

## Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up

### 【Basic Information】

#### Moderators:

#### Addresses Section:

Wang Changlin Vice President of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)

#### Report Release Section:

Yu Zirong Vice President of the Research Center for Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF)

#### Speeches by Business Leaders and Panel Discussion Sections:

Wang Guan Anchor of China Global Television Network (CGTN)

#### Addresses:

Zhou Xiaochuan Vice Chairman of and China's Chief Representative to the Boao Forum for Asia, Vice Chairman of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Former Governor of the People's Bank of China

Jean-Pierre Raffarin Former Prime Minister of France, Chairman of the Foundation of Perspective and Innovation

Chen Deming Former Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China

Li Junhua UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

Javier García Vice President of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Director General of Spanish Association for Standardization (UNE)

Albert Muchanga Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals of the African Union

## Report Release:

Zhang Yuyan	Academician of CASS, Director of Institute of World Economics and Politics
Gu Xueming	President of the Research Center for HQF

## Speeches by Business Leaders:

Meng Xiangfeng	Assistant to the Chairman of Contemporary Amperex Technology Co., Limited (CATL)
Joseph Romanelli	President, Human Health International for Merck
Zhao Rong	Director of Business Management, Bank of China
Bruno Chevot	President, Danone China, North Asia and Oceania
Noel Quinn	Group Chief Executive, HSBC Holdings plc

## Panel Discussion:

Christopher A. Pissarides	Nobel Laureate in Economics in 2010, Regius Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science
Huang Qifan	Executive Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of the China Institute for Innovation & Development Strategy (CIIDS), Former Mayor of Chongqing
Long Guoqiang	Vice President, Development Research Centre of the State Council of China
Jiang Xiaojuan	President of the China Society of Industrial Economics (CSIE), Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the University of CASS, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China
Zheng Yongnian	Director of the Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen; Board Director of Guangzhou Institute of the Greater Bay Area (GIG)

## **【Brief Introduction】**

On the afternoon of November 5, 2023, the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up of the Sixth Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF), was hosted by the Institute of World Economics and Politics under CASS, and the Research Center for HQF in Shanghai. The Report, jointly written by the above two agencies, and the latest World Openness Index were released during the event. Dignitaries, heads of international organizations, renowned international experts and scholars were invited to engage in in-depth discussions, contributing wisdom to promoting global open cooperation and supporting world economic recovery.





## 【Addresses】



Zhou Xiaochuan, Vice Chairman of and China's Chief Representative to Boao Forum for Asia, Vice Chairman of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Former Governor of the People's Bank of China, addressed via video the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up

Zhou Xiaochuan, Vice Chairman of and China's Chief Representative to the Boao Forum for Asia, Vice Chairman of the 12th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Former Governor of the People's Bank of China, stated that rooted in history, opening-up is the key to China's development. Using opening-up to promote reform and development has been a crucial tool for the continuous achievements of China's modernization. At present, opening-up is an indispensable means of addressing the development challenges. The world economy thrives in openness and withers in seclusion. Driving the world economy towards recovery and development has become a global focus and an urgent priority. In the future, opening-up is an inevitable requirement for grasping the trends of the times. Currently, scientific and technological innovation is changing rapidly, and there are emerging R&D applications in cutting-edge fields, which profoundly affects economic production and social life, and presents huge opportunities for cooperation in opening-up.



Jean-Pierre Raffarin, Former Prime Minister of France, Chairman of the Foundation of Perspective and Innovation, addressed via video the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up

Jean-Pierre Raffarin, Former Prime Minister of France and Chairman of the Foundation of Perspective and Innovation, expressed that in today's fragmented world, what we need is cooperation rather than tension. Only through cooperation, especially cooperation in business and economy, can people reach consensus on differences and divergences. It is essential to show our citizens the actions of elites, leaders, public sectors, and civil society with the same goal of achieving peace.



Chen Deming, Former Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China, addressed the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai

Chen Deming, Former Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of China, said that there are signs of a “retreat” in economic globalization, but “progress” remains the overall trend. In this era of significant changes, the collision increases between the driving forces and the dragging ones of globalization, but it is also the beginning of re-globalization and deep globalization. There is a risk that the world pattern will become “fragmented” again, but being “united” is still the mainstream of the world. The world is undergoing major adjustments, significant differentiation, and substantial restructuring. It will not work nor go far to attempt to curb the survival and development of other countries through sanctions and decoupling. Only by promoting mutual benefit and win-win outcomes through opening-up and integration can progress be made on a broader scale. While global economic growth is entering a slow phase, China’s efforts to expand opening-up are ongoing. China is driving high-quality development through high-level opening-up, promoting global opening-up and injecting certainty into the world.





