CIRC 2023
The Chinese Internet in the Global South:
Flows, Frictions, and Futures
www.circ2023.asia

Agenda
12-14 July 2023

Venue: Chiang Mai University Communication Innovation Center building

Registration	1st floor foyer
Conference sessions	3rd floor auditorium
Lunch	M Floor
Tea/coffee break	3rd floor outside auditorium

See the travel page for detailed information on getting to the venue. Or look up "*CIC CMU on Google Maps*".

Speakers
Visit the CIRC website for speaker profiles. Most will be presenting in person, with a minority participating virtually by prior arrangement.

Conference Hashtag
We encourage you to share CIRC related news in the lead up to the conference, and to write about the conference via Twitter, Weibo, or other social media platforms.
Do use **#CIRC2023** to tag your posts.

CIRC Day 1 - July 12

08:30 AM - 09:30 AM 1st Floor	All conference participants complete registration Registration: 1st floor	
09:30 am - 10:00 am	**Opening ceremony: Auditorium** *Welcome remarks*: DAH and CIRC steering committee **Malavika Jayaram,** *Executive Director* *Digital Asia Hub* **Jack Linchuan Qiu** Shaw Foundation Professor in Media Technology, Nanyang Technological University *Conference opening*: local hosts, CMU **Terapatt Vannaruemol** Associate Professor and Dean, Faculty of Mass Communication, Chiang Mai University **Tanyanuparb Anantana** Assistant Professor and Vice President, Chiang Mai University	morning session ˅ 30 minutes ˅
10:00 am - 10:45 am	keynote ˅ **#1** **Cybercrime and Cyber Slavery in Southeast Asia** **Ivan Franceschini** Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies at the University of Botswana	morning session ˅ 45 minutes ˅
10:45 PM - 10:50 PM	Group photo of all speakers/presenters, chairs and respondents	5 minutes

10:50 AM - 12:05 PM	panel session ▾ 1 **Digital Superpower in Digital Global South? Flows & Frictions of Chinese Internet Services and Capital in the Global South**	morning session ▾ 75 mins ▾
Servicing Phones in the Global South: The Case of CarlCare		**Jack Linchuan Qiu** Shaw Foundation Professor in Media Technology, Nanyang Technological University **Miao Lu** Assistant Professor, Department of Cultural Studies, Lingnan University **Melissa Gregg** Visiting Professor, RMIT University
The Stack of China's Digital Presence in Southeast Asia: Platforms as the Nexus		**Haiqing Yu** Professor of media and communication, RMIT University
Geographies of the Financialized Chinese Platform Economy		**Lianrui Jia** Lecturer, the University of Sheffield
China: Engaging the (Digital) Global South		**Min Jiang** Professor of Communication, University of North Carolina - Charlotte
12:05 - 1:00 PM lunch ▾ *3rd floor outside Auditorium*		
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	paper presentations ▾ 1 **The "Beijing" Consensus?**	afternoon session ▾ 60 mins ▾
One-way Norm Diffusion or Two-way Socialisation? A Case Study of China-ASEAN Engagement in Digital Governance		**Xuechen Chen** Assistant Professor in Politics and International Relations, Northeastern University - London **Xinchuchu Gao** Fellow in European Political Economy, London School of Economics

