



**XXXIV Congresso Geografico Italiano**

Torino, Campus Luigi Einaudi e Castello del Valentino, 3-5 settembre 2025

**Era urbana e disordine del mondo. Geografie per interpretare il presente**

Titolo della Sessione	<b>Geographies of Global China: past, present and futures</b>
<p><b>Contenuti</b></p>	<p>It would be impossible to trace the geographies of “chaos and governance” (Arrighi &amp; Silver, 1999) in the current world system without tracing the rise of China as a global power and its role in reshaping urban disorder. As Franceschini and Loubere write (2022, 8), “only by understanding global capitalism can one understand China” and “only by understanding China can one understand global capitalism.” However, much scholarship falls into the geopolitical trap of treating China as a monolithic force in the rush to a “second cold war” (Schindler et al., 2024). Conversely, scholars of “Global China” (Lee, 2018) have suggested to analyse the latter as a palimpsest of different actors, relations, and rationalities. According to Lee (2017), only by recognizing the different varieties of capital that shape China’s global integration one can trace the different logics of accumulation and their ensuing regimes of labour, management, finance, and so on. Ultimately, Global China is a methodological invitation for geographers as well, one that resonates with the need to chart China’s role in new and old processes of capital fix (Taylor &amp; Zajontz, 2020) without lumping everything Chinese into singular logics of geopolitical domination and frontier making. From the Belt-and-road initiative to China’s increasing footprint in the delivery of green energy projects under the ecological civilisation programme, the multiple geographies of Global China demand attention. Heeding this call, this panel is sponsored by the Italian Association of China-Africa Studies (AISAC) and welcomes papers that adopt a Global China lens to research and analyse the multiple crises and lines of sight of the current moment. We invite contributions—theoretical, methodological, and empirical, in English or Italian—that approach the following topics from different perspectives and contexts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Geographies of connectivity (transport corridors, maritime corridors, financial corridors, digital infrastructure, etc.)</li> <li>-Geographies of the green transition (renewable energy projects, green finance, etc.)</li> <li>-Urban and Rural Geographies of Global China</li> </ul> <p>References</p>



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	<p>Arrighi, Giovanni (with Beverley Silver). Chaos and Governance in the Modern World System. The University of Minnesota Press, 1999.</p> <p>Franceschini, Ivan, and Nicholas Loubere. Global China as method. Cambridge University Press, 2022.</p> <p>Lee, Ching Kwan. The Specter of Global China. Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa. University of Chicago Press, 2018.</p> <p>Schindler, Seth, Ilias Alami, Jessica DiCarlo, Nicholas Jepson, Steve Rolf, Mustafa Kemal Bayırbağ, Louis Cyuzuzo et al. "The second cold war: US-China competition for centrality in infrastructure, digital, production, and finance networks." Geopolitics 29, no. 4 (2024): 1083-1120.</p> <p>Taylor, Ian, and Tim Zajontz. "In a fix: Africa's place in the Belt and Road Initiative and the reproduction of dependency." South African Journal of International Affairs 27, no. 3 (2020): 277-29.</p>
<b>Parole chiave</b>	Global China, connectivity, infrastructure, urban/rural geographies, green transition
<b>Proponente 1</b>	Mariasole Pepa (Assegnista di Ricerca, Università di Padova, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES AND THE ANCIENT WORLD - DiSSGeA)
<b>Proponente 2</b>	Costanza Franceschini (Postdoc researcher, Leiden University)
<b>Proponente 3</b>	Andrea Pollio (Assistant Professor - DIST Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning Research Associate - ACC AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES Politecnico di Torino   University of Cape Town )