

Anna Lisa Ahlers (*1982)

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■ CURRENT POSITION

2020 – 2025 Lise Meitner Research Group leader (W2-equivalent, tenure track)
Research group “[China in the Global System of Science](#)”
Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany

■ PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2014 – 2020 Associate professor (tenured)
“Modern Chinese Society and Politics”
China studies section, Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages (IKOS)
University of Oslo, Norway

2013 *offered*: Assistant professorship (W1, tenure track) – *declined*
“Transcultural Studies (Sinology) – Chinese and East Asian Economics and Society”
University of Heidelberg, Germany

2013 – 2014 Deputy director
Research group “Politics and International Affairs”
Mercator Institute for China Studies (Merics), Berlin, Germany

2013 Postdoctoral research fellow
Department of Comparative Research on Democracies, Forum Internationale Wissenschaft
University of Bonn, Germany

2008 – 2013 Lecturer and research fellow
Chair for Greater China Studies, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies
University of Tübingen, Germany

2007 – 2008 Assistant to the CEO for the Greater China region
RSBK GmbH strategy consultancy, Frankfurt/M., Germany

■ EDUCATION

2013 Dr. phil. (PhD)
China studies, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies (AOI), University of Tübingen, Germany
Supervisors: Gunter Schubert, Thomas Heberer
Thesis title: “*Constructing a New Socialist Countryside*” in Contemporary China – Analyzing
Policy Implementation in Four Counties

2007 Magister Artium (Master)
Sinology (1st major) and Political Science (2nd major)
University of Tübingen, Germany

■ FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2020 – 2021 Academic fellow, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (Institute of Advanced Study), Germany
- 2018 – 2019 One-year visiting associate professor (Wigeland fellow), Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations (EALC), University of Chicago, USA
- 2017 – 2022 Elected member (incl. project grant), *Die Junge Akademie*, German Young Academy of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- 2016 – 2019 Selected member, Young Talent Career Development Program (incl. project grant), Faculty of Humanities, University of Oslo, Norway
- 2015 – 2018 Visiting research fellow, Environmental and Energy Policy Center, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, PR China
- 2015 Visiting researcher (2 months), China Center for Comparative Politics and Economics (CCCPE), Beijing, PR China
- 2014 – 2019 Senior policy fellow for “Chinese domestic politics”, Mercator Institute for China Studies (Merics), Berlin, Germany
- 2013 – Permanent visiting fellow, Department of Comparative Research on Democracies, Forum Internationale Wissenschaft, University of Bonn, Germany
- 2013 Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award, Faculty of Humanities, University of Tübingen, Germany
- 2011 – 2012 One-year doctoral fellowship, Institute of Political Science at Academia Sinica (IPSAS), Taipei, ROC Taiwan
- 2010 – 2016 Associated member, research network “Governance in China”, funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
- 2009 Visiting researcher (1 month), China Center for Comparative Politics and Economics (CCCPE), Beijing, PR China
- 2006 – 2007 Hermann Hesse scholarship for a one-year stay at Renmin University, Beijing, PR China
- 2005 Visiting researcher (3 months), King Prajadhipok’s Institute (KPI), Nontaburi, Thailand
- 2003 Exchange student (7 months), European Center for Chinese Studies (ECCS), Peking University, Beijing, PR China
- 1998 – 1999 AFS exchange student (high school, 1 year), Kanchanaburi and Bangkok, Thailand

■ COMMISSIONS OF TRUST & OTHER FUNCTIONS

- 2022 Project advisory board member, *Research Cultures in Contemporary Germany*, Volkswagen Foundation
- 2021 – Editor, *Soziale Systeme: Zeitschrift für Soziologische Theorie* (De Gruyter)
- 2020 – Advisory board member, *Center for Cultural Studies on Science and Technology in China*, Technical University of Berlin
- 2020 – Editorial board member, *The Environments of East Asia* series, Cornell University Press
- 2020 – 2021 Board member, *Die Junge Akademie* (German Young Academy)
- 2019 – Executive committee member, *European Journal of East Asian Studies* (Brill)
- 2017 – Associate editor-in-chief, *Journal of Chinese Governance* (Taylor & Francis)
- External reviewer: European Research Council (ERC), Institute of East Asian Studies (IN-EAST), Royal Society of New Zealand, Swedish Research Council, UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, University of Duisburg-Essen, Volkswagen Foundation

