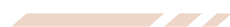


Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up

【Basic Information】

Moderator:



Address:

Zhang Yuyan

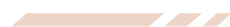
Academician of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS);
Dean of School of International Politics and Economics,
University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (UCASS)

Report Release and Panel Discussion:

Qin Yi

News Anchor, Shanghai Media Group

Address:



Wang Wentao

Minister of Commerce of China

Cecilia Ugaz Estrada

Deputy to the Director General and the Managing Director, UNIDO

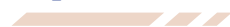
Wang Bingnan

Deputy Director of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the National Committee of the CPPCC, Former Vice Minister of Commerce of China

Jiang Xiaojuan

Professor at UCASS, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China

Report Release:



Zhang Yuyan

Academician of CASS; Dean of the School of International Politics and Economics, UCASS

Qu Weixi

Director of the Research Center for Hongqiao International Economic Forum

Panel Discussion: Status Quo and Prospect of World Opening-up

Huang Qifan	Academic Advisor to CF40, Executive Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of the China Institute for Innovation and Development Strategy, Former Mayor of Chongqing
Christopher Pissarides	Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Nobel laureate in Economics in 2010
Ning Gaoning	Former Chairman of Sinochem Holdings; Chair of the Sustainability Working Group, APEC Business Advisory Council, and Chair of APEC China Business Council
Michele Geraci	Honorary Professor of Peking University, Former Undersecretary of State at the Italian Ministry of Economic Development
Zheng Yongnian	Dean of the School of Public Policy, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen; Director of the Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai; Board Director of Guangzhou Institute of the Greater Bay Area
Alf Barrios	Rio Tinto Executive Committee Member and China Chair

【Brief Introduction】

President Xi pointed out that the world economy thrives in openness and withers in seclusion and that opening up is a defining feature of Chinese modernization. As one of the parallel sessions of the 7th Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF), the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up, hosted by the Institute of World Economics and Politics, CASS, and HQF Research Center, and organized by China Outsourcing Institute, was held at National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai). The session continues to release HQF's flagship publication *World Openness Report* and World Openness Index, contribute ideas and strategies for promoting inclusive and equitable economic globalization, and offer Chinese wisdom in driving the construction of an open global economy.



【Address】



Wang Wentao, Minister of Commerce of China,
addressed via video the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up

Wang Wentao, Minister of Commerce of China, stated that President Xi Jinping has repeatedly emphasized China's firm confidence and determination to expand openness at the China International Import Expo (CIIE). Premier Li Qiang, at the opening ceremony of the 7th CIIE, stressed the need to better build the consensus on openness, expand the space for openness, and embrace the mission of openness. Openness is a great cause that is shared by all countries. The *World Openness Report*, as the flagship publication of the Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF), aims to promote the establishment of an open global economy, advance inclusive and equitable economic globalization, and bring together insights from scholars around the world. It is steadily evolving into an international brand advocating global openness. He expressed his hope that the *World Openness Report* will further enhance its "scientific, international, and definitive" qualities and make a greater contribution to fostering an open global economy.



Cecilia Ugaz Estrada, Deputy to the Director General and the Managing Director, UNIDO, addressed the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up

Cecilia Ugaz Estrada, Deputy to the Director General and the Managing Director of UNIDO, stated that the *World Openness Report 2024* identifies digitalization and energy transition as the two new drivers of economic growth. These emerging trends pose significant challenges, particularly for developing countries, but also open up new avenues for industrial development and international cooperation. Digitalization is reshaping the global economic landscape, while energy transformation is becoming an increasingly important part of the global economic transformation. Although this dual transformation is crucial to reshaping the global economy, the adoption of green and digital solutions is uneven across countries. There is a clear digital and green divide between developed and developing countries. The transfer of knowledge, technology and skills is needed to bridge the existing technology gap. Efforts should focus on establishing efficient, convenient, and secure mechanisms for cross-border data flows and eliminating trade barriers in areas such as energy products and low-carbon technologies.



