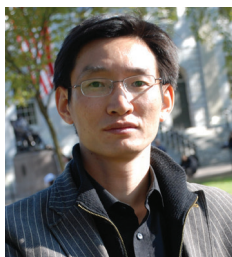


# KARL MARX AND ROSA LUXEMBURG: THOUGHT LEGACY AND CONTEMPORARY VALUE

## A Review of the 13th Forum of the World Association for Political Economy

*Xiaoqin Ding and Zhixun Zhang*



Xiaoqin Ding (*left*) is Professor of Economics and Deputy Director of the Center for Economics of Shanghai School at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Secretary General of the World Association for Political Economy, and Managing Editor of the *World Review of Political Economy* and Deputy Editor of the *Journal of Economics of Shanghai School*. Email: wapemember@vip.163.com

Zhixun Zhang (*right*) is a Doctoral Candidate at the School of Marxism, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. Email: 773494279@qq.com.



**Abstract:** This year is the 200th anniversary of Marx's birth. Marx's intellectual heritage has the most profound influences on the development of human society. Marxism has profoundly changed the historical process of human social development. As one of the most influential figures in the development of Marxist history, Rosa Luxemburg has important practical significance for the understanding of Marx's theoretical heritage. Her theoretical thoughts still have a profound significance for the study of Marxism today. In today's society, Marxism remains the most powerful ideological weapon of the proletariat, which points out the correct path for social progress and human liberation. Marxists should constantly conduct theoretical and practical explorations to realize human liberation and the development of socialism.

**Key words:** World Association for Political Economy; the 200th anniversary of Marx's birth; thought heritage; contemporary value

The World Association for Political Economy (WAPE) is an international academic organization founded by Marxian economists and related groups around the world. The mission of WAPE is to utilize modern Marxian economics to analyze and study the world economy, reveal its laws of development, and offer policies to

promote economic and social progress on national and global levels. The previous 12 WAPE forums were successively held in Shanghai (China), Shimane (Japan), Beijing (China), Paris (France), Suzhou (China), Amherst (USA), Mexico City (Mexico), Florianopolis (Brazil), Hanoi (Vietnam), Johannesburg (South Africa), Patiala (India), and Moscow (Russia) during 2006 to 2017. They focused on “economic globalization,” “the capital/labor relationship,” “sustainable development,” “global democratic governance,” “21st-century socialism,” “capitalist crisis,” “human development in the 21st century,” “inequality and world capitalism,” “growth development and social justice,” “uneven and crisis-prone development of capitalism,” “globalization, employment and agriculture,” and “October Revolution,” respectively. The *World Review of Political Economy* is a peer-reviewed quarterly journal of Marxian Political Economy sponsored by WAPE and published by Pluto Journals. *The Distinguished Achievement Award of World Political Economy of the 21st Century*, established by WAPE, has been granted annually since 2009 to recognize an outstanding book or article in political economy. It is intended to promote research in modern political economy around the world by granting the award to economists who have made important innovations in the theory or methodology of political economy since the year of 2001. The *World Marxian Economics Award*, established by WAPE in 2011, is given to recognize an outstanding lifetime record of achievement in political economy. Its purpose is to promote the development of the research of Marxist economics around the world by granting the award to economists of different countries in the world who have made important innovations in the research of theories, methodology, and application of Marxian economics.

The 13th Forum of the World Association for Political Economy on “Karl Marx and Rosa Luxemburg: Thought Legacy and Contemporary Value” was held on July 16–18, 2018 in Berlin. This forum was co-sponsored by the World Association of Political Economy, Berlin School of Economics and Law, the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, and the Marx and Engels Foundation. About 200 scholars from 23 countries including China, Russia, Japan, India, Israel, the United States, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, France, Austria, Switzerland, Finland, Ireland, Greece, Turkey, Spain, Poland, South Africa, Mexico, Brazil, and Australia attended the forum.