Member of search committees: University of Bergen; University of Copenhagen; University of Oslo

Peer reviewer: *Anthropological Theory, Asian Survey, Asiatische Studien/Etudes Asiatiques, Canadian Journal of Political Science, China Information, Chinese Journal of Communication, Cities, Environmental History, Environmental Science and Policy, EPA: Economy and Space, Governance, Journal of Chinese Governance, Journal of Chinese Political Science, Journal of Contemporary China, Journal of Contemporary History, Journal of Current Chinese Affairs, Journal of Social Policy, Problems of Post Communism, Public Administration, Regulation and Governance, Sociology of Development, Sustainability Science, The China Journal, The China Quarterly, The China Review, World Development;*
Cambridge University Press, Energy Program Asia (Leiden University), Michigan University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge

■ TEACHING & OTHER COURSES (complete list available upon request)

- 2021 Guest lecturer – Undergraduate/graduate seminar “Chinas Aufstieg zur globalen Wissenschaftsmacht” (China’s rise to a global science power status), Technical University of Berlin
- 2018 – 2019 Visiting associate professor – Undergraduate/graduate courses, University of Chicago
- 2018 Guest lecturer – “Advanced Social Science Summer School” for pre- and post-doctoral researchers from the PR China and ROC Taiwan, Zhejiang University, PR China
- 2017/21/22 Guest lecturer – Summer school for lecturers of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Bonn, Germany
- 2014 – 2020 Associate professor – Courses at BA and MA level, China studies section, Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages (IKOS), University of Oslo, Norway
- 2015 Guest lecturer – “Akademie der Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes” (summer school of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation), Annécý, France
- 2014 Guest lecturer – University of Lucerne, Switzerland
- 2008 – 2013 Full-time lecturer – Courses at BA and MA level, China studies section, University of Tübingen, Germany

■ SUPERVISION WORK (complete list available upon request)

MPIWG: please see the complete team at <https://www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/LMRGChina/people>

University of Oslo: 1 Postdoctoral fellow (completed); 3 PhD candidates (2 completed, 1 ongoing); 14 Master students (completed)

University of Chicago: 1 Master student (completed)

University of Tampere: 2nd supervisor to 1 PhD candidate (ongoing)

University of Wuerzburg: 2nd supervisor to 1 PhD candidate (thesis under review)

■ INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2022/23 Organizer, Lecture series 2022/23 “China – The New Science Superpower?”, Berlin Contemporary China Network
- 2020/21 Co-organizer, Institute’s Colloquium “Trusting Science”, MPIWG Berlin, Germany
- 2015 – 2016 Organizer, “East Asian Lunch Seminar” series, Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages (IKOS), University of Oslo, Norway
- 2008 – 2011 ERASMUS MUNDUS academic exchange coordinator, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies (AOI) – China studies section, University of Tübingen, Germany
- 2008 – 2011 Board member, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies (AOI), University of Tübingen, Germany

■ INVITED TALKS (selection, 2015 – present)

China – die grüne Technokratie des 21. Jahrhunderts? (China – the 21st century's green technocracy?)

Keynote, annual conference of the German Association for China Studies (DVCS), Kiel, December 9, 2022

Recent Trends in Research Collaboration on Governance between China and Europe

Global Higher Education Leaders' Forum, School of International Studies, Renmin University of China, Beijing, September 30, 2022

Wissenschaftsdiplomatie und China (Science diplomacy and China)

Commentary on "Wissenschaftsdiplomatie: Konzept und Praxis" (Science diplomacy: concept and practice), Ruhr University Bochum, September 20, 2022

How to Make the 'China Story' of Science and Innovation More Informative?

Round table, BioGovernance Commons Initiative, University of Arizona and University of Kent, September 6, 2022

Recent Trends in European Approaches to Research Collaboration with China

China-Europe Innovation Forum, China-Europe Research Network for Innovation and Sustainable Development (CERNISD), June 7, 2022

Understanding China: Current Political Development in China and Implications for Academic Cooperation

Panel debate, International Symposium "Engaging China", University of Bergen, May 10-12, 2022

Academic Freedom Revisited

Panel and workshop, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften (BBAW), THE NEW INSTITUTE, Hamburg, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Leibniz Saal of the BBAW, April 20-21, 2022

Wissenschaft und Modernisierung in China (Science & scholarship and modernization in China)

Panel discussion, Friedrich Naumann Foundation and CASSIS - University of Bonn, March 24, 2022

China zwischen Expansion und Abschottung (China between expansion and isolation)

Round table, Max-Weber-Stiftung & Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities & Alliance of the German Academies of Sciences & the European Research Centre for Chinese Studies (Beijing), Munich, March 10, 2022

Globale Wissenschaft und chinesischer Autoritarismus – ein Widerspruch? (Global science and Chinese authoritarianism – A contradiction?)

