the long-term goal. Although it is not easy to cultivate high-quality talented people that meet the needs of the times, the institute will try its best to work for it. The new type of talent the institute seeks should have a broad knowledge structure, a clear learning direction, namely of the target country, and master English and the language of the target countries or regions. They should also develop one or two professional areas of expertise based on their broad knowledge (such as sociology, economics, politics and history) and obtained a degree in this area of expertise. After graduation, they not only can undertake practical work but also become specialized scholars.

Third is the think tank function, which must be based on basic research. The work of a think tank should not be superficial, but should be based on in-depth observation and analysis of society, economics and politics on the premise of gathering a profound understanding of culture, history, national characteristics, belief systems, etc. This work should provide ideas for the government and society in decision-making.

Fourth is expanding academic exchanges at home and abroad. The institute will make efforts to use various resources to do a good job in communication, extending its academic network, absorbing the advanced cultural achievements of the world and disseminating Chinese wisdom. PKUIAS has a long way to go in self-development. All the staff will work harder to complete this task.

After the unveiling ceremony, the 1st All Under Heaven Forum held by PKUIAS kicked off. Prof. Wang Jisi from PKU's School of International Studies, Prof. Shen Zhihua from the Center for Cold War International History Studies, East China Normal University and Prof. Rong Xinjiang from PKU's Department of History gave keynote speeches to discuss the academic frontiers of area studies.

The topic of Wang Jisi's speech was "The Academic Foundation of Area Studies." He believes that area studies are not one single discipline. For example, if one studies

the US, can US studies become a discipline? The key issue is the lack of a disciplinary basis. Therefore, Wang pointed out that area studies should be based on some traditional disciplines instead of geographical regions. Disciplines such as political science, economics, sociology, and law are the real disciplinary basis. Without this basis, scholars studying different areas will not be able to communicate with each other, and it will be difficult to recognize area studies as an integral whole.

According to his own experiences of studying the Sino-US relationship, he said that political research in area studies can be based on political science. Political science includes comparative politics, political theory, political thought and political decision-making. But he said scholars studying different areas' politics often fail to communicate. Some US scholars once proposed to break through the trap of uniqueness, which means not to overemphasize the characteristics of the studies' target countries. Wang believes that it is crucial to break through this trap, and scholars studying different areas' politics need to conduct exchanges frequently and make the disciplinary basis of their work more profound.

From a horizontal perspective, there is commonality between the more than 190 countries in the world. In today's world, all countries claim to be democratic, legal, and even pluralistic. It has begun to become a common feature of different countries. There are of course a few exceptions. For example, Saudi Arabia does not call itself a democratic state because it does not think democracy is a good thing. But overall, the political characteristics of modern countries are similar. They almost all have cabinets, parliaments, political parties, courts, and even an apparent "tripartite" political system, said Wang. He also reminds people to think critically. For example, when considering two different political systems, such as republicanism and monarchy, can one simply be judged as good and the other as bad? Another common question is whether there is a common political goal pursued by all countries, to which he made a positive answer. However, emphasizing different countries' commonality does not mean denying their unique political characteristics. For example, Denmark and Japan are highly developed countries, but their development experiences may not be suitable to be copied by other countries. This is because Denmark and Japan are single-nationality states and it is not possible for multi-nationality states to copy their experiences. Therefore, the role of the discipline should be to identify both commonalities and unique characteristics.

From a vertical perspective, or a historical perspective, the political history,

cultural history or religious history of different regions and countries worldwide are different. The themes of each era are also different. For example, peace and development is the current theme, and a few centuries ago it was war and revolution. It is obvious that there are many issues worth studying from a historical perspective. In Wang's view, the current Trump phenomenon and Putin phenomenon probably reflect a commonality in today's politics, indicating that a strong populism has emerged in the world. When populism and nationalism are combined, strongman politics reappears. Politics of various countries now interact with each other instead of being completely isolated, which is different from the past. For example, China's political development may affect that of Africa, and Russia's political development may affect China's. US political scientist Samuel Phillips Huntington once said that there had been three waves of democratization in the world. The first wave was from the second half of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century and was later disrupted by the Russian revolution and fascism. The second wave began with the national liberation movement, when democracy turned into a trend. The third wave appeared after the end of the Cold War. After every wave of democratization, there was a reaction, and some countries might never regard Western democracy as their own goal. Does the current situation indicate that Western democracy has been strongly pushed back against? Wang believes that these topics should all be further explored.

As a result, Wang concluded that area studies' disciplinary basis should have at least four dimensions. The first is the geographical dimension or horizontal dimension. Every country and region are different, and each requires in-depth study while taking commonalities into consideration.

The second is the historical dimension or vertical dimension. The overall history of mankind is actually a process of globalization, with peoples moving from isolation to interaction. This does not necessarily lead to a fusion of all peoples. For example, in the US, black people are generally married to black people, and most Chinese people marry Asians with few marrying black people. Therefore, it is a question whether the future of human beings will move toward a fusion or a split. There are many factors that are difficult to neglect, including people's physical and psychological boundaries.

The third is the cultural dimension, including ethnicity and religion issues. This dimension is often combined with the historical dimension.

The fourth is the social science dimension, and relevant areas include politics, economics and sociology.

The four dimensions mean that scholars of different disciplines should learn from each other. Wang pointed out that the biggest dilemma of current academic research is not a lack of material, but theory and disciplinary integration. The disciplinary basis should be consolidated.

Wang made several suggestions for the development of PKUIAS. First, area studies requires both experts and eclectics. Second, the curriculum should be done well. Compulsory courses of relevant majors should be able to be combined with other general elective courses, and some basic courses of each discipline can be set to break the boundaries between departments. Third, scholars must adhere to the correct political direction and obey national interests. It should be noted that political judgment cannot be used as an academic standard, like judging a country by its relationships with China. Scholars should stay beyond politics, lay a solid foundation for the discipline and encourage the free airing of views about the country. He stressed that if history has not been studied clearly, our understanding of the current situation will certainly undergo twists and turns; meanwhile, we cannot deny history only based on the status quo, otherwise misunderstanding will continue to deepen.

