

Jasper Roctus

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Present Engagement

- Doctoral Candidate, Eastern Language and Cultures (Sinology), Ghent University 2020-present
 - Project: "Narrating Sun Yat-sen: Explaining the People's Republic of China and Republic of China's (Taiwan) Developments Concerning Leninism, Christianity, and Democracy."
- Associate Fellow, EGMONT - The Royal Institute for International Relations 2022-present
 - Providing policy advice on Chinese domestic politics and cross-Strait relations.
- Researcher, ReConnect China, ENLIGHT Horizon2020 project, EU Commission 2022-present
 - Upgrading independent Knowledge on Contemporary China in Europe
 - Involved in work Packages three (Domestic Chinese Politics) and four (Foreign Policy)

Educational background

- Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures: China (Sinology), Ghent University 2018-2020
 - Two-year master, specializing in academic proficiency, with electives on politics and economics.
 - Graduated summa cum laude ('met grootste onderscheiding') in 2020.
- Exchange to Renmin University, Beijing, China 2019-2020
 - Completed the local courses with an average score of 92%.
 - Recipient of Ghent University's Tianzhu MA scholarship during the exchange.
- Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures: China (Sinology), Ghent University 2015-2018
 - Graduated summa cum laude ('met grootste onderscheiding') in 2018.
 - Minored in economics to expand on the knowledge acquired at Tilburg University.
- Exchange to Liaoning University, Shenyang, China 2017
 - Completed the local courses with an average score of 95%.
- Business economics, Tilburg University, The Netherlands 2014-2015
 - Finished the first semester's set of courses, i.a. financial accounting and micro-economics.

Teaching experience

- Teaching Assistant, Research Seminar Oriental Languages and Cultures (English) 2021-2022; 2022-2023
 - Responsible for providing academic writing assistance to the Chinese Students involved in the course
- Guest Lecturer, EU-East Asia Relations (English) 2021-2022; 2022-2023
 - Provided three-hour lessons on Taiwanese history and cross-Strait relations
- Second reader, BA (Dutch) and MA (Dutch and English) theses 2020-2021; 2021-2022; 2022-2023
- Teaching Assistant, History of China (Geschiedenis van China, Dutch) 2020-2021
 - Assisted the head professor in overcoming corona-related limitations by maintaining a live chat
 - Drafted open exam questions for the modern history section and was responsible for grading (also beyond 2021)

Scholarships/awards

- PhD Fellowship fundamental research – Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) 2021-2025

- Doctoral Scholarship – Ghent university Special Research Fund (BOF) 2020-2021
- Tianzhu Scholarship for Qualified (degree) MA students – Tianzhu Buddhist Network 2019-2020
- Scholarship for Foreign MA Students in China – China Scholarship Council (CSC) 2019-2020

Publication list

-Dessein, Bart, and Roctus, Jasper (2023). "Remonstrating, or the Art of Forging Relations." *ReConnect China Policy Brief 1*: ReConnect China.

-Roctus, Jasper, and Dessein, Bart (2023). "China's 14th National People's Congress: No Ordinary Cups of Tea." *Egmont Policy Briefs 300*: Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations.

-Dessein, Bart, and Roctus, Jasper (2022). "Outspokenly unspoken: Chinese People's 'White Paper Revolution'." *Egmont Policy Briefs 297*: Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations.

-Roctus, Jasper (2022). "Sun Yat-sen, Minsheng, Marxism, and the Question of Labour." *Critical Theories 6*(1): 26–45.

-Dessein, Bart, Roctus, Jasper, and Biscop, Sven (2022). "Xi Jinping Seeks Stability: The 20th National Congress of the CCP." *Egmont Policy Briefs 291*: Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations.

-Dessein, Bart, Roctus, Jasper, and Biscop, Sven (2022). "De Oorlog in Oekraïne. De Noodzaak van Het Waarborgen van Één Wereld." *De Gids 6*: 7–13.

-Biscop, Sven, Dessein, Bart, and Roctus, Jasper (2022). "Putin Is Creating the Multipolar World He (Thought He) Wanted." *Security Policy Briefs 156*: Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations, 2022.