Wang Bingnan, Deputy Director of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the National Committee of the CPPCC, Former Vice Minister of Commerce of China, addressed the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up

Wang Bingnan, Deputy Director of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the National Committee of the CPPCC, Former Vice Minister of Commerce of China, remarked that President Xi Jinping has highlighted “openness is a hallmark of China’s modernization.” China remains unwavering in its commitment to expanding high-standard openness and steadfast in its efforts to share development opportunities with the world. The “dual circulation” strategy promotes mutual enhancement, and provides greater market opportunities for all countries. The China International Import Expo (CIIE) continues to improve each year, providing a broader platform for global cooperation, while the Hongqiao International Economic Forum (HQF) serves as a hub for fostering global consensus on openness. The *World Openness Report* focuses on openness trends, addresses key global issues, shares practical experiences, and builds consensus on openness. It has steadily become a “barometer” of global openness, a “weather vane” of China’s high-standard openness, and a “definitive brand” of the HQF.



Jiang Xiaojuan, Professor at UCASS and Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China, addressed the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up

Jiang Xiaojuan, Professor at UCASS and Former Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council of China, shared her insights on openness. First, she emphasized that openness is a historical trend that should be actively embraced. Historical experience shows that openness is a crucial driving force for the progress of human civilization and an essential path for global prosperity and development. Second, openness is a requirement of the times, and it calls for collective efforts. In the era of the digital economy, the interdependence of global industrial chains, supply chains, and innovation chains has deepened. Openness is an inevitable trend to drive global technological cooperation and development. Third, openness is a way of cooperation, and it should be based on mutual benefit and win-win outcomes. In the face of international governance deficits, a country's openness should be guided by the principle of "helping oneself while helping others," achieving a balance between its development and contributing to global mutual benefit. China has consistently adhered to the principle of developing itself while providing new opportunities and driving forces to the world through its development.

【Report Release】



Zhang Yuyan, Academician of CASS and Dean of the School of International Politics and Economics, UCASS, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in the release of the Report

Zhang Yuyan, Academician of CASS and Dean of the School of International Politics and Economics, UCASS, shared insights on the latest World Openness Index. The results show worrying trends in global openness. In 2023, the index stood at 0.7542, marking a 0.12% decline from the previous year and a 5.43% drop compared to 2008. The effectiveness of openness has fallen short of expectations; while the World Openness Policy Index has risen, the Openness Performance Index has declined. The environment for openness appears to be increasingly challenging, with the majority of respondents in a global survey perceiving the world economy in 2023 to be “more closed,” “unchanged,” or “uncertain.” Nevertheless, the digital economy and green energy sectors demonstrate encouraging growth, with the services sector becoming more open and global value chains continuing to expand. Respondents were generally optimistic that the forces of openness and inclusiveness will outweigh those of closure and exclusivity over the next decade.



Qu Weixi, Director of Research Center for Hongqiao International Economic Forum, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in the release of the Report

Qu Weixi, Director of the Research Center for Hongqiao International Economic Forum, highlighted that China's practices of opening-up have significantly contributed to the global theory of openness and the process of modernization worldwide. The China International Import Expo (CIIE), a "shining emblem" of China's openness, functions as an international cooperation platform with the characteristics of public goods. It has facilitated global trade flows, investment cooperation, convergence of innovation resources, and cultural exchanges. At the same time, China's Belt and Road Initiative has made notable achievements in infrastructure development, regional connectivity, and raising the development standards of participating countries. By deepening economic reforms and expanding pilot opening-up programs, China is pushing forward the modernization of its national governance system and governance capabilities. These deep reforms are in line with China's capacity for openness and provide practical experiences tailored to its modernization goals. Furthermore, China's high-level openness has actively contributed to the reform of global economic governance.



The *World Openness Report 2024* delves into key global trends in openness, unveils the latest World Openness Index, analyzes world openness hotspots, and highlights best practices. It aims to build consensus on global openness, promote collective openness worldwide, and advance the creation of an open global economy and a community with a shared future for mankind. With the mission of “developing an open world economy,” the report explores topics such as national openness capabilities, global openness policies, the rise of the Global South, the multilateral trade system, global digital and green cooperation, the changes in global value chains, the development of new quality productive forces, the landscape of global services opening-up, high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and the alignment of national development strategies, and high-standard opening up to promote deep reform and high-quality development. Together, these themes weave a comprehensive narrative of global collective openness.