He believes that the main function of university teachers is not to offer ideas. Even if they offer ideas, they can only offer suggestions for basic understanding, not on how to do things. After all, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Security and other ministries have much more information than us. Therefore, what academic research should do is to carry out basic analysis. For example, historical research is a deep tool for basic analysis for the study of the status quo. This is the responsibility of scholars. Shen warned scholars that they should be practical, do what they can and not follow others blindly. When studying the history of China's neighboring countries, Shen believes that it is crucial to study their historical archives. Without the archives, it is difficult to study their history. He recalled that in the 1970s, the Commercial Press published a number of national history books. He found that the books only contain content up to the time of World War II and the materials were old and without any support from original archives.

The history of the development of many countries after World War II, especially their relationship with China, needs to be studied on the basis of the countries' original archives. He specifically mentioned the 500,000-page archive collected in the

National Archives UK. The archives involve Myanmar, Tibet, Pakistan and Afghanistan issues and reflect the policies of the British colonists in the South Asian colonies and the methods they dealt with border and nationality issues. These are the basis for future research on South Asia issues. Scholars may be able to learn from the experiences of the British Empire, such as how to deal with the Afghanistan-Pakistan border issue. The archives of Mongolia, South Korea and Japan are also very rich, because their files are relatively open and the declassification period is short.

In addition to national archives, Shen believes that many folk archives are also very valuable. The study of Southeast Asian issues mainly focuses on two major topics, the problems facing overseas Chinese and the export of revolution. The two topics are closely linked. However, few related archives have been kept in official archives centers, so additional information needs to be looked for in the private sector. Shen once met the secretary of the Northern Malaysia Bureau of the Communist Party of Malaysia and conducted many interviews with him. He also received three large boxes of letters, diaries, official documents and reports, which are of great significance for the study of the Communist Party of Malaysia.

Prof. Rong Xinjiang gave a speech titled “Inherit the Excellent Traditions of Peking University and Develop Central Asian Studies.” He introduced the excellent tradition and development status of PKU’s Central Asian studies program, emphasized the importance of Central Asian studies, and offered a multi-faceted perspective on future Central Asian studies. Rong first traced the academic tradition of PKU, emphasizing that it is an excellent academic tradition that inspires scholars to maintain academic sensitivity and constantly innovate.

Scholars from various disciplines of PKU, such as Luo Zhenyu, Wang Guowei and Dong Kang, were able to discover valuable research materials in a specific era and produced the first batch of Dunhuang studies containing Central Asian studies, ancient Dunhuang archives with Chinese annotations and many materials that are directly related to Central Asian studies. He proposed that if we regard oracle bones, bamboo scripts, papers and archives as the four kinds of materials that support four kinds of new discoveries about Chinese history, we can say that PKU has mastered two of these areas. For example, in the 1920s, the university sent a scientific investigation team to Northwest China. And during the arduous period of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression in the 1940s, PKU scholars went to the Northwest China again to do historical and scientific research. The cases show that

PKU scholars are very academically sensitive to new materials in different eras.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China, our Central Asian studies met some difficulties. However, scholars did a lot of research into the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The research started from the ethnic investigations in the 1950s and lasted until the reform and opening-up was completed. He cited the example of Su Bai's research on the Grotto Temple, and said that generations of PKU scholars, including historians, ethnologists and religious studies scholars went to Central Asia every year to do investigations, especially after the reform and opening-up. They traveled throughout Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Turkey and Mongolia to go to places where the original archives were saved, and collected research materials. PKU is the core of Chinese academics and its research in many fields has always been at the forefront. Many previous researchers have laid the foundation for the current area studies, including Shao Xunzheng's research on the history of the Yuan Dynasty when China was ruled by a Mongolian minority, Ji Xianlin's research on Central Asia's Tocharisch, Zhou Yiliang's research on the history of relations between China and Asia, Su Bai's research on Buddhism and archaeology and Zhang Guangda's research on the history of the Western Regions.

PKU has always had an excellent tradition, represented by a sensitivity to and entanglement in new issues. In the words of Chen Yinke, the school is "within the newest academic trends." Although PKU has a strong liberal arts tradition and multidisciplinary academic advantages, Rong believes that from the perspective of area studies, scholars in PKU still have a lot of work to do. Building the Institute of Area Studies will precisely push the work forward.

Central Asian studies is an important field. The Central Asian countries are generally considered to be the current Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. He proposed that Central Asian studies are the assembly of various studies in Central Asia, including history, geography, languages, literature, religion, politics, economy, law, and state relations. As a research area, Central Asia can create interdisciplinary growth by making different researchers interweave and interact within the region. Central Asia is a very complicated region. It is a channel for interaction and exchange between Chinese and Western civilizations, a place for the exchange and competition of religious civilizations, and a field for the integration and struggle of different nationalities. Elements including the special geographical

location, ethnic migration and varied nationalities make Central Asia rather complicated. That being said, Central Asia is also a region that cannot be ignored by China. Studying Central Asia helps us better grasp and deal with the relationship with the surrounding countries. The study of the Silk Road is a concern of both China and Central Asian countries, and is closely related to China's Belt and Road strategy. The study of the ancient Silk Road, including history, geography, transportation, religion and cultural exchanges, has implications for today's investment and construction along the Belt and Road. These are also the most challenging topics in historical research.

In future Central Asia studies, he believes that any scholar cannot do all-inclusive studies single-handedly. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out academic cooperation, break free from the current discipline system, divide the regions into units, and integrate each discipline to do high-quality Central Asia studies. At the same time, investment in terms of money and talent should be greatly increased to strengthen the construction of teams, materials and language skills. Rong pointed out that the focus of future Central Asia studies should be on contemporary issues and in fields such as politics and economics. He said that only by strengthening Central Asia studies can cultural understanding be strengthened and communication be promoted. It is very important to strengthen Central Asia studies, due to the importance of the Belt and Road initiative. The old traditions of PKU are able to advance this research. Rong emphasized that PKU has a good foundation in the study of the Silk Road and many scholars have contributed a lot to this research.