Li Junhua, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, addressed via video the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up

Li Junhua, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, emphasized the importance of recognizing the role of trade as an engine for economic growth and revitalizing multilateralism while expanding opening-up. First, there is a need to reaffirm and strengthen the commitment to a rule-based, non-discriminatory, open, fair, inclusive, sustainable, and transparent multilateral trading system, and enhance the effectiveness of dispute settlement mechanisms, so as to better address economic challenges. Second, It is crucial to reform the international financial system and accelerate investment in sustainable goals. Third, countries must strengthen unity to collectively address climate change. Developing countries need more support to achieve green, fair, and resilient growth, and developed countries should actively fulfill funding commitments.



Javier García, Vice President of ISO and Director General of UNE, addressed the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai

Javier García, Vice President of ISO and Director General of UNE, noted that collaboration is at the core of international standardization. International standards act as a universal language and play a crucial role in international trade. In fact, the World Trade Organization already considers international standards as a significant policy tool. Whether it's promoting economic growth, steering the transition to green energy, or ensuring the safety and well-being of citizens, standards are indispensable. Using international standards in regulation and legislation helps drive international cooperation, economic development, as well as opening-up in society and culture, and ultimately bring more confidence, prosperity, and opportunities for everyone.





Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals of the African Union, addressed the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai

Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals of the African Union, stated that Africa and China are continuously deepening cooperation in trade, investment, and culture, covering the fields such as payment and settlement, industrialization, agricultural modernization, and personnel training. The African Continental Free Trade Area is promoting the establishment of a unified African market, but the economy is still fragmented, requiring more opening-up among the countries. There have been a series of discussions and outcomes in this regard. It is believed that all agreements and related discussions will contribute to policy coordination and the advancement of the construction of a unified market in Africa.



Wang Changlin, Vice President of CASS,  
attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in  
Shanghai and moderated the addresses section

## 【Report Release】



Zhang Yuyan, Academician of CASS, Director of Institute of World Economics and Politics, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in the release of the Report

Zhang Yuyan, Academician of CASS, Director of Institute of World Economics and Politics, mentioned that the World Openness Index in 2022 was 0.7542, the second-lowest level since 2008, indicating that global opening-up policies and performance remain sluggish, and the foundation for economic recovery is still unstable. However, there is hope for expanding opening-up. Technological progress and digital intelligence further reduce barriers to the flow of goods, services, information, and other factors. The global pace of transition to green and low-carbon development is accelerated, and the transition is expected to play a more active role in maintaining and enhancing the resilience of international industrial and supply chains as well as value chains. World Openness Report 2023 believes that the fundamental solution to national and global security issues is to advocate a concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative, and sustainable security, and strike a higher level of balance between openness and security.



Gu Xueming, President of the Research Center for HQF, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in the release of the Report

Gu Xueming, President of the Research Center for HQF, stated that China's mutual influence and achievements with the rest of world economy in its open development have set an example for open cooperation, and reflect China's goodwill and commitment to actively promoting opening-up and the construction of a community with a shared future for humanity. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has provided a new platform for international trade and investment, made new contributions to improving the well-being of people in various countries, and played an important role in accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Developing countries have become important participants and builders of global opening-up. The China International Import Expo (CIIE), in the form of "Exhibition + Forum", provides a crucial platform for developing countries to explore development opportunities and engage in dialogues on international cooperation.





*World Openness Report 2023* releases the most recent World Openness Index, deeply explores the relationship between opening-up capacity of typical economic entities and warranted openness, and examines the status and prospects of global openness policies. Focusing on new trends and features of global openness and development, the Report provides an in-depth analysis of the global digital economy and evolution of opening-up rules, global cooperation in opening-up of green trade, stability and development of global industrial and supply chains, global openness and national economic security, and status quo and prospect of global value chains, among other hot areas. China's practices for promoting the building of an open world economy are illustrated in chapters “The United Nations 2030 Agenda and BRI”, “Opening-up of developing economies and China International Import Expo”, and “High-level opening-up and Chinese modernization”.





Yu Zirong, Vice President of the Research Center for HQF, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and moderated the release of the Report

## 【Speeches by Business Leaders】



Meng Xiangfeng, Assistant to the Chairman of CATL, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in the section of Speeches by Business Leaders

Meng Xiangfeng, Assistant to the Chairman of CATL, expressed that the automotive industry is a typical globalized industry. Only through collaborative and efficient cooperation among countries and enterprises can the safe and stable operation of the global industrial and supply chains be ensured. CATL has established deep cooperation with global mainstream new energy vehicle (NEV) companies, providing abundant and reliable power batteries for over 10 million NEVs worldwide. Currently, tackling the challenges of global climate change is a daunting task. Global economic recovery and green and low-carbon transition face multiple challenges, requiring unprecedented unity, opening-up, and cooperation from all parties to collectively promote the standardization and mutual recognition of green technologies and product standards.