The Regulation of Private Internet Firms in China: From the Liberalization-Control Paradigm to the Diversification of the Perspectives		**Aifang MA** Postdoctoral researcher at the School of Journalism and Communication at Peking University
China's Metaverse Corporations and Transnational Policy Supervision: Impact, Industrialisation, and Negotiation		**Wenjia TANG** PhD Student, University of Sydney *Chair and Respondent* **Florian Schneider** *Senior University Lecturer, Leiden University Institute for Area Studies*
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	panel session ⌄ 2 **A (Dis)United Front? Chinese Tech in the Global South**	afternoon session ⌄ 60 mins ⌄
China's Digital Silk Road in Kazakhstan: Huawei and Alibaba engagement with local actors		**Oyuna Baldakova** Research Associate, King's College London
China in Global Digital Trade Governance: Implications for Development		**Yujia He** Assistant Professor, Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce, University of Kentucky **Ka Zeng** Professor, University of Arkansas
Self-mobilised Globalisation: China's Outbound Tech Investments		**Weidi Zheng** Research Associate, King's College London
3:00-3:15 PM tea/coffee break ⌄ *M Floor outside Learning Space*		
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	paper presentations ⌄ 2 **Movements and Dissent**	afternoon session ⌄ 60 mins ⌄
"Unalived" vs #RiceRabbit: A comparative study on bottom-up user resistance practices around algorithmic visibility on Weibo and TikTok		**Yan Cong** Research Master's student, University of Amsterdam Media Studies
Dignity Takings on the Chinese Internet: Social Media Users' Personal Loss in Account Bombing		**Shangwei Wu** Assistant professor, Jinan University, Guangzhou, China
Enclaves of Cyber Surveillance: Algorithm as a cultural		**Yingchun Xu** Ph.D.Student/Rutgers University

technique based on the case study of the #A4 Revolution in China		*Chair and Respondent* **Min Jiang** *Professor of Communication, University of North Carolina - Charlotte*
4:15 PM - 5:30 PM	workshop ▾ **How (not?) to Study Digital China in the World** *Research methods have had to adapt due to pandemic travel bans and shifting geopolitical risks. This session is an interactive workshop on new methods, pedagogies, approaches, and lessons learned.*	afternoon session ▾ 75 mins ▾

Official welcome dinner for all participants
venue: Lumdee Te Kuadang

CIRC Day 2 - July 13

09:30 AM - 10:15 AM	keynote ▾ **TikTok in Thailand: Opportunities and Challenges** **Pirongrong Ramasoota** Commissioner, Thai National Broadcasting and Telecommunication Commission (NBTC), and former Vice President of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok	morning session ▾ 45 minutes ▾
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	paper presentations ▾ 3 **TikTok - Frictions, Flows, and Futures**	morning session ▾ 75 mins ▾
	The Role of Platforms in Sino-India Competition in Digital Governance: A Comparative Analysis	**Chi Zhang** British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, University of St Andrews

"How Can a Small App Piss off an Entire Country?": India's TikTok Ban in the Light of Everyday Techno-Nationalism		**Zheyu Shang** PhD candidate, Leiden University **Avishek Ray** Assistant Professor, National Institute of Technology Silchar **Lin Song** Assistant Professor, Jinan University
Tracing the Political TikTok: Creativity, Propaganda, And Nationalisms		**Suruchi Mazumdar** Associate Professor, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication **Miaotong Yuan** Associate Professor, Communication University of China
From Douyin to TikTok: The Regulatory Space and Ethical Dilemma of China's Digital Platforms		*Chair and Respondent* *Dev Lewis* *Fellow, Digital Asia Hub* *Respondent* *David Craig* *Clinical Professor of Communication, USC Annenberg*
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	panel session ▾ 3 **China as a Tech Superpower in Southeast Asia: E-commerce, Blockchain Games, and Online Literature Industry**	morning session ▾ 60 mins ▾
China Based, Global Reach: The Rise of TikTok as a Shopping Platform in Southeast Asia		**Shuaishuai Wang** Assistant Professor, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University
From Translating Texts to Creating an Ecosystem: The Transcultural and Transnational Flow of Chinese Online Literature in Southeast Asia		**Iris Ming Zhang** Research Assistant, University of Kent, UK **Oscar Tianyang Zhou** Lecturer in Media Studies, University of Kent
The Study of Behavior and Satisfaction of University Students in Chiang Mai Towards Communication via TikTok		**Rattaphol Phrommas** Faculty of Mass Communication, Chiang Mai University
12:30-1:30 PM lunch ▾ *3rd floor outside Auditorium*		