In response to the call of the Belt and Road, current Silk Road research should pay attention to the all-round and real situation in Central Asia instead of only emphasizing historical and cultural friendship as researchers did in the past. For example, we should focus on what other countries think of us when we advocate the Five Principles of Peace and Friendship, what they think of the Belt and Road, and what they think of China's emphasis on the Silk Road. These are all issues that need to be studied.

In addition, Rong believes that PKU has a profound tradition of Chinese historical archives studies, which is an advantage for Central Asian historical studies. The weakness is in Central Asian languages.

Post-doctoral training and the recruitment of doctoral students are also important factors. At the same time, it is necessary to promote the construction of talented teams,

interdisciplinary research and teaching work in the Central Asia Studies Institute, along the lines of the School of Chinese Classics and the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies. On the other hand, it is very important to establish an academic exchange mechanism. He said scholars should actively establish exchanges with Central Asia countries, and also increase communication with European countries, the US and Japan to improve their academic level and accumulate academic resources.

On April 12, 2018, PKUIAS held four Broadyard Workshops at the university.

The 1st Broadyard Workshop, entitled “Experience, theories and methods for conducting area studies,” was co-chaired by Prof. Gao Bingzhong of Department of Sociology, PKU and Prof. Niu Ke of PKU’s Department of History. Professors Wang Hui, Qu Jingdong, Li Chenyang, Niu Ke, Gao Bingzhong, Wang Yuesheng, Fu Zhiming and Guan Kai delivered keynote speeches. Prof. Wang Hui pointed out that area studies should be based on basic research, and that area studies should not be separated from the basic research in humanities and social sciences. Area studies should focus on systematic reflection and collation of the experiences and lessons of studies of different countries and areas. Prof. Qu Jingdong further explored how to understand area studies in the context of the relationship between ancient and modern times and the current situation, with particular emphasis on how to enhance understanding of our own civilization in the context of area studies. Prof. Li Chenyang proposed establishing a multi-dimensional perspective and approach for the studies of the current situation of different areas and countries. Based on his own experience, Prof. Niu Ke shared with the attendees his insights and thoughts on the founding period of American studies and the development plan for PKUIAS. Prof. Gao Bingzhong pointed out that studies of “global society” should emphasize a “society” as well as its place in the globe, and in area studies, discourse about “global society” transcending the ideology of the nation-state is the future trend of development. Prof. Wang Yuesheng said that PKU has a fine tradition of regional and national economic research and has made some achievements, but it lacks guidance in methodology. He suggested that PKUIAS should strengthen the training of students in all relevant disciplines, cultivate generalists, and optimize the language training environment. Prof. Fu Zhiming described efforts made by the School of Foreign Languages of PKU to build a secondary discipline of area studies, and pointed out that the key in area studies is that researchers should have a mother tongue-like foreign language proficiency level and solid professional knowledge. In conclusion,

Prof. Guan Kai responded to previous speeches and suggested that the task for today is to thoroughly update knowledge. PKUIAS should not only update theoretical tools, but also realize that the world is entering a truly new era.

The 2nd Broadyard Workshop focused on “China and its neighboring countries: trends and opportunities,” and was co-chaired by Prof. Ning Qi, dean of PKU’s School of Foreign Languages and Shen Zihua, tenured professor of history at East China Normal University. Professors Ma Rong, Han Dongyu, Wang Hao, Zhang Hui, Duan Qing and Zhai Kun delivered keynote speeches. Prof. Ma Rong emphasized the importance of research on the relationships between China and neighboring countries, and put forward some suggestions on how to solve existing problems such as the shortage of talent and the shortage of knowledge. Prof. Han Dongyu put forward the theory of “academia guarding the frontier,” emphasizing the responsibility of the frontier region for the studies of neighboring countries. He also firmly held the viewpoint that academics help the country and academics save the country, and called on everyone to strengthen research efforts and make contributions to the development of the country’s foreign relations. Taking Mongolian studies as an example, Prof. Wang Hao pointed out problems existing in area studies at present, and put forward prospects and suggestions for PKUIAS. By introducing a paradigm study of the Belt and Road economic theory, Prof. Zhang Hui stressed that due to its rapid economic growth, China has become a bridge between developed and developing countries. Prof. Duan Qing demonstrated his research on the woolen blanket of the Western Regions and expressed his hope that his urgent research and protection projects should be supported by the institute, the university, and the country. Finally, Prof. Zhai Kun summarized the history and legal aspects of the relationship between China and Southeast Asia, summed up the problems and challenges in current Southeast Asian studies, and put forward his own views on the development of regional and national studies in the future.

The 3rd Broadyard Workshop, entitled “The historic changes in the Middle East and new problems,” was co-chaired by Associate Professor Wu Bingbing, director of Institute of Arab Islamic Culture of PKU, and Yang Guang, research fellow with the Institute of West-Asian and African Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Professors Hua Liming, Yang Guang, Zhang Qianhong, Zan Tao, Wang Suolao, Niu Xinchun, Lin Fengmin and other experts and scholars attended the meeting and delivered speeches. Research fellow Hua Liming pointed out that with the shift of US

strategy to the East and the change of world energy paradigms, the Middle East region is now facing a new situation featuring the return of Russia as a regional player and competition among Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Iran and Israel. Hua said that the future of the regional situation would largely depend on Trump's Middle East policy. Prof. Yang Guang outlined the influence of Islamic socialism on economic policies, and argued that Middle Eastern countries should stick to the direction of secularization, attach importance to industrial development, make good use of foreign capital, and complement it with moderate government intervention. Prof. Zhang Qianhong analyzed the development of Israel, a key country in the Middle East, and said that Israel is currently facing the problem of insufficient stamina for innovation competitiveness. Associate Professor Zan Tao explored the issue of secularism in Turkey, arguing that the relation between religion and the regime stemmed from the legacy of the Ottoman Empire and the secularized model of France, and that Erdogan's policies since taking office did not violate the nation's constitutional commitment to secularism. In his speech, associate professor Wang Suolao reviewed the evolution of the Jerusalem issue in the past century. He said the increasingly fierce struggle among Saudi Arabia, Iran, Israel, Turkey and Egypt should arouse the attention of researchers. Prof. Niu Xinchun said the US was not willing to engage in large-scale direct military intervention in the Middle East at this stage, and the momentum of strategic contraction would not change, but unlike Obama, Trump's policy toward the Middle East would be tougher. Prof. Lin Fengmin said that Saudi Arabia's feminism has greatly developed in recent years. The incumbent king has tried to relax some restrictions on women, and the incumbent crown prince also actively promotes the emancipation of feminism because of his own interests.