Joseph Romanelli, President of Human Health International for Merck, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in the section of Speeches by Business Leaders

Joseph Romanelli, President of Human Health International for Merck, said that Merck, as one of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies, has benefited from China's opening-up. The alignment of China's drug registration, supervision and standard system with the international system has improved the efficiency of drug listing and promoted industrial upgrading. China continues to optimize its business environment, fostering the iteration of business models. Foreign enterprises in China are gradually transiting from simple marketing to manufacturing, investment, and innovation. China has achieved significant success in international alignment and industrial upgrading, enabling companies like Merck to transform from general drug manufacturers to specialized innovators. In recent years, Merck has continued to promote the institution-building in China, and kept a close eye on China's ongoing process of opening-up.



Zhao Rong, Director of Business Management of the Bank of China, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in the section of Speeches by Business Leaders

Zhao Rong, Director of Business Management of the Bank of China, shared three insights on opening-up from the perspective of finance. The first is to share the vast Chinese market, promote smooth trade and financial connectivity, and actively provide comprehensive financial solutions for trade entities both domestically and internationally. The second is to jointly improve China's alignments with international financial standards and rules. The third is to expand the circle of mutually beneficial friends and discuss new opportunities for international cooperation. Financial institutions can fully leverage their intermediary and bridging functions to contribute to the BRI cooperation, actively engage in free trade and investment agreements, expand and deepen bilateral, regional, and multilateral cooperation, and help foster new momentum to global development.





Bruno Chevot, President of Danone China, North Asia and Oceania, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in the section of Speeches by Business Leaders

Bruno Chevot, President of Danone China, North Asia and Oceania, stated that Danone has benefited much from China's reform and opening-up policies. With more than 10 factories in China with over 8,000 employees, Danone's sales in China account for 10% of its global total, making China Danone's second-largest market globally. Danone's founder emphasized the concept of "dual responsibility" in the famous 1972 "Marseilles Speech", advocating progress in business while also assuming social responsibility. Danone supports the "Healthy China" and "Beautiful China" initiatives, and actively participates in related projects, such as collaboration with local partners and supply chain partners for the goals of carbon peaking and carbon neutrality.

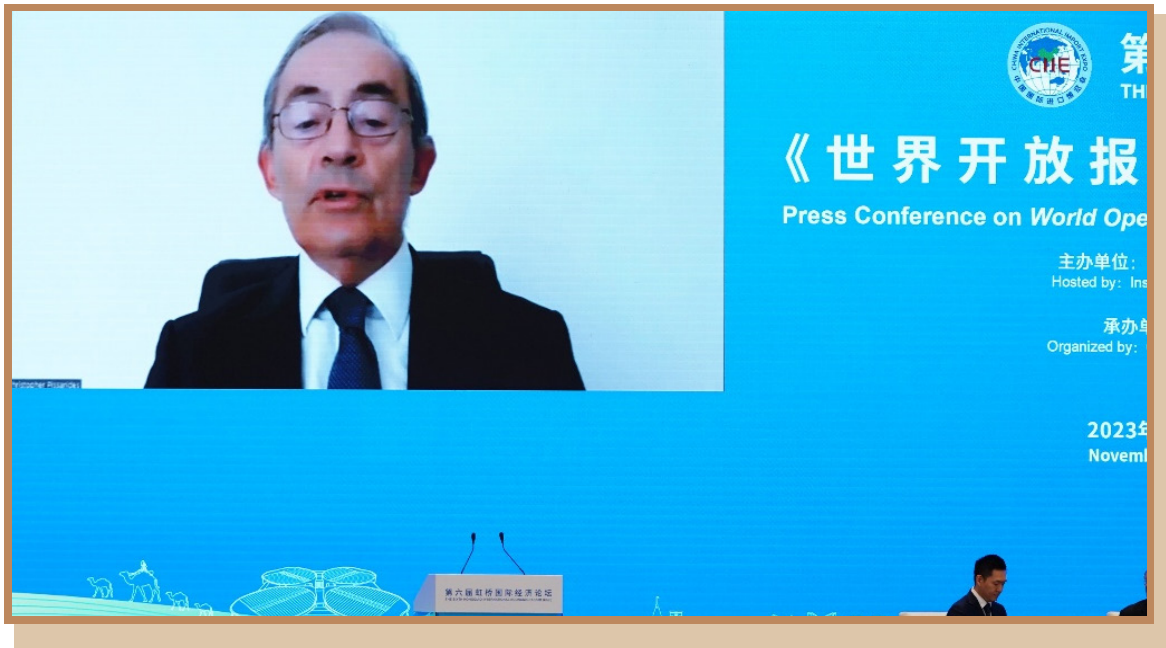




Noel Quinn, Group Chief Executive of HSBC Holdings plc, attended via video the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in the section of Speeches by Business Leader

Noel Quinn, Group Chief Executive of HSBC Holdings plc, expressed that global economic growth and prosperity largely depend on the connectivity among countries and regions. China actively participates in and plays a significant role in this process. The international business community, including HSBC, is very supportive of this. HSBC closely follows China's financial opening-up process, continuously expands its business in China, and has become the largest foreign-funded financial institution in China. China holds a leading position in the production of clean energy equipment such as wind and solar power globally. Further opening up to the outside world is conducive to promoting technological innovation and dissemination in low-carbon transition, and the newly launched HSBC Innovation Banking will contribute to the development of low-carbon technologies.

