Press Release

Berlin, Dec 7, 2022

"China and Israel": Concluding Conference of the Sylke Tempel Fellowship 2022

On Dec 14, 2022, the German-Israeli Future Forum Foundation (DIZF) and its cooperating partners - the American Jewish Committee Berlin (AJC), the Bar-Ilan University (BIU), the European Leadership Network (ELNET), the foreign policy magazine Internationale Politik (IP) and Women in International Security Deutschland e.V. (WIIS.de) - will host a conference in Berlin, focusing on Chinese-Israeli relations.

The conference marks the conclusion of this year's Sylke Tempel Fellowship program (STF). The special edition of IP under the title "China and Israel: Power and Markets" with the articles by the Fellows will be presented at the conference.

The public conference will take place on Dec 14, 2022, from 15:00 to 19:45 CET at the DGAP in Berlin (Rauchstraße 17, 10718 Berlin) & via zoom. Participants are required to register in advance.

Chinas influence in Israel and the Middle East

The last decade has brought major geopolitical changes in the Middle East. China has intensified its involvement in the region and established itself as a new regional power. Several states in the Middle East, including Israel, have signed bilateral trade agreements with China. Through its involvement in the region, China is trying to secure energy and resources and expand trade routes and sales markets, but political and military strategic interests cannot be overlooked either.

What is the evidence of China's growing influence in Israel and the Middle East? What are the consequences of Chinese influence and investment for Israel and the region? What are the implications for German-Israeli relations?

We will discuss these topics and more with international experts and many guests.

Conference program: China and Israel: Foreign Policy, Trade and Influence in Unsteady Times

In the opening panel, moderated by Professor Shlomo Shpiro (Bar-Ilan University), Galia Lavi (Institute for National Security Studies), Dr. Angela Stanzel (German Institute for International and Security Affairs) and Lea Sahay (Süddeutsche Zeitung) will discuss "China's Influence in Israel".

Afterwards, our Sylke Tempel Fellows will talk with Ning Wang (Table.media) about China's communication strategy in Israel as well as China's foreign and economic policies.

This will be followed by a panel on "How we talk about foreign policy" with Almut Möller (State Councilor and Plenipotentiary of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg to the Federal Government, the EU and for Foreign Affairs), Jörg Lau (Die Zeit) and MdB Roderich Kiesewetter (Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee and Vice Chairman of the Parliamentary Oversight Panel).

The conference will close with the awarding of this year's Sylke Tempel Essay Prize by Martin Bialecki, Editor-in-Chief of Internationale Politik, to Alicja Polakiewicz.

Please find the complete conference program and the link for registration here:

Sylke Tempel Fellowship

The <u>Sylke Tempel Fellowship Program</u> was established in 2018 by the German-Israeli Future Forum in memory of the journalist and author Sylke Tempel, who served as member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. In the framework of the program, annual research grants are given to young media experts working on societal and foreign policy issues with relevance in Israel and Germany.

This year's fellowship program is organized in cooperation with the American Jewish Committee Berlin (AJC), the Bar-Ilan University (BIU), the European Leadership Network (ELNET), the foreign policy magazine Internationale Politik (IP) and Women in International Security Deutschland e.V. (WIIS.de). The program has run under the

patronage of Sigmar Gabriel, former German Foreign Minister in his role as Chairman of Atlantik Brücke, and under the patronage of former Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni.

Special edition of Internationale Politik

The articles by the Sylke Tempel Fellows of 2022 have been published in a special edition of the foreign policy magazine Internationale Politik, under the title "China and Israel: Power and Markets". The issue can be ordered free of charge from the Future Forum or downloaded as a PDF from the Future Forum website in <u>German</u> and in <u>English</u>.

For questions about the program please contact Annika Finken (finken@dizf.de).

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