Max Planck Society ("Tag mit Wissenschaft"), Schloss Ringberg, October 15, 2021

Research Workshop on "Global China" and Book Discussion of "A. Rippa (2020) Borderland Infrastructures: Trade, Development, and Control in Western China"

LMU Center for Advanced Studies, Munich, September 15-16, 2021

Chinas Aufstieg im globalen Wissenschaftssystem (China's rise in the global system of science)

Wissenschaftshistorisches Seminar, Leopoldina – Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften, July 6, 2021

Building A "World Class Science System" in Xi Jinping China

Colloquium Greater China, University of Tübingen, July 1, 2021

The Changing Role of Categorizations in the Science System of the PRC

European Network on "Ruling Through Division: Categorizing People and Resources in Contemporary China", Aalborg University, May 10, 2021

Pandemic Politics: Science Governance in Democratic and Authoritarian Regimes

Colloquium of the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, April 20, 2021

Rekalibrierung der deutschen und europäischen Wissenschaftskooperation mit China (Recalibrating research cooperation between Germany/Europe and China) – together with T. Heberer

Workshop organized by the Confucius Institute at the Free University of Berlin and the Center for International Higher Education at Peking University, Berlin, February 25-26, 2021

Local Governance in China: A Critical State-of-the-Art Review – together with G. Schubert
Institute of International Relations, National Chengchi University, ROC Taiwan, December 11, 2020

China's Scientific Ascent in the 21st Century – National and Global Implications
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Science Talks, Berlin, June 25, 2020

Governing the Airpocalypse – Insights from China's 'War on Smog'
Cornell Contemporary China Initiative lecture series, Cornell University, March 9-10, 2020

Air-Cushioned: How Local Governments Strategically Bundle Policies in China's War Against Smog
Harvard Yenching Institute, Harvard University, May 10, 2019

China Blue: A Comparative Analysis of Ad-hoc Air Quality Governance for Mega Events in China
Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Denver, March 23, 2019

China's "Airpocalypse" and its Political Impact
East Asia Workshop, University of Chicago, February 6, 2019

China's Migrant Workers: Social, Economic, and Political Implications
Chicago Society, University of Chicago, January 17, 2019

Authoritarian Inclusion? A Sociological Approach to the Study of Political Regimes
Short Note, Letten Price Days, Oslo, September 12, 2018

Politische Verfahren in Demokratien und Autokratien des 21. Jahrhunderts (Political Processes in Democracies and Autocracies in the 21st Century) – together with R. Stichweh
Conference: Legitimation durch Verfahren. Rezeption, Kritik und Anschlüsse, University of Lucerne, February 15, 2018

Asymmetries in World Society? Chinese Notions of National Citizenship
International Workshop: Comparing Migration Management, International Law and Identity in East Asia, Graduate School of East Asian Studies (GEAS), Free University of Berlin, October 19-20, 2017

Autoritarismus und Wissenschaft, sowie universitäres Arbeiten in der VR China (Authoritarianism and science; universities and research in the PR China)
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Bonn, July 17, 2017

Rechtsherrschaft mit chinesischen Besonderheiten? (Ruly by/of law with Chinese characteristics)
4th Sino-German Academic Forum (sponsored by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Chinese Academy for Social Science (CASS) and the Social Sciences in China Press), Berlin, November 10-11, 2016

Local State Politics in China: Continuities and Changes Over the Last Decade
Institute of Political Science, East China Normal University, Shanghai, March 28, 2016

地方政府治理的延续与变迁对政策的影响 (*Effects of continuity and changes in Chinese local governance on policy implementation*)
Workshop 中国治理：过去，现在与未来 (Governance in China: Past, present, and future), Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, November 1, 2015

Making Sense of Bureaucracy and Local Policy Implementation Effectiveness in China
Quality of Governance (QoG) Institute's Lunch Seminar, University of Gothenburg, June 2, 2015