Panel Discussion: Status Quo and Prospect of World Opening-up



Qin Yi, News Anchor, Shanghai Media Group,
moderated Report Release and Panel Discussion of the Press Conference on *World Openness Report*
2024 & International Symposium on World Opening-up



Huang Qifan, Academic Advisor to CF40, Executive Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of the China Institute for Innovation and Development Strategy, and Former Mayor of Chongqing, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in Panel Discussion

Huang Qifan, Academic Advisor to CF40, Executive Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of the China Institute for Innovation and Development Strategy, and Former Mayor of Chongqing, provided an interpretation of the characteristics of China's openness and the key tasks for future opening-up. He noted that in the past decade, China has introduced new features in areas such as trade policy, the spatial dimension of openness, investment policy priorities, and the depth of its opening-up. Accordingly, China faces five key tasks for its future openness: promoting the integration of domestic and foreign trade, advancing the development of both services and goods trade, pushing forward the Belt and Road Initiative, upgrading the point-based openness of free trade zones under the RCEP framework to a networked and comprehensive openness, and gradually advancing the internationalization of the renminbi. Despite the trend of de-globalization, the inherent dynamism of the Chinese market and its large market advantages continue to attract foreign investment, making China's trend of openness unstoppable.



Christopher Pissarides, Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Nobel laureate in Economics in 2010, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in Panel Discussion

Christopher Pissarides, Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and Nobel laureate in Economics in 2010, noted that the current level of global openness is significantly below expectations. He attributes this to a number of factors, including geopolitics, military conflicts, the COVID-19 pandemic, trust deficits between countries, and different capacities for openness among countries. The Fourth Industrial Revolution and the information revolution have potentially reduced the importance of labor costs in market decision-making, thereby impacting the role of multinational corporations and supply chains in fostering global openness. While advancements in digitalization and artificial intelligence have transformed lifestyles and work patterns, they have not led to the expected surge in cross-border collaboration, largely due to challenges associated with political and technological regulation.



Ning Gaoning, Former Chairman of Sinochem Holdings; Chair of the Sustainability Working Group, APEC Business Advisory Council, and Chair of APEC China Business Council, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in Panel Discussion

Ning Gaoning, Former Chairman of Sinochem Holdings; Chair of the Sustainability Working Group, APEC Business Advisory Council, and Chair of APEC China Business Council, pointed out that the green economy and sustainable development have become mainstream trends in the global economy, particularly in the business and investment sectors. China has far exceeded expectations in the field of new energy, such as photovoltaics and electric vehicles, all of which are closely tied to technology, research and development, innovation, originality, disruptive technologies, and openness. New forms of productivity are products of openness, innovation, and the international market, and the emergence of new technologies requires larger markets and international cooperation.



Michele Geraci, Honorary Professor of Peking University and Former Undersecretary of State at the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in Panel Discussion

Michele Geraci, Honorary Professor of Peking University and Former Undersecretary of State at the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, highlighted that the Belt and Road Initiative, as a transformative development framework, encompasses infrastructure, transportation, and people-to-people connectivity. It provides growth opportunities for participating countries while addressing their specific needs. He emphasized that countries in the Global South share a common vision for development, heralding the emergence of a multipolar global era. While de-globalization poses significant challenges, these challenges are counterbalanced by a resolute focus on improving skills and solving problems, as exemplified by the substitution effects resulting from China's commitment to independent innovation.



Zheng Yongnian, Dean of the School of Public Policy, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen; Director of the Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai; Board Director of Guangzhou Institute of the Greater Bay Area, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in Panel Discussion

Zheng Yongnian, Dean of the School of Public Policy, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen; Director of the Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai; Board Director of Guangzhou Institute of the Greater Bay Area, remarked that the current global outlook for openness is far from optimistic. However, he underscored the transformative potential of China's comprehensive openness in reshaping the global free trade system. He highlighted that China's unilateral opening is a pivotal variable influencing the future trajectory of the global trade system, and that China is expected to take even bolder steps in this direction. He called on China to play a greater role in advancing globalization, with particular emphasis on expanding openness in the private sector and the financial industry.



Alf Barrios, Rio Tinto Executive Committee Member and China Chair, attended the Press Conference on *World Openness Report 2024* & International Symposium on World Opening-up and participated in Panel Discussion

Alf Barrios, Rio Tinto Executive Committee Member and China Chair, emphasized the importance of a globally open economy for businesses. He stated that Rio Tinto's success depends on the cross-border flow of knowledge, investment, and resources, which are influenced by the openness of the countries where mineral resources are located. He highlighted the role of mineral resources in addressing global climate change and expressed his desire to collaborate with partners to develop future mines and reduce carbon emissions. He called for win-win cooperation to achieve innovative development, stressing that this requires a fair competitive environment, better institutional and policy frameworks, and open communication between companies and local governments to overcome investment uncertainties and increase investment confidence.