-Roctus, Jasper (2022). "Mariah Thornton, Robert F. Ash, and Dafydd Fell (Eds) (2021), Taiwan's Economic and Diplomatic Challenges and Opportunities." *EATS News 19*: 13–16.

-Roctus, Jasper (2020). "Remolding China's 'empty' Belt and Road Initiative: An Opportunity for the EU." *Security Policy Briefs 128*: Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations, 2020.

-Roctus, Jasper. "Contagious democracy? A Case for a Normative Approach for the EU" (Forthcoming 2024) to be published the *Journal of Social Sciences and Philosophy*.

-Roctus, Jasper. "Modernist Protestantism Triumphs over Chinese Superstition: Sun Yat-sen's Christian Quest to Overthrow the Yellow Empire." (Forthcoming 2023) to be published as a chapter in the monograph *On Continuity and Change in Asia* by the Palacký University Olomouc.

-Roctus, Jasper. "Chosen Trauma's: China's Ever-lasting Century of Humiliation (*bai nian guochi*) and Sino-European Relations." (Forthcoming 2023) to be published as a chapter in a monograph titled *Narrating Europe and China in Uncertain Times* by the Bristol University Press.

-Roctus, Jasper. "Sun Yat-sen, 400 million Chinese, and the Fear of Demographic Stagnation in Early Twentieth Century China." (Forthcoming 2024) to be published in a special issue titled *Ciphering and Ruling Modern China's Population by Twentieth-Century China*.

Conference/workshop/lecture participation

- *Youth, Labour and the New World; Labour Discourse in a Cross-cultural Perspective* (上海—根特联合工作坊: 青年、劳动与新世界: 跨文化视域中的劳工书写), Joint Lab for World War I Studies, Ghent University-Shanghai University, Shanghai (online), July 10, 2021.

- Contribution: *Sun Yat-sen, Minsheng, Marxism and the Question of Labour* (language: Chinese)
- Paper based on contribution to be published in *Critical Theories* (2022).

- *EU – East Asia: A Relational Perspective*, College of Social Sciences, Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences (Academia Sinica), National Taiwan University, Taipei (online), September 30–October 1, 2021.
 - Contribution: *European Expectations for Democracy: The PRC and Taiwan Compared* (language: English)
 - Paper *Contagious democracy? A Case for a Normative Approach for the EU* to be published in the *Journal of Social Sciences and Philosophy (JSSP)* Q3 2024.
- *Changing China: Then and Now*, Chinese Studies Association of Australia (CSAA) 17th Biennial Conference. The Australian National University, Canberra (online), November 29–December 1, 2021.
 - Contribution: *The Elusive Revolutionary Forerunner: CCP Narratives on Sun Yat-sen* (language: English)
- *LW Research Day 2022 on Research Valorisation*, Faculty of Arts and Philosophy of Ghent University, Ghent, April 28, 2022.
 - Contribution: *“Modernist Protestantism” Triumphs “Chinese Superstition” : How Blue China’s Sun Yat-sen Overthrew the Yellow Empire* (English poster)
- *Narrating Europe and China in Times of Crisis*, CHERN (China in Europe Research Network) Working Group 4, Berlin (online), June 23–June 24, 2022.
 - Contribution: *Humiliation, Nationalism, and the Othering of Europe: Sino-European Relations under the Ever-lasting Century of Humiliation* (language: English)
- *Biographies of Numbers*, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation/Sin-aps project, Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen, July 7–July 9, 2022.
 - Contribution: *Sun Yat-sen, Thomas Malthus, and the Fear of Demographic Stagnation in Early 20th Century China* (original language: English)
- *24th biennial conference of the European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS)*, Department of Asian Studies, Palacký University, Olomouc, August 24–August 27, 2022.
 - Contribution: *Lenin and Bismarck Prevail over Marx: Sun Yat-sen and the First National Congress of the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT)* (language: English)
- *5th Conference of the Baltic Association of Asian Studies (BAAS); Asia in Transition / Tradition as the Source of Change*. Department of Asian Studies, Talinn University, Talinn, September 23–September 25, 2022.
 - Contribution: *Sun Yat-sen: A Cantonese Revolutionary under a Global Context* (language: English)
- *2022 China Lecture Café Series*. China Platform, Ghent University, Ghent, October 18, 2022.
 - Contribution: *Cross-Strait Relations – A Historical Overview under a Taiwanese Perspective* (language: English)
- *Young Researchers Overseas Day 2022*. The Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences, Brussels, December 12, 2022.
 - Contribution: *“Modernist Protestantism” Versus “Chinese Superstition” : Sun Yat-sen’s Christian Revolutionary Quest* (language: English)
- *Words and Interpretation: Comparative Approaches to Chinese Literature and History*. Taiwan Chair, Ghent University, Ghent, May 31–June 1, 2023.
 - Contribution: *How Sun Xiansheng became Guofu: The KMT’s Deification of Sun Yat-sen during the Second Sino-Japanese War (1937–1945)* (language: English)
- *4th Biennial Conference of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy (EACP): Interpretation and Reinvention of Chinese Philosophy*. EACP, University of Macerata, Macerata, June 16–June 18, 2023.
 - Contribution: *Ossified Educational Text or Proto-Communist Minimum Program? (Re)interpretations of Sun Yat-sen’s Three Principles of the People by Mao Zedong and Chiang Kai-shek (Late 1920s–Early 1970s)* (language: English)
 - Panel conveyor and chair of *Chinese Philosophy in Mainland China and Taiwan* (double session)
- *The 20th Conference of the European Association of Taiwan Studies*. Centre of Taiwan Studies School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London, 26–28 June, 2023.
 - Contribution: *Sun Yat-sen: Mister Democracy, Eternal Guofu or Chinese Foreigner?* (language: English)
- *EU – East Asia Relations in a Shifting Global Order*. FWO-MOST, Ghent University, Ghent, September 12–September 13,