On the afternoon of July 16, 2018, Professor Xiaoqin Ding from Shanghai University of Finance and Economics and Secretary General of WAPE chaired the opening ceremony. Professor Enfu Cheng, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Chair of WAPE gave the opening speech. Professor Harald Gleissner, Vice President of Berlin School of Economics and Law, Professor Michael Brie from the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Mr. Hans-Peter Brenner, Vice Chairman of DKP, and Dr. Helmut Dunkhase from the Marx and Engels Foundation gave

welcome speeches, respectively. This was followed by the unveiling ceremony for Karl Marx's bust. *The World Marxian Economics Award* was granted to three well-known Marxist economists: Professor Zheng Chen, former President of Fujian Normal University, China; Professor Jean-Claude Delaunay, Emeritus Professor of Marne Valley University, France; and Professor Alan Freeman of the Geopolitical Economy Research Group. *The Distinguished Achievement Awards of World Political Economy of the 21st Century* were granted to ten Marxist economists: Professor David S. Pena from Palm Beach State College, USA; Professor Zili He from Nankai University, China; Professor Eike Kopf from Germany; Professor Hansjorg Herr from Berlin School of Economics and Law; Professor Elisabetta Magnani from Macquarie University, Australia; Professor Tadashi Sanaka from Hiroshima University, Japan; Dr. Sergei Bodrunov, President of the Free Economics Association of Russia; Professor Stavros Mavroudeas from University of Macedonia, Greece; Professor Zheng Li from Jilin University, China; and Dr. Henri Houben from Institute for Marxist Studies, Belgium. Before the opening ceremony, the tree planting ceremony was held in Campus Lichtenberg of Berlin School of Economics and Law.

Topics included "The Thought of Karl Marx and Its Contemporary Value," "The Thought of Rosa Luxemburg and Its Contemporary Value," "The Communist Manifesto and the World Socialist Movement," "World System Theories: Core, Periphery, and Quasi-core," "The Basic Contradiction of Capitalism and Various Forms of Economic Crisis," "Unbalanced Development of the World Economy and New Features of Contemporary Capitalism," "Fair Economic Globalization and Narrow Anti-globalization," "International Cooperation and Sharing Development in the 'Belt and Road' Initiative," "To Construct a New International Economic, Political and Military Order and a Community of Shared Future for Humankind," "Lenin's Theory of Imperialism, Contemporary Neo-imperialism and Neo-colonialism," "The New Trends in Neoliberalism and Its Negative Effects on the World Economy and People's Livelihood," "Studies of Schools of Marxist Political Economy in Different Countries and in the World," and other related topics of political economy.

## I. Marxism and Its Contemporary Value

Mr. Yildirim Koc, Vice Chairman of the Turkish Patriotic Party, believes that Marx, as a revolutionary in science, formulated a revolutionary strategy. As a materialist, he modified his strategy based on changes in related contextual parameters. The colony has undergone major changes in his strategy. Marx is concerned about the impact of these uprisings on the crisis of the developed capitalist world. Between 1858 and 1872, Marx pinned his hopes on Ireland, the oldest colony in

England. The independence of Ireland will bring the British working class to political power, followed by the working class in continental Europe. The establishment of the International Workers' Association in 1864 and the economic crisis of 1866 strengthened its influence. However, the working class in developed capitalist countries enjoyed an economic surplus from the colonies and thus experienced a shift, from the serious gravedigger of capitalism to the pillars of colonialism and capitalism. Their cooperation with the ruling class and nationalism, replaced their need for international cooperation and solidarity. Marx's revolutionary strategy, with respect to the role of the colony has had a profound impact on the development of global patterns, structures, and trends.

Dr. Hermann Dworczak from Austria believes that the main positions of Marxism have been proven by history and time, even in today's society. Marx presented his analysis of capitalist structures and its internal crises, starting with the abstracted commodity, the cell form and microcosm of capitalism, embodying the core contradictions of production of commodities by means of commodities, and so on; from abstraction through successive approximations and layers of dimensions of capitalism to closer to the concrete realities. At the same time, we should not be ashamed to talk about some of Marx's erroneous ideas, always seeking truth from facts and being open to self and other criticism.

