

# CENTRAL EUROPEAN RESPONSES TOWARD CHINESE INVESTMENT – THE 16 + 1 FRAMEWORK AND THE BELT & ROAD INITIATIVE (BRI)

by Richard Q. Turcsányi

2 February 2018 (Friday) | 10.30 am – 12 pm  
CIT Seminar Room (NUS Computer Center Building, Level 3)  
2 Engineering Drive 4 Singapore 117584

**Register HERE**  
**(by 1 February 2018, 10am)**

Directions to venue: <http://bit.ly/CIT-SeminarRoom-Directions>

## Abstract

In 2012, China initiated the 16+1 platform to bolster its relations with 16 Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries. For the CEE countries (some of which are EU members and others such as Serbia, Macedonia, etc are aspiring to join the EU), activities of the 16+1 platform meant that China became an important diplomatic partner. For China, the 16+1 platform with the CEE became a project to which it devoted more diplomatic energy than to any other similar projects. The lecture will present the main features of the China-CEE relations and argue that while the CEE countries look towards China with economic expectations, Chinese approach towards the CEE is driven mainly by political goals. That may explain why the results of the first five years of the China-CEE cooperation brought little economic successes but led to an increased profile of China in the region.

## About the Speaker

Richard Q. Turcsányi, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor at Mendel University in Brno and Associate Research Fellow at Institute of International Relations Prague. He is also a Director of STRATPOL - Strategic Policy Institute and Deputy Director of Institute of Asian Studies, both in Bratislava. In past, he conducted a long-term study and research stays at University of Toronto, Peking University, National Chengchi University in Taipei, and European Institute for Asian Studies in Brussels. In his academic research, he focuses mostly on Chinese foreign policy and China's relations with Central Europe. His research articles and commentaries have appeared in the Journal of Chinese Political Science, Energy Policy, Czech Journal of Political Science, and The Diplomat.

