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"China's Global Goals and Roles: Changing the World from Second Place?"

Friday, February 19, 2016
10:00am-11:30am
Social Sciences Building (SOS), Room B40
Organized by Carol Wise, USC
Refreshments will be provided, please RSVP to cis@dornsife.usc.edu

Abstract:
Whilst there is a general acceptance amongst Chinese analysts that the country's global power has really increased (and for very good reasons), how best to use this power to generate real change in the global order remains a subject of considerable debate. The nature of that international order itself is a key determinant of what China can do. On one level the rise of new powers is leading to a depolarised order with fluid and changing alliances that create possibilities for China to build partnerships for change. But on another level, the residual power of the US creates clear limits on what can be done. This creates a rather unique set of circumstances where a partially dissatisfied rising power has to try to find ways to responsibly change (but not fracture) the existing system as self-perceived No.2, with the No.1 rather reluctant to accept the No.2's agenda.