Professor Shinan Fang from Suzhou University, China, believes that Marx closely combines human and social relations with the relationship between man and nature, studies the laws governing the development of human society and the laws governing the development of nature and the intrinsic linkages between the two. Marx has rich Red thoughts about the proletarian revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat. He also has rich green ideas that respect, conform to, protect, and live in harmony with nature. Marxism is about the relationships between humans "and/versus," as well as ways in which they are dialectically immersed within and dependent upon for subsistence and expanded reproduction, "Nature." It is of great theoretical and practical value to guide the practice of ecological civilization in the new era; to promote the modernization of forms and relations of harmony between humans and "Nature."

Professor Cheng Liu from Yangzhou University, China, believes that historical materialism founded by Marx laid the philosophical foundation for the construction of socialist political institutions and governance; the constructs of "proletarian revolution" and the "dictatorship of the proletariat" developed by Marx, provided some of the necessary premises for the construction of socialist political institutions of governance. Marx proposed that the discussion of the relationship between the Communist Party and other political parties regulates the correct direction of socialist political institutions and relations of governance construction. Marx's theory of free and comprehensive development, expresses the

historical value and future, of socialist political institutions, relations, and values. Marx's scientific expositions, pointing, without utopianism, toward the future of construction and defense of socialist political institutions, are at the foundation of the guiding ideology for building socialist political civilization with Chinese characteristics and have important value for the times.

Dr. Natalia Iakovleva from Moscow State University believes that Marxist classical theory has been used throughout the world for the past 20 years. Criticism of the current educational model is very close to Marx's theoretical and methodological studies of and observations on education. The main point of Marxism in the field of education, whether in teaching or training, is the discovery and analysis of essence below the surface. Marx believes that education is a social phenomenon and depends on objective social relations. He revealed its role in the social development of different historical social and economic forms. Marx also pointed out why, and to what extent, educational practices, policies are microcosmic social relations and phenomena of the wider social formation and make important impacts in contexts and chains of causality. Marx's work makes it possible for us to gain unique insights in solving problems associated with such phenomena as commercialization, financialization, educational imperialism, corruption, and management.

David Matters, Vice Chairman of the Communist Party of Australia, believes that today's scholars should use historical practice to test ideas and that theory and practice are unified. According to the basic ideas of Marxism, knowledge is continuous, development is continuous, and revolution is continuous. Marxism should reflect the reality of our world and seek to change it on the basis of discovering laws governing human development. Marx overcame utopian socialism and established scientific socialism in the crisis of the new era. We must not retreat to utopia. Marxism in the 21st century must be based on our success in learning from failure and in seeking truth from facts and Praxis. Marxism still reflects the reality of our world and calls for a new era in which human beings can control their own destiny and end human exploitation.

## II. The Innovative Development of Marxist Economics

Professor Hiroshi Onishi from Keio University, Japan, Vice Chair of WAPE, believes that to maintain the basic Marxist theorem, appreciation of the special qualities of labor that are different from other factors of production is needed. He first uses mathematical models to determine the value of subjective optimization. In this model, Professor Onishi also demonstrated the importance of productivity, the parameters of some production functions, and the scarcity of time. However, since this production function assumes a diminishing return on labor,

this leads to a problem that is not suitable for labor theory of value. Therefore, under the circumstances that labor means become crucial after the industrial revolution, the labor force can achieve constant labor compensation.

Professor Shiqiang Sun of Henan University believes that productivity and production relations have intrinsic qualities that meet public needs. There are differences in the purpose and intensity of market entities such as state-owned enterprises and private enterprises, which dominate and use productivity factors. There are not only “private awareness” and “public awareness,” “private ability” and “public ability,” but “private welfare” and “public welfare.” There is also a difference in the nature of the supply–production relationship. The scope of market entities is appropriate, and the scope of state-owned enterprises is objective. The narrowing of the path of privatization and even the replacement of state-owned enterprises will inevitably weaken the social production and living conditions and have backward effects on the people’s production relations. The harmonious unity of productivity and production relations is in line with the public interest of the society and can only be achieved by state-owned enterprises. Human beings should turn the long-term awareness of too much productivity into a focus on production relations, learn to use harmonious relations to regulate or enrich the intensity of productivity, and learn to use the perspective of the combination of private demand and public demand, to “coldly” think about state-owned enterprise reform, producing Marxian analyses and relationships counteracting the reality of productivity theory.