The Fourth Broadyard Workshop, entitled "Challenges faced by Europe and its choices," was co-chaired by Prof. Li Qiang of the School of Government, PKU, and Feng Zhongping, director of the Institute of European Studies, China Institute of Modern International Relations. Professors Dong Qiang, Qian Chengdan, Shen Jian, Kong Tianping and Lian Yuru made speeches. Prof. Dong Qiang pointed out that Europe is a broad cultural concept, and that due to its openness and internationalism, it will not fall under the control of populism. Prof. Feng Zhongping analyzed the changes in Europe after World War II and the challenges Europe faces, predicting that Europe may change its integration model in the future. Taking the Catalan referendum as an example, Prof. Qian Chengdan pointed out that this incident showed that the

essence of the EU is a community of the nation-states and does not transcend nation-states. In addition, the unanimous attitude of “no acknowledgment, no support” by Western countries toward the founding of Catalonia reflects their worries about the domino effect that Catalonia's independence could trigger in Europe and the US. Prof. Li Qiang said that today's world identity politics is gradually replacing interest politics as the main factor to determine individual political behavior and national political situations. European right-wing populism has a social and ideological basis, and will also become an important factor affecting the future of European politics. Prof. Shen Jian introduced the development of French neo-populism, and analyzed the strength of the current populism in France from the perspective of 2017 French general election. Prof. Kong Tianping was concerned about the issues of Central and Eastern Europe, pointing out that France and Germany are the engine of European integration, but the Poland-Hungary axis for the destruction of integration should not be underestimated. Prof. Lian Yuru concluded that the EU is a hybrid community. It is a unity of nations, but it also has a supranational nature. The professor noted Merkel's new government may still use a coalition approach in forming a cabinet.

The Sixth Broadyard Workshop, on the theme “Studies on Iran from International, Regional and National Perspectives,” was held at PKU on May 17, 2018. More than ten experts and academics from PKU, Tsinghua University, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies attended the workshop, having discussions focusing on recent major issues related to Iran.

Earlier in May, 2018, the US president, Donald Trump, announced that he would withdraw the US from the Iran nuclear deal. The move has impacted Iran's domestic and foreign policies. Regarding this issue, Lu Jin, a researcher from the Institute of West-Asian and African Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that Trump's making the decision despite strong opposition from the international community was aimed at curbing Iran's increasingly expanding influence in the Middle East region. Considering that Iran's economy is stagnant, Trump's action can only be seen as an attempt to pressure Iran to submit. Some academics also held that the US did this in order to provoke disputes among Middle East countries, and this was an attempt to benefit by fomenting “controllable chaos.” They opined that the US-Iran relationship is unlikely to take a favorable turn during the Trump presidency, and that the state of the two countries and other related countries will definitely affect

Iran's domestic stability and the future course of the development for both the region and the world.

In terms of how Iran will respond to the US' new action, Shi Guang from the School of Foreign Languages, Peking University, expressed his view that the failure of the nuclear deal is not acceptable for Iran. But since the Iranian government's main task currently is to face up to the US economic blockade and recover its domestic economy, Teheran has only limited ways in which it can fight back.

The workshop participants also discussed the current hot domestic social issues in Iran, Iran's diplomacy with its neighboring countries, changes in the situation in the Middle East, and the China-Iran relationship.

The Seventh Broadyard Workshop, on the theme "The Donald Trump Phenomenon and a New Understanding of the US", was held at PKU on June 2, 2018. Ten experts and academics from domestic universities and research organizations participated. From the perspective of politics, history, culture, international relations, and media, they held cross-disciplinary discussions on the superficial features, connotation, public opinion foundation, system support, ideology, and the domestic and international background of the "Trump phenomenon" and "Trump-style politics."

The academics said that, in recent years, the US has seen increasingly stronger appeals from the public calling for reforms in the social safety net, though without any agreement on how such reforms should be undertaken. Meanwhile, liberal internationalism is on the wane while realism is gaining ground, and right-wing populism is gradually rising in the US, all of which played an important role in helping Trump win the presidential election. Trump is not a traditional politician who has a fixed political stance. As a businessman, Trump makes decisions on foreign and diplomatic affairs with a businessman's thinking model and judges the relations between the US and other countries in terms of predictable interest, even trampling on regulations and tearing up deals.

As for what kind of effect "Trump-style politics" will have in the US, the workshop participants opined that the unpredictability created by Trump will erode the credit of the US and harm American hegemony in the long run. It is more likely that Trump is trying to adjust the gap between American policies and the nation's capacity than he is against globalism, they said. Since its involvement in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the US has met problems caused by overexpansion. In that light,

Trump's emphasis on "contraction" now is probably a sensible choice.

The Eighth Broadyard Workshop, on the theme of "The Gandhara Buddhist Culture and the Buddhist Temples in Xinjiang", was held in Yingjie Exchange Center on June 28, 2018. Members of the group of Chinese scholars who investigated and studied the cultural relics of temples in Taxila and Peshawar, Pakistan, in April this year reported the results of their research on the temple relics.

