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(in order of speaking)

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H.E. Ambassador Viorel ISTICIOAIA-BUDURA joined Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1978, and has spent most of his diplomatic career, after joining, working on Asian affairs. He has been the Head of the Romanian Embassy in the PRChina (2002-2011) and, respectively, in RoK (2000-2002). In 2011, he was selected as the Head of the Asia-Pacific Department in the newly established European External Action Service in Bruxelles. In 2014, was appointed as Head of the EU Delegation in Japan. Back in Bucharest since September 2018, he was designated as DG level, Ambassador-at-large for Asian Regional Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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PANEL 1: Traditional issues, Non-Traditional Actors

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**PANEL 2: Collective Efforts for Sustainable Development**

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Dr Mimi ZOU holds the first academic appointment in Chinese law at the University of Oxford, where she has the role of developing the subject as a new field of study and research. She is also a visiting professor at Peking University and Tsinghua University. Dr Zou’s award-winning research focuses on Chinese and comparative employment and commercial law. She regularly provides expert commentaries on Chinese law-related issues for international media outlets. She is a special adviser of the Great Britain China Centre, an organisation set up by the UK’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and a distinguished expert member of the Asia Society Policy Institute’s Belt and Road Initiative Taskforce.

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PANEL 3: Changing Economic and Political Dimensions

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