

# BROOKINGS

---

## EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

# China's Emerging Middle Class: Beyond Economic Transformation

Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Wednesday, September 23, 2009, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

The Brookings Institution, Falk Auditorium, 1775 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC

Just 20 years ago, a distinct socio-economic middle class was virtually non-existent in China. Today, no thorough discussion of the country's economic, social or political trends is complete without taking into account the rapid emergence of China's middle class and its impact on the country's social structure and political system.

On September 22 and 23, the John L. Thornton China Center at Brookings will host a diverse group of scholars from the United States, China and elsewhere to discuss China's emerging middle class. Participants will present papers on a variety of topics, including social stratification and social mobility in China; the Chinese middle class compared to its counterparts around the world; the values, world views and political aspirations of the Chinese middle class; and how this group might affect China's rise on the world stage. After each panel, participants will take audience questions.

## Tuesday, September 22

**2:00 pm –  
2:15 pm**      **Opening Remarks**

**Martin S. Indyk**  
Vice President and Director, Foreign Policy  
The Brookings Institution

**2:15 pm –  
3:05 pm**      **Keynote Address**

**Introduction: Kenneth Lieberthal**  
Senior Fellow and Director  
John L. Thornton China Center  
The Brookings Institution

**William C. Kirby**  
Spangler Family Professor of Business  
Administration and T. M. Chang Professor of  
China Studies  
Harvard University

**3:15 pm –  
5:00 pm**

## Panel 1: Overview – Concept and Significance

**Homi Kharas**

Senior Fellow  
Wolfensohn Center for Development  
The Brookings Institution

**Cheng LI**

Senior Fellow and Director of Research, John L.  
Thornton China Center  
The Brookings Institution

**LI Chunling**

Research Fellow and Professor  
Institute of Sociology  
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

**LU Hanlong**

Professor of Sociology  
Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences

**Moderator: Margaret Pearson**

Professor of Government and Politics  
University of Maryland

Wednesday, September 23

**9:00 am –  
10:10 am**

## Panel 2: Constructing the Middle Class: Education and Occupation

**Deborah Davis**

Professor of Sociology  
Yale University

**Jing LIN**

Professor of International Education Policy  
University of Maryland

**Jianying WANG**

Department of Sociology  
Yale University

**Moderator: Erica Downs**

China Energy Fellow  
John L. Thornton China Center  
The Brookings Institution

**10:20 am –  
12:05 pm**

## Panel 3: The Chinese Middle Class in Comparative Perspective

**Sang-Jin HAN**

Professor of Sociology  
Seoul National University

**Hsin-Huang Michael HSIAO**

Director of Institute of Sociology, Academia  
Sinica, and Professor of Sociology,  
National Taiwan University

**ZHOU Xiaohong**

Professor of Sociology and Dean of the  
School of Social and Behavioral  
Sciences  
Nanjing University

**Moderator: Richard Bush**

Senior Fellow and Director  
Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies  
The Brookings Institution

**1:05 pm –  
1:55 pm**

## Keynote Address

**Introduction: Kenneth Lieberthal**

Senior Fellow and Director  
John L. Thornton China Center  
The Brookings Institution

**James Fallows**

National Correspondent  
The Atlantic Monthly

**2:05 pm –  
3:15 pm**

## Panel 4: Housing Reform: Distributing Property or Entrenching Inequality

**Joyce Yanyun MAN**

Professor and Director, Peking  
University-Lincoln Center for Urban  
Development and Land Policy

**Luigi Tomba**

Fellow, Chinese Politics  
Department of Political and Social Change  
Australian National University

**Moderator: Kenneth Lieberthal**

Senior Fellow and Director  
John L. Thornton China Center  
The Brookings Institution

**3:25 pm –  
5:00 pm**

## Panel 5: Values, World View and Political Participation

**Jie CHEN**

Professor of Political Science  
Old Dominion University

**Bruce Dickson**

Professor of Political Science and International  
Affairs  
George Washington University

**Sida LIU**

Assistant Professor of Sociology and  
Law  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Ethan Michelson**

Associate Professor of Sociology and Law  
Indiana University-Bloomington

**Moderator: Dennis Wilder**

Visiting Fellow  
John L. Thornton China Center  
The Brookings Institution

To RSVP, please call the Brookings Office of Communications at 202.797.6105, or visit