The Gandhara region, located in the north of Pakistan and northeast border area of Afghanistan, was one of the important hubs on the ancient Silk Road. It integrated different civilizations, including ancient civilization of India, Persian civilization and ancient Greek civilization. Both clashes and exchanges of different cultures have left this region with marvelous Buddhist art and abundant temple relics, which greatly affected the development of Buddhist culture in Xinjiang and in Central China.

Li Xiao, Miao Lihui, and Duan Qing, who were members of the scholar group that visited Taxila, gave speeches about their findings on Gandharan culture based on their investigation of the temple relics. The topics of their speeches were, respectively, "Comparison studies on the layout of temples in the Gandhara region and Tarim Basin," "The influence of the layout of temples in the Gandhara region on the temples in Kucha (Qiuci)", and "The Scythian factors in Gandharan culture."

Prof. Zahid Anwar, Director of the China Study Center, University of Peshawar, delivered a speech on "BRI, CPEC and Cultural Heritage Conservation in Pakistan", in which he talked about the influence the Belt and Road initiative (BRI) and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on cultural heritage conservation work in Pakistan within the field of Silk Road studies. He pointed out that an important mission of CPEC is to rejuvenate the ancient cultural ties between China and Pakistan. Under the auspices of the BRI flagship project, both China and Pakistan will pay attention to the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in all areas of Pakistan. Under the framework of both the BRI and CPEC, communication between people will be strengthened; therefore, mutual cultural understandings will be advanced.

The attendees agreed that the on-the-spot investigation conducted by Chinese academics in the Gandhara region is just a beginning, and studies on Gandharan culture are far from enough. The Chinese academics are looking forward to further cooperation with Pakistani academics, and to conducting long-term and systematic research together.

The 11th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme “The Future of Scotland: ‘Divorce’ England or not?” was held at PKU on September 14, 2018. Ten experts from universities and academic organizations attended the workshop. Their discussions ranged over history, politics, political parties and international relations, and included the Scottish separatist movement, the development of the relations between Scotland and the UK, and whether Scotland would split from the UK via referendum.

Prof. Qian Chengdan opined that the possibility that Scotland might split with the UK seems not to have caught people’s attention in today’s chaotic and strife-filled world, but this is still a serious problem worth noticing. It is important for several reasons: (1) Scotland and England have been joined together as one country for more than 300 years. If their union were to “breakup,” it might call into question the entire concept of “nation.”(2) If Scotland were to succeed in splitting with the UK, Ireland would almost certainly follow suit; the UK as we always know it would then cease to exist. Considering its history as an established modern country, the first industrial power, and the one-time leader of the world’s biggest empire, the UK’s disintegration would hugely impact the entire world, just as did the collapse of the ancient Roman Empire. (3) A successful split by Scotland with the UK would likely stimulate other separatist movements in various parts of the world. The chaotic world would become more so, and many countries would run into trouble. (4) After the disintegration of the UK, England would return to its former stage in history when the Tudor dynasty first started to expand 500 years ago, which, from the perspective this modern day, would seem to be nothing less than a cruel joke!

Gao Dai reviewed how the history of England and Scotland is entangled, especially the situation after their union. He opined that their union, which has been the status quo for hundreds of years, has resulted in relatively strong mutual recognition; therefore, the possibility for Scotland to split with the UK in a short term is small. Li Liying introduced the historical background for the union in 1707. She pointed out that, at that time, Scottish politicians chose to abandon their national sovereignty for the sake of Scotland’s stability and prosperity. To some degree, it shows that any political theory should serve reality, and that nationalism that helps people live a better life counts as good nationalism.

Speaking about Scotland’s attempt to split with the UK and the UK’s Brexit referendum, Chen Xiaolü opined that the two seemingly nonrelated issues actually reflect a common phenomenon in the Western political system: using the referendum,

a seemingly democratic approach, to solve national sovereignty problems. However, this approach can only lead to disastrous results and is an example of the “abuse of democracy” by politicians. In addition, current studies of ethnic issues by many Western scholars have had the effect more of stimulating national separation than of strengthening national unity, which is a phenomenon worthy of paying attention to. Li Jishi expressed his belief that Scotland’s referendum in 2014 on leaving the UK failed because most Scots assumed “staying in Europe” was a given if they “stayed in the UK.” But once the UK chose for Brexit, the premise for Scotland to stay in the UK disappeared. Therefore, the question of whether Scotland should split with the UK was raised again.

Sun Jian expressed his belief that the referendum, as a form of direct democracy, was gradually accepted by British constitutionalism after the 1970s. A major feature of British constitutionalism is that it tends to follow the convention. However, British scholars are divided on whether or not a referendum should become a customary rule. In general, the Scottish separatist movement has undergone two stages: devolution and independence referendum. After devolution, the process of the split underwent a qualitative transformation, and Scottish independence was transformed from a separatists’ distant national dream into a real political process.

Fu Cong evaluated the possibility for Scotland to split with the UK after the UK exits the EU. She pointed out that, at the time of the 2014 independence referendum, British pro-establishment camp members, including major parties, financial institutions, large enterprises and the media, all firmly opposed Scottish independence. But this time, after the British people voted to leave the EU, both the Scottish Labor Party and Scottish Liberal Democrats supported the SNP’s directly participating in the Brexit negotiations. Some large financial institutions and multinational companies preferred to see an independent Scotland that successfully entered the EU rather than a UK that exited the EU. These factors will all become new variables on Scotland’s road to independence.

PhD Hu Li opined that, since the rise of the Scottish national movement, from the late 19th and early 20th centuries till now, a certain degree of autonomy has been Scotland’s main appeal, and the British government has put that into practice. However, the SNP’s advocating of independence destroyed the situation, and the party took advantage of Scotland’s certain need for local autonomy to seize every opportunity to promote its independence plan. To some extent, “independence” is

played up by the SNP. Now, the SNP has gained a firm foothold in Scotland. And under the background of Brexit, both external and internal factors are full of variables. Therefore, a split from the UK may become a possibility in the future.

The 12th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme “Great Changes Happened in Malaysia over the Past 61 Years: Dynamics and Prospects,” was held at PKU on September 25, 2018.