Professor Tadashi Sanaka from Hiroshima University, Japan, proposes an innovative formula that explores the clear distinction between rising and falling profit margins through clear benchmarking. Using this formula correctly can set a standard for profit rate trends. Although the study of the law of the tendency for falling rate of profit in the absence of and subject to, counteracting factors, thus may or may not lead to trends in rate of profit, is likely to be hindered, he re-examines some key points about the law of falling profit margins from the perspective of the model.

### **III. Political Economy on Regional Development, Population, and Ecology**

Professor Wentao Niu, from Zhengzhou University, uses China’s provincial urbanization data, to construct an empirical data study on the internal relationship between urban spatial expansion and the semi-urbanized housing dilemma by constructing a panel data model. The following conclusions are drawn. (1) There is significant externality in the production of urban space. The ability of semi-urbanized groups to participate in urban-space-rights negotiations and achieve self-sufficiency in housing tends to deteriorate, due to the expansion of urban space. (2) Urban sprawl has

also intensified. The loss of identity and integration barriers of semi-urbanized groups in urban space, has led to the “city escape” tendency of this group, which constitutes a potential crisis for sustainable urban operation. (3) Implementing urban growth boundary management and control policies, promoting the reconstruction and optimization of urban spatial organizations, will help to enhance the ability of semi-urbanized groups to participate in space-rights negotiations and provide a possible way to solve the housing dilemma of this group.

Professor Zheng Li from Jilin University believes that fiscal decentralization, as an institutional arrangement to adjust the relationship between the central and local finances, largely determines the mode, efficiency, and level of financial resource allocation. On the basis of combing relevant research, Professor Li made relevant assumptions about fiscal innovation and regional innovation efficiency and used provincial panel data from 2003 to 2015 to verify. The results show that both fiscal decentralization and government-innovation preferences have significantly improved regional innovation efficiency. However, sub-regional investigations have found that there are regional differences in the impact of fiscal decentralization on regional innovation and its transmission mechanism.

Professor Shuyun Du from Zhengzhou University believes that collective economic organizations are not enterprises. After the reform of a collective-property-rights system, they cannot change their nature and correctly implement their income distribution rights. Collective economic organizations are divided into township-level economic organizations, village-level economic organizations, and various economic organizations in the village. This article explores how collective ownership can be realized; how to achieve socialist economic efficiency; how to strengthen the collective economy, expand and promote it; experience in stepping-out on a new development path to adapt to different economic resources and market conditions.

Professor Maosheng Zhao from China University of Political Science and Law believes that ecological Marxism is increasingly mature and has an increasing influence in the contemporary world. He dissects the main themes of ecological Marxism: the ecological crisis of contemporary capitalism; rebuilding Marxism, guiding the ecological movement in North America to the path of socialist transformation; and finally realizing the dual liberation of humans and nature. It also describes in detail, the theory of economic crisis proposed by Agger to replace traditional Marxism with ecological crisis theory, to O’Connor’s historical view of ecological Marxism, and then to Foster’s concept of “Marx’s ecology.”

Professor Hiroshi Yoshida from Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Japan, explains how environmental regulation could match economic development in the context of agricultural pesticide regulation. He believes that as the world’s population continues to increase, it is necessary to further

increase food production. While it is necessary to use a variety of techniques to increase food production, proper use of pesticides is one of the important technologies to increase food production. To clarify the current situation of differences in pesticide management systems in various countries, to develop a development model for pesticide management systems, and to reduce the world differences in pesticide management systems can help prevent the harm caused by pesticides worldwide.