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	paper presentations ▾ 4 **Digital Silk Road(s) 2.0**	afternoon session ▾ 60 mins ▾
The making of a "Digital CPEC": empirical findings on Chinese tech companies' adaptation strategies in Pakistan A different story? Huawei`s 5G narratives from Gulf countries The Digital Silk Road and Sino-African Data Governance - Evidence from North Africa		**Nowmay Opalinski** Ph.D. Candidate / Paris 8 University / French Institute of Geopolitics **Fangfang JI** Associate Professor CASS **Tin Hinane El Kadi** PhD Candidate, London School of Economics *Chair and Respondent* ***Ivan Franceschini*** *Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies at the University of Botswana*
2:30 PM - 3:45 PM	paper presentations ▾ 5 **Globally Chinese Platforms**	afternoon session ▾ 75 mins ▾
TikTok and the Asiatic Mode of Reproduction Nanning as Borderland: the embeddedness of China-ASEAN Cross-Border Ecommerce Aggressive Fin-Tech: China's Digital Financial Platforms in Southeast Asia Examining the cultural production in platformization in China and beyond: A comparative computational analysis of popular music on Douyin, TikTok, and Spotify		**Adam Arvidsson** Professor, University of Naples, Federico II **Ziyi WANG** Ph.d student at the department of Communications and New Media, National University of Singapore. **Yichen Rao** Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Michigan **Jiao Fang** PhD student Chinese University of Hong Kong *Chair and Respondent* ***Jack Linchuan Qiu*** *Shaw Foundation Professor in Media Technology, Nanyang Technological University*

	Respondent **Malavika Jayaram** *Executive Director,* *Digital Asia Hub*	
3:45 pm- 4:00 PM tea/coffee break ▾ *M Floor outside Learning Space*		
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	paper presentations ▾ 6 **Subcultures and Demographics**	afternoon session ▾ 60 mins ▾
"Our Advice is to Break up": Love Stories, Girlfriend Culture, and Popular Feminism in China Sang subculture and Chinese 'frustrated' young generations in the digital era Defining Beauty: The Platformized Creation of Beauty Filters and Beauty Standards	**Yan Tan** Doctoral student University of Macau **Wang linxin** Phd in communication in university of Macau **WeiMing YE** Associate Professor, Peking University **Wang Tong** Master student at Peking University HSBC Business School *Chair & Respondent* **Peter Yu** *Regents Professor of Law and Communication, Texas A&M University*	
5:00 PM- 6:00 PM	paper presentations ▾ 7 **Platformisation and Politics**	afternoon session ▾ 60 mins ▾
Postsocialism and Artificial Intelligence in China From P2P to the Cloud: Music, Platformisation, and Infrastructural Change in China Localism in data governance: An analysis of China's provincial big data transactions	**Qiaoyu Cai** PhD Candidate, University of California, Santa Barbara **Zhongwei Li** Postdoctoral Research Fellow + University of Leeds **Yuchao Zhao** Associate Professor, Zhejiang Lab *Chair & Respondent* **Haiqing Yu**	

	Professor of media and communication, RMIT University

Night Safari trip *(optional)*

CIRC Day 3 - July 14

7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Meditation at Wat Pra Lad *(optional)* Temple tour, Dhamma lecture, and guided meditation with monk Ajarn Sone

09:30 AM- 10:45 AM	panel session · 4 **Taming Tech Giants in China and beyond: Academic Frameworks, Company Strategies, and User Behaviours in Digital Platform (Counter-)regulations**	morning session · 75 mins ·
The Implications of Algorithmic Consumers' Strategic Behaviour on Technology Governance and Regulation The Overseas Impact of China's Platform Governance -A Theoretical Perspective of "Tech Content" Dual track Governance Drawing the Lines: How TikTok Adapts Its Content Moderation System to Local Contexts in South and Southeast Asia Sharing information on moments during the epidemic: a therapeutic governance based framework "The algorithm knows too much about me!" Public understanding of content recommendation algorithms on Chinese social media platforms	**Godofredo Jr Mesa Ramizo** Postdoctoral Fellow, Nanyang Technological University **Jinhe Liu** Assistant Professor, School of Journalism & Communication, Peking University **Diyi Liu** DPhil Candidate, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford **Weishan Miao** Associate Professor Renmin University **Altman Yuzhu Peng** Assistant Professor, University of Warwick **Pu Yan** Assistant professor, Peking University
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	🎉 **Best Student Paper Award Ceremony** 🏆	
11:00 AM- 12:00 PM	paper presentations · 8	morning session · 60 mins ·