In May 2018, the opposition coalition led by former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad won the Malaysian general election and ended the 61-year history of the ruling coalition National Front (Barisan Nasional). Mahathir, who had served as prime minister for 22 years, once again became prime minister of the Malaysian government. The result was described by the outside world as “the most historic political earthquake since Malaysia’s independence.”

More than 10 experts and scholars from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Minzu University of China and other universities and research institutions conducted an interdisciplinary discussion with focused topics and diverse perspectives.

First, on the academic level, the underlying dynamics and root causes of the recent major political changes in Malaysia were discussed in depth, including the long-standing dominant racial political paradigm; Malay, Chinese, Hindu and other different ethnic groups’ impact on voting and other political behaviors; and the influence of the interplay between the multi-racial society and economic structure on Malaysian politics. Important conclusions such as seeking “balance” rather than “equality” were put forward.

Second, on the policy level, the question of whether the election of Mahathir’s administration represents a watershed in Malaysia’s internal and foreign affairs was raised. An analysis was discussed predicting that Malaysia’s future political structure will face drastic changes, political parties’ competition and realignment will intensify, and the socio-economic environment will further diversify.

Third, on the public communication level, scholars discussed problems such as how to help Chinese people rationally and plainly understand Malaysia. It is believed that China lacks a basic understanding of Malaysia, and that the voices of experts and scholars are lacking in the public sphere. Even though there are some reputable articles targeting the public, they are being overshadowed by bad information.

The experts recommended strengthening targeted research, developing policy advice, and engaging in media outreach to address these issues.

The “All Under Heaven Forum,” co-hosted by the PKUIAS and PKU’s School of Government and Center for European Studies, was held at the Yingjie Exchange Center from October 13 to 14, 2018. Billed “Populism, right-wing politics and the future of Europe,” the conference was attended by approximately 30 well-known Chinese and foreign experts coming from prestigious universities or academic organizations. They expressed their ideas about topics including the concept and characteristics of populism, European right-wing politics, populism and European political changes, and democracy and populism.

Prof. Jan-Werner Müller from Princeton University shared his views about the definition of populism. He pointed out that not everyone who criticizes elites is automatically a populist. The important thing to grasp about populism is that it is not some vague “anti-establishment sentiment.” Rather, what matters is populists’ opposition to pluralism. Populists always claim that they are the only legitimate representatives of the people. But they could not reveal to us the ultimate objective truth about society.

From the perspective of the conceptual history of democracy, Prof. Li Qiang, director of the Center for European Studies, PKU, pointed out that modern “democracy” is a regime which both inherits the classical ideal of democracy and combines some important non-democratic or anti-democratic elements. Such a fundamentalist idea of democracy has been more or less responsible for the failure of many newly established democracies. It is also related to the emergency of populism in Western democracies. The nature of populism is to pursue pure democracy by rejecting the elitist, liberal, and constitutional elements in modern democracy.

In terms of the relationship between populism and democracy, Professor Jürgen Gebhardt from the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg opined that the “people” and the “nation” constitute the modern principle of democratic political order. As the potential meanings of “popular sovereignty” are realized within the framework of the nation-state, democratic elites display an inherent tendency toward self-referential populism and nationalism. That’s why Max Weber spoke of the plebiscitarian-Caesarist features of modern mass democracy.

In addition to theoretical analysis, the political practice of populism in Europe was also the focus of the participants’ discussions. Prof. Feng Zhongping, a research

fellow from the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations, gave a speech titled “Will Populism Lead to the Collapse of the European Union?” He pointed out that the current European populism is mainly in opposition to the arrival of economic globalization, European integration and refugees and immigrants of different religious beliefs. It has changed the political ecology and political party structure in Europe. Populist parties have become pragmatic after they took office. European integration is currently in the stagnation period. Although the EU is facing difficulties, it will not collapse.

In addition to the overall situation in Europe, the participants’ discussions also involved the reasons for the rise of European right-wing populist political parties, the development of European populism after the financial crisis, and the multicultural policy background for the rise of populism. Prof. Kong Tianping, a research fellow from the Institute of European Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, analyzed the situation in Hungary and Poland after their populist parties took power, and discussed their conflicts with the EU from the perspectives of concept, system and policy. He believes that this will have a major impact on the future of European integration.

Prof. Wang Yingjin from the School of International Relations, Renmin University of China, analyzed the independence referendum of Catalonia from the perspectives of law, theory and practice, and then discussed Catalonia’s separatist movement, which is one of the populist manifestations in Europe. In addition, Brexit, the rise of the German far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) and the Italian “Five Stars Movement,” and the impact of the rise of populism in Central and Eastern Europe on China’s “One Belt and One Road” initiative were also discussed at the conference.

The 13th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme of “The Historical and Cultural Genes of Contemporary Russia,” was held at PKU on October 19, 2018. Prof. Ning Qi, executive deputy director of PKUIAS, pointed out in her welcoming speech that, in order to have a comprehensive understanding of Russia, academics should not only pay attention to Russia’s image and the role it plays in contemporary international politics, but also understand the track of Russia’s development and changes as well as its internal logic, from both historical and cultural perspectives. She expressed her expectation that the workshop would provide an opportunity to hear the collective wisdom of experts and academics and lead to a greater understanding of Russia.

More than ten famous domestic experts and scholars from fields of history, politics, economics, philosophy and literature delivered keynote speeches on topics including “The Eurasian Partnership: Russia’s Response to the Current Situation,” “Russia and the Eurasian Economic Union,” “Russian Studies from the Perspective of China,” “Contemporary Inheritance of Russian Strategic Culture and Diplomatic Style,” “Two Implications of Contemporary Russian ‘Nationalist’ Discourse,” “Two Gifts of Russia: Communication and Plasticity,” “A Comparative Study of the Relations between the Local and Central Government of China and the former Soviet Union (Russia),” “Path Dependence of the Russian Government and Business Relations: An Analysis Based on Power-Property Rights,” “From Cultural History to Cultural Studies: Hot Issues and Problems of the Transformation of the Contemporary Russian Academy,” and “Russian Cultural Genes Implied in Ancient Russian Academic Literature.” The goal is to observe Russia from a more pluralistic and comprehensive perspective, to analyze the image and status of Russia in the contemporary world economy and international politics, and to understand the development and change of contemporary Russia and the implied internal logic and historical trajectory by reflecting on its history and culture, as well as national psychology and character.

