



Greater Foreign Affairs of China: Institutional and International Implications of “the Communist Party in Command of Diplomacy”



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Venue:

Room 315, No. 19 Building,
Waseda Campus

The Xi Jinping leadership has repeatedly emphasized “the (Communist) Party in command of diplomacy” (dang guan waijiao) as a fundamental principle of China’s foreign conduct, and proposed a program of so-called “greater foreign affairs” (da waishi) for China’s international relations. What do these initiatives mean for China’s diplomacy? This talk tries to answer the question from two angles: in regard of domestic institutions, it highlights the concentration of foreign-affairs power from the PRC state system to the Communist Party and party chief; in regard of China’s diplomatic strategy, it explores how the CCP attempts at developing a system of diplomacy beyond Western-centric international norms to conduct foreign relations. In the empirical examination, the talk also investigates how the Central Office of Foreign Affairs (Zhongyang waiban) has risen within the Chinese party-state system to become an institutional lynchpin overwhelming the PRC Foreign Ministry to actualize the above initiatives.