	China in Southeast Asia	
Negotiating Chineseness in a Social VR Platform: Acculturation of Chinese Nationals and Overseas in a Sinophone Community on VRChat		**Jindong Leo-Liu** PhD student, The Chinese University of Hong Kong **Biying Wu-Ouyang** PhD student, Chinese U of Hong Kong
Shaping a digitalising infrastructure: Logistics and the dynamics of Chinese-Southeast Asian e-commerce		**Christopher Foster** Presidential Fellow, University of Manchester **Daniel Coelho Barbosa** Bachelor Scholar + Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Unraveling China 4.0 industry and the Digital Silk Road in Southeast Asia: an analysis of Chinese internet companies' influence on Malaysia's digital landscape		**Alana Camoça Gonçalves de Oliveira** Post Doctoral Research - State University of Rio de Janeiro *Chair and Respondent* ***Aranya Siriphon*** *Assistant Professor* *Chiang Mai University*
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM lunch ▾ *3rd floor outside Auditorium*		
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	paper presentations ▾ 9 **Profiling Chinese netizens**	afternoon session ▾ 60 mins ▾
The double-coding of platform algorithms and manual labor: a case study of Zhinv (needlework women) as digital gig workers		**Kong Yuye** PhD student, School of Journalism and Communication, Peking University
A Decade of Digital Divide in China: A Mixed Methods Study Based on Cross-sectional Survey and E-petition Websites		**Pu Yan** Assistant professor, Peking University
Navigating Nationalistic Discourse: A Study of Chinese Zhihu Users' response to American Media's Coverage of China's Vaccine Diplomacy in Southeast Asia		**Shuhan Chen** Lecturer in Media and Communication University of the Arts London"

		Chair and Respondent **Florian Schneider** *Senior University Lecturer, Leiden University Institute for Area Studies*
2:00 PM - 3:15 PM	paper presentations ⌄ 10 **Future(s) of the Chinese Internet**	afternoon session ⌄ 75 mins ⌄
	Building Alternate Techno-futures: Infrastructural Labors between China and Africa The Cultural Imagination of Information: Futurology, Talentology, and Information Society in Post-Socialist China of the 1980s Making Future with the Nonhuman: Shenzhen, the Greater Bay, and "Made in China Intelligently" Whither Digital China? Virtual reality and Technological Imaginary in and beyond Chinese Internet Giants	**Seyram Avle** Assistant Professor, University of Massachusetts (Amherst) **Changwen CHEN** PhD Candidate, Department of Communications and New Media, National University of Singapore **Fan Yang** Associate Professor + Dept. of Media and Communication Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County **Yu Shan** Queensland University of Technology *Chair and Respondent* **Malavika Jayaram** *Executive Director,* *Digital Asia Hub*
	3:15 pm- 3:30 PM tea/coffee break ⌄ *M Floor outside Learning Space*	
3:30 PM- 4:45 PM	workshop ⌄ **How (not?) to Cover Digital China in the World** *How do we cover China in the world without resorting to tired binaries and tropes? This interactive workshop surfaces journalistic methods, ethics, and skills towards shaping strategic narratives and media.*	75 mins ⌄ afternoon session ⌄
	Evening Public Panel and Closing Reception **Venue: Goodcery Kitchen** Extending key conference learnings to the wider community of	

journalists, digital rights activists, digital nomads, artists, Web3 developers, academics, and policymakers, alongside art, culture and entertainment.