History is reflected in reality. Every step of Russia’s development and change today is closely related to its history and culture. Russia has the world’s largest territory and most valuable natural resource reserves, but it is also a country that changed its social conditions and totalitarianism after experiencing trauma. The spirit and values of the Eastern Orthodox Church have precipitated in Russia’s national character and have become a solidified way of thinking and an attitude toward life, as well as the spirit and value orientation embraced by the nation. The persistence of Eurasianism is essentially a geographical conception of Russian identity, expressing a vague desire of Russian intellectuals to restore Russia’s former imperial identity. The image of the double-headed eagle not only reflects its vast territory and expansive desire, but also represents the extreme contradiction and elusiveness of its character and style of action. One cannot help but thinking of Fyodor Tyutchev’s words:

*You cannot grasp Russia with your mind
Or judge her by any common measure,
Russia is one of a special kind –
You can only believe in her.*

Only by understanding Russia's history and culture, its character and mentality, and its thoughts and logic, can we truly understand contemporary Russia.

The 14th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme of "The People and Societies of Asia: Anthropological Fieldwork," was held at PKU on November 3, 2018. Prof. Gao Bingzhong from PKU's Department of Sociology pointed out that China has achieved a global presence. Both the scale of Chinese individuals migrating around the globe and the volume of Chinese merchandise entering the global market have been on a steady and rapid increase; Chineseness is enriching the domain of physical items and the domain of symbols and concepts in the world. The community of intellectuals and academia in China is thus facing a newly-shaped situation that they have never encountered in the past century. That China's empirical social science research will be carried out around the world as its citizens and goods reach all corners of the globe shall be proved inevitable. And since carrying out social research and studies overseas constitutes an essential part of anthropological work as commonly practiced abroad, anthropology in China, with the major of anthropology in the Department of Sociology in PKU as a vanguard, has taken the initiative at the beginning of the century to seize the chances provided and fill in the gaps revealed by the new situation.

During the conference, eight experts and scholars gave academic reports on field investigations in different countries and regions such as Malaysia, the Philippines, Israel, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

The attendees opined that fieldwork on everyday lives of communities in Asian societies carried out by anthropologists from China bring home a map of cultural diversity in Asia. Asia, among all inhabited continents, spreads across the most time zones. It also hosts all kinds of ecosystems ranging from polar regions and montane grasslands to deserts, plains and tropical forests. Nurturing great civilizations in Mesopotamia, South Asia and China, Asia is also the home of significant world religions like Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism and Taoism. No other continent is as diverse as Asia ethnically and linguistically. Asian countries each have their particular history, but they also share a similar experience of encountering the West in modern times. The development of social sciences in China aiming at cognition of the real world requires conducting field-based surveys and research. In the field of anthropology, the ethnographic study of Asia should be given priority, in the expectation that it will be able to provide a reference or even paradigm for studies

of other regions. Asian field studies and research constitute the endeavor of a social sciences circle in China adjusting itself to the aforementioned newly-shaped situation. Asian field studies also contribute to the process of training a new generation of scholars with an in-depth understanding of cultures outside China and with analytical skills needed in international comparative studies.

The 15th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme of “The Status Quo, Problems, and Prospects in International Anti-terrorism Cooperation,” was held at PKU on November 16, 2018. The workshop focused on discussions on the status of international counter-terrorism cooperation since the September 11 attacks, aiming to explore effective ways of international counter-terrorism cooperation in the future. During the seminar, experts and scholars made speeches and exchanged ideas on issues including the social causes of “terrorism,” the security situation and current situation in Pakistan and Afghanistan, Al-Qaeda and DAESH, and the counter-terrorism policy of the US, especially under the Trump administration. Participants also shared opinions and raised questions concerning organizational forms, sources of financing, and the development trends of “terrorist organizations,” in particular related to how China should understand, judge, and cope with these issues.

Attendees at the conference opined that the international community has yet to come up with an authoritative and widely-accepted definition of terrorism, and, given that there is no consensus on what constitutes a terrorist organization, international cooperation on anti-terrorism efforts has been severely hampered. The US has an extraordinarily strong discourse power in the international anti-terrorism field, and its identification of international terrorist organizations affects not only its international anti-terrorism cooperation with other countries but also its relationships with foreign countries in general. Compared with the George Walker Bush administration and the Barack Obama administration, the Donald Trump administration’s anti-terrorism strategy has seen obvious changes, such as demoting the position of anti-terrorism in its national security strategy, insisting on an “America First” approach to counterterrorism while attempting to build up a new hegemonic system, further downsizing the scale of its anti-terrorism operation, and minimizing the significance of diplomatic and economic development in its anti-terrorism strategy. These changes may prompt China to reconsider or even alter its anti-terrorism policies.

Since the September 11 terrorist attacks, international anti-terrorism cooperative

efforts have intensified to an unprecedented degree. But meanwhile, terrorist organizations' influence on the politics inside one country or across multiple countries tends to be more complex; therefore, effective anti-terrorism cooperation has become increasingly important. The attendees further expressed their belief that China should emphasize strengthening not only its anti-terrorism capacity but also its anti-terrorism cooperation with foreign countries. Being more and more engaged in international affairs, China also needs to consider how to establish an anti-terrorism united front.