#### IV. Technology, Social, and Economic Development

Professor Xiaoliang Zhou from Fuzhou University uses Marx's theory of relative surplus value, as the background, framework, and interpretation of the main content of Marx's human and technical thoughts on the dialectical development of the relationship between laborers and technology. It is demonstrated that the perspective of Marx's technical thought is to explain the dialectical development and alienation process of technology by the law of surplus value. The fundamental pursuit is the liberation of laborers and the free and all-round development of human beings. Based on Marx's dialectical view of humans and technology, the negative law of negation shows that the relationship between humans and technology in the new era will usher in a new round of negation. According to this view, the contemporary value of Marx's dialectical view of human and technology is to re-establish the dominant position of laborers, to scientifically understand the technical conditions, and to realize the high-quality development and inclusive growth of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

Professor Yang Fu from China University of Political Science and Law believes that the focus and core of Marx's theory is to criticize capitalism and establish historical materialism and to pay more attention to the social nature of technology. When discussing the formation and development of technology, Marx believes that society has a shaping effect on technology, and social political, economic, institutional, cultural, and other factors restrict the development of technology. Technology, as the "existence mode" of human beings, can be said to be accompanied by human society. However, only in the development of capitalist social technology, capital, competition, and social interaction play a significant role. At the same time, Marx also attaches great importance to the social role of technology. Marx eagerly tracks the invention and improvement of technology and is highly sensitive to its social impact. Marx emphasized that technology infiltrates into the production field to promote the progress of productivity and the change of production relations, which in turn leads to changes in economic structure and social structure, and will also bring about changes in people's way of life and ideas. In addition, Marx also analyzed and criticized the negative effects of technology, but this



criticism is a social critique of technology. Marx distinguishes the social application of technology from technology. Marx believes that the alienation of technology is caused by the social application of technology, not the technology itself; even as some structures and potentially mind-numbing applications of technologies are dialectically shaped by the imperatives for and their social uses.

Dr. Chen Li from Keio University, Japan, believes that in the existing extension of Marx's optimal model and Marx's optimal model, technological advancement and labor supply have not been considered, which makes the model unable to reflect the real economic system. Therefore, he incorporated technological progress and labor supply growth into Marx's optimal growth model, enabling him to create a more realistic framework for empirical research. In his research, the labor share and capital share were set as instrumental variables. The model's solution provides two Euler equations to describe the dynamic motion of economic growth. His research shows the different effects of technological advancement and labor supply growth on China's economic growth path, as well as changes in total labor and total capital allocation between the consumer goods and investment sectors.

Dr. Jose Benjamin Lujano Lopez from National Autonomous University of Mexico believes that US hegemony and economic growth have entered a recession. There are three main reasons: one is that digital and network technologies seem to have endless potential; second, income inequality and economic concentration–centralization; and the third is the disappointing overall economic performance of the global economy. The United States is facing the rise and challenge of a new power: China has made great progress in the assimilation of digital and network technologies and has incorporated it into the social institutional framework. China's cohesiveness and the United States' global competitiveness can be compared with each other.

## V. Neoliberalism and Theories on Capitalist Crises

Professor Yisheng Liu from Quanzhou Normal University believes that neoliberalism has been favored in Western academic circles and theoretical circles. After being introduced to China in the 1980s, some scholars began to suggest that China should follow the example of neoliberalism in China. However, neoliberalism promotes privatization, liberalization, and marketization in the economy and politically opposes public ownership, socialism, and state intervention and is incompatible with Marxism, socialism, and China's national conditions. In addition, the neoliberal theory also has many shortcomings and does not have the basic conditions for implementation in China. Therefore, neoliberalism does not apply to socialist China. We should explore the theoretical and practical path applicable to China.

Professor Shoujun Lyu from Shanghai Jiaotong University believes that contemporary capitalism has undergone tremendous changes, and now, the entire structure of capitalism has fallen into a serious economic crisis. Although the global financial crisis in 2008 is different from the previous one, it is not a supply-side crisis in the enterprise. However, it is generally believed that its essence is still the structural crisis of capitalism revealed by Marx in *Capital*. The reason has not yet formed a unified understanding. Marx discussed the possibility of crisis in *Capital*, examined the relationship between economic crisis and economic cycle and fixed capital, criticized the theory of insufficient consumption, and explained the imbalance between departments and the restriction of consumption power. The impact of the problem of commodity surplus on the crisis, the theory of absolute capital surplus, the reality of the crisis phenomenon, especially the relationship between commercial capital and credit system and crisis were also explored.

