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China Center

## NEWSLETTER N°5

Articles, news and events on China.

The China Center is an interdepartmental and multidisciplinary Research Centre of the University of Macerata, founded in 2012 within the initiatives of the Department of Law.



*"2023 marks the 10th anniversary of the China Centre, which we are very proud of. 10 years of research projects, cooperation initiatives, training and public engagement across Europe and China.*

*We have grown thanks to the passion and dedication of many colleagues, entrepreneurs and experts.*

*We are happy to launch this newsletter as well as a rich calendar of activities for our community."*

- Francesca Spigarelli, Director China Center

## Scientific Articles

[Health data governance in China: Emphasizing 'sharing' and 'protection' based on the right to health](#)

Written by Lujia Sun, published online on December 2022

*This article analyzes how China's healthcare sector can adapt its legal framework to effectively govern health data use while balancing public and private interests. Current mechanisms for processing health data, such as individual consent and administrative authorization, are inadequate to meet societal needs and protect individual's interests. The article proposes a shift from individual control to collective governance, where the principle of the right to health can complement this model. This approach emphasizes solidarity, justice, confidentiality, and collective responsibility to balance power asymmetries among stakeholders. The article suggests a solution that combines the state's obligations with private actor's responsibilities, highlighting the importance of data sharing and fair use.*

### **Index-based analysis of industrial structure and environmental efficiency based on sewage discharge assessment in China**

Written by Haoran Wei, Ying Zhang, Pishi Xiu, Huifang Zhang, Sikun Zhu Gwang-Nam Rim and Chol-Ju An, published online on January 2022

*This study used the Moran Index (MI) to explore the relationship between pollution status, financial and economic structure, and spatial characteristics on urban sewage discharge. The results showed that pollution highly correlated with spatial characteristics led to larger urban sewage discharge and worse overall environmental regulation. Regional differences were also found, with cities farther from provincial capitals having lower sewage discharge efficiency. Quantile regression revealed that higher efficiency in urban sewage discharge was associated with greater growth in labor disposable income and GDP.*

## **News from China**



### **China's Two Sessions targets: A modernized military, economic recovery, and key technologies**

Written by Nadya Yeh, posted by The China Project on 06/03/2023

The annual "Two Sessions" meeting in China outlined the country's government's plans to focus on modernizing its military, promoting economic growth, and investing in key technologies such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors, and 5G networks. The Chinese

government plans to increase its defense budget and invest in advanced technology to enhance military strength. Furthermore, it aims to continue investing in infrastructure and technology to support economic development and recovery, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. China also intends to acquire and develop key technologies to support its economic growth and enhance national security. Overall, the meeting revealed China's continued commitment to advancing its economy and military strength while investing in cutting-edge technologies.

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## A Guide to China's 2023 State Council Restructuring

Posted by Changhao Wei, posted by NPC Observer on 07/03/2023

The article discusses the State Council reorganization plan that was proposed during the 2023 National People's Congress in China. The proposed plan would merge several existing ministries and commissions to create new ones, streamline government operations, and enhance the country's governance system. The article provides a detailed overview of the proposed changes, including the merger of the State Administration of Market Regulation and the State Intellectual Property Office, as well as the creation of a new Ministry of Ecology and Environment. The article also discusses the potential implications of these changes for China's political and economic landscape.



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## China's Global Development Initiative is not the BRI reborn

Written by Yunnan Chen, posted by Nikkei Asia on 08/03/2023

The article argues that China's newly launched "Global Development Initiative" is not a revival of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) but rather a different policy approach. The Global Development Initiative focuses on promoting more sustainable and high-quality investments, prioritizing projects that align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The article notes that this new approach reflects China's desire to address concerns about the environmental and social impact of its overseas investments, as well as its desire to align with international norms and standards. Overall, the article suggests that the Global Development Initiative represents a significant shift in China's approach to overseas investment and development.

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## Upcoming Events

## 31/03 - Energy crisis or energy transition? Strategic policies and opportunities in Europe-China relations

[China Center's 2023 Quarterly Calendar](#)

After two years of online activities and webinars, the international conference **China Goes Global** returns in person in Bologna in July 2023.

Call for papers open now – Deadline 15/03/2023

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