



Theme:



2019 The 4th PKU-WASEDA

Workshop

*“Peace and Conflict in the Developing World:
Resources, Technology and Trade”
November 1, Peking University*

Speakers:



Topic: “Shift of US’s National Interest and Key Area of Concern in Africa in the Context of Great Power Competition and Energy Economics ”

--by ZU Yujun, PhD candidate, Peking University

The Trump administration unveiled its new Africa Strategy in December, 2018, with emphasize on great power competition, especially Chinese influence as well as its ambitions in developing U.S.-Africa economic partnerships as key area of concern for the next stage. It is necessary to analyze factors influencing US’s Africa strategy to understand the strategy’s political and economic implications. Therefore, this research first retrospect historical transitions of U.S.’s Africa strategy and both domestic and international facts directing to these changes. The second part of this research looked into Africa strategy under Obama and Trump’s administration in terms of hidden causes, specific policies and new trends and characteristics. This research pointed it out that: economics will be the focus of this new Africa strategy, determining factors include great power competition, huge market potential in Africa and U.S.’s energy policy after the shale gas revolution. Natural gas export and industry of energy and electricity will be prominent sectors boosting U.S.-Africa economic cooperation. It is also significant not to overemphasize effects of China on U.S.-Africa relationship, because Africa is not the frontline of U.S.-China competition and there’s few direct conflicts between China and U.S. in Africa. This research is built upon policy reports, data analysis reports and industry statistics and facts from authorities and third parties.