

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), <i>Die Junge Akademie</i> , 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 – 2026	Advisory board member, project <i>ReConnect China: Generating independent knowledge for a resilient future with China for Europe and its citizens</i> (Horizon Europe)
2022	Project advisory board member, <i>Research Cultures in Contemporary Germany</i> , Volkswagen Foundation
2021 –	Editor, <i>Soziale Systeme: Zeitschrift für Soziologische Theorie</i> (De Gruyter)
2020 –	Advisory board member, <i>Center for Cultural Studies on Science and Technology in China</i> , Technical University of Berlin
2020 –	Editorial board member, <i>The Environments of East Asia</i> series, Cornell University Press
2020 – 2021	Board member, <i>Die Junge Akademie</i> (German Young Academy)
2019 –	Executive committee member, <i>European Journal of East Asian Studies</i> (Brill)
2017 –	Associate editor-in-chief, <i>Journal of Chinese Governance</i> (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 lectors 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: 1st supervisor of 1 Postdoctoral fellow (completed), 3 PhD candidates (2 completed), 14 Master students (completed)
University of Chicago: 1 Master student (completed)
University of Tampere: 2nd supervisor of 1 PhD candidate (ongoing)
University of Wuerzburg: 2nd supervisor of 1 PhD candidate (completed)
Humboldt University of Berlin: 2nd supervisor of 1 PhD candidate (ongoing)

■ 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, 2018 – present)

Governing Science in 21st Century China

International Research Webinar, China Studies Centre, University of Sydney, March 24, 2023

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

Protests in China – Why Now and What Does It Mean?

Panel debate, Berlin Contemporary China Network (BCCN), November 30, 2022

Chinese-German Scientific Relations: Solidity in Turbulent Times?

Keynote, conference "China – Norms, Ideas, Practices", MPILHLT & Werner Reimers Foundation, Bad Homburg, October 10-11, 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)

Panel debate, Ruhr University Bochum & Mercator Foundation, September 20, 2022

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

Round table, BioGovernance Commons Initiative, University of Arizona & 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