2023.

- Contribution: *The European Union and Cross-Strait Relations: Just What Is "Its" One-China Policy?* (language: English)

Internships and extracurricular activities

- Media engagement/research valorization 2022-present
 - Interviewed by Dutch, English and French language media such as VRT (TV and radio); *Het Financieele Dagblad*; *De Tijd*; *De Morgen*; *Business AM* and *L'Echo*.
- Buddy projects/language tandem programs/conversation tables/speech competitions 2015-present
 - Participated actively with Chinese exchange students, improving my Chinese proficiency and Dutch/English teaching skills, gaining cross-cultural understanding.
 - Participated in multiple speech competitions, like Chinese Bridge, improving both my skill in public speaking as well as my proficiency in Chinese.
 - Hosted the Chinese language table at Ghent University *Let's Talk* events for PhD and Postdocs
- Trainee, Frogbear "From the Ground Up: Buddhism and East Asian Religions", Sichuan 2022
 - Invited to participate in the initiative's fieldwork and research as a trainee of the Tianzhu fieldwork fellowship, funded by Ghent University's Tianzhu MA Scholarship.
- Trainee, EGMONT - The Royal Institute for International Relations, Brussels 2020
 - Conducted research on Chinese sources concerning the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), compiled a Bibliographical review and published a [policy paper](#) on the European Union's response to this initiative.
- Vice-chairman IK, Chinese Student Association Ghent (ChiSAG), Ghent 2018-2019
 - Responsible for communication with Ghent University and other institutions, organizing events.
 - First non-Chinese board member.

Skills and interests

- EU driving license: AM and B
- Languages
 - Dutch: native
 - English: fluent
 - Chinese: fluent (HSK 6 obtained in December 2019, score: 245/300)
 - French/German/Vietnamese: basic
- Academic writing
 - Obtained high marks (19/20) for bachelor and master's thesis, as well as for other academic research related courses.
 - Further honed these skills by pursuing the 'academic proficiency' specialization during the MA degree in Ghent.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Other skills
 - Communication, organizational and social skills, teamwork.
 - Chinese/English/Dutch language teaching.
- Interests: sports (tennis, running), books (history and politics), board games.