

Fourth China Matters Young Professionals Debate

'Is Australia's China narrative sensationalist and short-sighted?'

Wednesday 11 April 2018

Debaters



Ellen Egan, Senior Policy Officer, Australian Government Department of Human Services

Ellen has been fascinated by China since she was a teenager. After graduating from university in 2005, she moved to Beijing where she enjoyed a stint working at the People's Daily, followed by several years at a consultancy assisting Australian companies making their first forays into the China market. She has previously acted as the ACYPI Director of Policy, but now maintains her connection to China and Chinese current affairs through reading, events and regular visits to Beijing. She currently works for the Australian government as a social policy analyst.



Allan Gyngell, National President, Australian Institute of International Affairs

Allan is a member of the board of China Matters. He is also National President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs and an Honorary Professor at the ANU. His long career in Australian foreign and national security policy included appointments as Director-General of ONA, the inaugural Executive Director of the Lowy Institute and senior positions in DFAT and PM&C. He was international adviser in the office of Prime Minister Paul Keating. His most recent book, *Fear of Abandonment: Australia in the World Since 1942*, was published by La Trobe University Press last year.



Philip Le Liu, Councillor, City of Melbourne

Philip chairs the International Engagement portfolio. An accomplished Management Consultant with over five years' experience at a top tier professional service firm, Philip will use his skills gained across various industries to help solve current and future issues. In addition, Philip has a deep knowledge of Asia, where he worked as a general manager for a non-profit youth organisation that promoted bilateral relations between Australia and China. Philip's passion includes entrepreneurship, multiculturalism and international relations – especially in the area of international students, a group that he believes is an integral part of our community.



Martine Letts, CEO, Committee for Melbourne

Martine is an experienced executive within the government, non-profit and international policy sectors. Martine joined the Committee in March 2016 after serving as Chief Executive Officer of the Australia China Business Council (ACBC). Prior to her role at the ACBC, Martine was Deputy Director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy. As Secretary-General of the Australian Red Cross from 2001-2004, she worked on national transformation strategy. Martine was a senior Australian diplomat for 17 years and an adviser to Foreign Minister Evans from 1992-1994. She served on the Australian National University Council from 2004-2014 and is a member of the Australian Volunteers International board. Martine speaks French, German and Spanish.

Moderator



James Scullin, Project Manager, Australia China Business Council

James is the project manager at the Australia China Business Council (ACBC). Among a diverse portfolio of business training and communications tasks, James currently hosts and produces ACBC's China Path Podcast - a fortnightly series that shares the insights of government and business experts on the current business trends and policy developments of doing business with China. James has also managed ACBC's ChAFTA Training Program, advocating for and training firms on the China Australia Free Trade Agreement. Before working at ACBC, James lived and worked in Beijing as an environmental consultant.