As a shining pearl on the ancient Silk Road, Afghanistan plays a significant role in China's "Belt and Road Initiative." With the advancement of the BRI in South Asia, the situation in Afghanistan will more strongly impact the common security and development of China and other surrounding countries. Some scholars opined that since the US unveiled its new Afghanistan and South Asia strategy one year ago, the effect has been far from ideal, with Taliban and Daesh activities continuously aggravating the security situation in Afghanistan. Thanks to China's sound policy in Afghanistan which has won lots of local support, China still have a positive effect by participating in local affairs coordination.

The 16th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme of "Latin American Left-wing Populism: Characteristics and Essence," was held at PKU on December 22, 2018.

Populism, as a political phenomenon, rose and declined several times in the modernization process of Latin American countries in the 20th century, creating far-reaching influences. Since the beginning of the new century, many left-wing parties and political leaders in Latin American countries have come to power through elections using a populist political style, which has set off a magnificent "Pink Tide." However, due to the differences in disciplines, perspectives and other factors, the concept, essence, characteristics, historical status and other issues of Latin American populism are still divergent, and domestic academics have not even reached an agreement on whether it should be called "民粹主义" or "民众主义" in Chinese. The goal of this workshop was to exchange and share research insights about this highly theoretical issue, and to promote in-depth development of research projects.

Prof. Dong Jingsheng, from PKU's Department of History, pointed out that in recent years, populism has been defined by more and more scholars as a discourse system or ideology. Different types of populism, to a certain extent, all please "the people," criticize the "elites," and believe that society is divided into two coessential

but antagonistic camps — “pure people” versus the “corrupt elites.” The factors that energize populism include the convergence of such factors as the ideology of the mainstream political forces, social dissatisfaction caused by increasing interest rates, the demonstration effect from other countries and anti-globalization sentiment. Populism can arise with different political positions and is dependent on different ideologies. For example, the European right-wing populism of the 21st century is largely attached to nationalism, while left-wing populism Latin American is largely attached to socialism.

Prof. Han Qi, from Nankai University, opined that populism in Latin America is a political phenomenon that has accompanied the transformation of Latin American society from a traditional agricultural society to a modern industrial society. The political appeal of populism in Latin America usually includes political openness, relying on the strength of the working class and the general public to develop the national economy, promoting the industrialization and modernization of the country while protecting the interests of both the middle class and the massive working class, and developing social welfare. Its leaders are usually charismatic figures. Therefore, it is not appropriate to generalize populism in Latin America as common populism.

During the workshop, experts and scholars respectively introduced the history, current situation and manifestation of populism in different Latin American countries and analyzed Peronism in Argentina, Correa and Ecuador’s 21st century socialism; and Evo Morales and populism in Bolivia. Xu Shicheng, a research fellow from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, opined that since the end of the 20th century, despite a trend featuring the retreat of the left wing and the advance of the right wing, most Latin American countries are ruled by the left wing. Left-wing populism in Latin America, whether radical or moderate, features strongman politics in combination with democratic politics. In general, however, they have all adopted a series of political, economic and social reforms in response to their own development problems, and, in so doing, they have won to some extent the embrace of the public.

The experts and scholars at the workshop also had in-depth discussions on topics such as whether Latin American populism is a doctrine or a movement, whether it originated locally or from foreign countries, and whether populism is a tool of the ruling party or a carrier of democratic politics. The experts expressed their belief that populism in Latin America has far-reaching historical roots and traditions, and its course of development is persistent and demonstrates diversity and differences. There

is also a lack of consensus among domestic and foreign academics on how to understand and evaluate populism in Latin America. In the future, with the further transformation of Latin American society, the pursuit of economic development, fairness and justice will serve as an important driving force for the prevalence of populism in Latin America. Strengthening the development of political systems is an important measure for Latin American countries to undertake in order to avoid the political decay caused by populism.

The 17th Broadyard Workshop, on the theme of “Anthropological Fieldwork on European and American Society and Culture,” was held at PKU on February 25, 2019. China’s overseas anthropological field work has been carried out all over the world, with Europe and America as the relatively concentrated areas. This has special significance for area studies involving Chinese anthropology and Chinese social sciences.

At the workshop, the scholars, drawing on their own field experience, analyzed and presented the cultural and social representations of European and American society from different angles. Ma Qiang, an associate research fellow from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, conducted an investigation of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Palace of Culture to study the transformation of Russian public space in rural areas. He believes that social transformation is the core proposition of post-socialist ethnographic research as well as an important topic in contemporary Russian social studies. The Orthodox Church and the Palace of Culture are the country’s most important public spaces. Under different times and social systems, the rise and fall of the two became the epitome of the transformation and reconstruction of Russian rural society in the past 100 years. The two spaces are also symbols of the social changes in Russian rural areas.

Liang Wenjing, a teacher at Chongqing University, conducted an in-depth analysis of the moral economy of American non-profit organizations. The moral economy of non-profit organizations is mainly initiated by a part of the upper- and middle-income class, and accepts and adopts the operation model of the market economy, which is essentially part of the market economy. The market economy needs the moral economy of the non-profit organization to match it.

Focusing on the core issue of shaping people in social reproduction, Shang Wenpeng from the School of Foreign Languages of Jinan University talked about the topic of home schooling in the Boston area in the US. Associate Professor Liu Qian from

Renmin University of China shared his experience of conducting field work in a public school in a poor community in the center of Philadelphia, US. Two foreign students from Sweden and Poland shared the results of their fieldwork about the Swedish Sámi and the nation-state's conflicting understandings of landscape, and Chinese migration to Poland.

Prof. Gao Bingzhong summarized the methods of anthropological fieldwork. He pointed out that European and American anthropology have dominated the field for a long time. That's why most research is European and American scholars' observations and research of non-Western populations. Anthropology in China has a history of more than a hundred years, but investigation and research about European and American society had not been developed. In the past ten years, Chinese anthropology has accumulated more than 20 research papers in specific communities of European and American countries, and is in the process of creating a new world of overseas ethnography, becoming a part of the global anthropology community.

Anthropology studies "the others," but ultimately needs to turn "the others" into a partner of dialogue. Chinese anthropologists and their European and American counterparts must become dialogue partners as an ideological precondition for the three societies to become partners.