## 【Panel Discussion】



Christopher A. Pissarides, Nobel Laureate in Economics in 2010 and Regius Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science, attended via video the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in panel discussion

Christopher A. Pissarides, Nobel Laureate in Economics in 2010 and Regius Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science, noted that economic development is aimed to eradicate poverty and enhance the well-being of all humanity. Opening-up contributes to achieving this ultimate goal, and the key lies in building a country's opening-up capabilities, promoting opening-up at the right time, and ensuring that each country is prepared for it. Unfortunately, as pointed out in the World Openness Report 2023, over the past 15 years, global opening-up has generally been in a retrogressive trend. The deteriorating geopolitical situation globally has negatively impacted opening-up, leading to a decline in the openness index. Some countries hold parochial views on world openness, which makes the world fragmented and is not conducive to maximizing efficiency globally.



Huang Qifan, Executive Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of CIIDS and Former Mayor of Chongqing, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Huang Qifan, Executive Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of CIIDS and Former Mayor of Chongqing, stated that in the past decade, China's focus on opening-up has shifted towards achieving a balanced two-way flow of imports and exports. Opening-up in regions and industries continues to expand, and both foreign investment in China and Chinese investment abroad run parallel. China is transforming from an opening up based on flows of goods and factors of production to opening up based on institutions. In the next stage, China should focus on removing institutional barriers to domestic and international trade, with a particular emphasis on services trade and digital trade, so as to further coordinate China's regional opening-up, promote the development of free ports and free trade pilot zones, and create an international, law-based, market-oriented environment nationwide for opening up, while orderly advancing the internationalization of Renminbi.





Long Guoqiang, Vice President of the Development Research Centre of the State Council of China, attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Long Guoqiang, Vice President of the Development Research Centre of the State Council of China, highlighted several noteworthy trends in globalization. In terms of speed, economic globalization is being adjusted, but the overall trend of globalization will not change. In terms of goals, there is a shift from pursuing efficiency alone to balancing efficiency, fairness, and security, driving the reconstruction of global supply chains. In terms of driving factors, digitization has become a new engine for economic globalization. In addition, there is a green and low-carbon transition, where green investment and green trade are becoming increasingly important. Economic globalization has also undergone a group-based change, which is evident in the increase of regional cooperation organizations leading the formulation of high-standard new rules.



Jiang Xiaojuan, President of CSIE, Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the University of CASS,  
Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China,  
attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in  
Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Jiang Xiaojuan, President of CSIE, Professor and Doctoral Supervisor at the University of CASS, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China, said that in recent years, the total amount of global trade and investment opening-up has stabilized, with a decrease in proportion and a deepening of division of labor. The stabilization of global trade has been observed since 2009, with trade-related data showing sluggishness. Subjective reasons include the rise of trade protectionism in recent years, with many countries adopting short chains or retreating their investment. The objective reason is that when the production of products on a global scale is more stable, the division of labor has a reasonable boundary, and the pace of new overseas deployment of multinational corporations will also stabilize. In terms of the deepening of the industrial division of labor, trade in global value chains has been growing steadily for more than ten years, and the division of labor has become finer.





Zheng Yongnian, Director of the Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen; Board Director of Guangzhou Institute of the Greater Bay Area (GIG), attended the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up in Shanghai and participated in panel discussion

Zheng Yongnian, Director of the Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen; Board Director of Guangzhou Institute of the Greater Bay Area (GIG), noted that from 1875 to 1914, globalization drove world economic development but also caused internal social differentiation, income inequality, and external nationalism. From 1914 to 1945, there were two world wars without globalization. From 1945 to 1970, there was the U.S.-Soviet confrontation, with the United States promoting semi-globalization in the Western camp. From 1980 to 2008, the world entered into hyper-globalization, but it also led to wealth differentiation and an widening North-South gap. Currently, we have entered a geopolitical era. In face of the risk of geopolitical war, capital owners is becoming more prudential. Whether China can implement precise unilateral opening-up is crucial to reversing the trend of deglobalization or not.



Wang Guan, Anchor of China Global Television Network (CGTN), moderated the sections of Speeches by Business Leaders and panel discussion of the Press Conference on World Openness Report 2023 and International Symposium on World Opening-up