Professor Gavin Rae from Kozminski University, Poland, critically analyzes the sociological Marxist theory developed by Michael Burawoy and Erik Orlin Wright. “Sociological Marxism” opposes Marxist assertions about the intensification of the capitalist crisis and the interpretation of the crisis based on the concept of rising organic capital composition and falling profit margins. From production and work to exchange and market, they all deviate from the labor theory of value. The presumption of sociological Marxism cannot be maintained in the development of capitalism itself and Marxism. The Marxist crisis theory can be effectively utilized in sociological analysis to better understand the imbalance of contemporary capitalism.

## **VI. Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and the Development of the “Belt and Road” Initiative**

Professor Enfu Cheng proposed multiple dimensions of the diversity and integrity of Marxism, emphasizing the need for correct understanding of the significance of Marxism developed in Chinese Socialism. Based on objective facts and statistical data, it explains China’s current two economic miracles, namely the great economic achievements under the guidance of Mao Zedong Thought and the greater economic achievements under the guidance of Chinese socialist theory. It expounds the economic composition of Xi Jinping’s socialist thought with Chinese characteristics in the new era, as well as the new ideas of productivity and economic system. Finally, it is pointed out that in the new era, the Chinese economy has reached a “quasi-central” status and is getting closer to the central position. In this process, there are assertions that Chinese socialism has nothing to do with socialism. This is a misunderstanding of

Marx's view of history, nature of socialism, as well as the challenges facing the Chinese people.

Professor Guangbin Lin from Central University of Finance and Economics, China, explained the world significance of the Chinese roads, namely, how an agricultural country can develop into a comprehensive well-off society, common prosperity, democracy, and prosperity in the realization of modernization; see the academics opened up in the *Communist Manifesto*. The powerful spiritual power generated by the new paradigm is still shining in the political economy of Chinese characteristics. In the future of the 21st century, China will adhere to and develop socialist political economy with Chinese characteristics, in Xi Jinping's thought and the new academic paradigm of Marxism. Under the guidance of the society, it sums up and refines the great practical experience of China's reform, opening up, and socialist modernization and constantly improves the theoretical system of socialist political economy with Chinese characteristics.

Dr. Charan Verma from the Giri Development Institute, Lughnow, India, believes that China's "Belt and Road" seems to have become a link to promote Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe and geo-economic trade. It spans 70 countries and contains 4.4 billion people and accounts for 40% of global GDP, promoting global economic integration and prosperity. At present, there are two mainstream explanations for the "Belt and Road." First, it is regarded as the latest strategy for China to promote the slowdown of domestic economic growth. Second, it is seen as a means of China's growing influence and the replacement of the existing international geostrategic economic order. In the process of China seeking to become a global power that actively shapes the international order, the "Belt and Road" has become China's main tool. As a cross-continental platform aimed at promoting global common prosperity, China is pursuing prosperity on the basis of equality. Jennifer Clegg of the University of Central Lancashire also believes that the "Belt and Road" is an important tool for China to be active in the international political and economic arena. China is constructing a new international financing model, that is, international finance turns to productive investment, alleviating the contradiction between management finance and production in the international economy, and making overall development more stable.

Professor Xiaofeng Huang from Guangdong University of Finance and Economics, China, believes that the industrial cooperation along the "Belt and Road" countries has repeated cooperative game characteristics. After an infinite game, a Pareto optimal result can be achieved. However, in industrial cooperation, due to the huge differences in environmental regulation, science and technology,

and economic development levels, cross-border environmental pollution problems will inevitably arise. She uses the trade specialization index to analyze the industrial complementarity of countries along the “Belt and Road” and clarify the necessity of industrial cooperation; create a dynamic evolutionary game model to solve the equilibrium point of industrial cooperation and ecological win-win under multiple differences, to reach equilibrium point. The Shapley value method is used to seek the compensation method of industrial cooperation in the countries along the line to solve the cross-border pollution problem caused by industrial cooperation, and on this basis, the sustainable development mechanism of the industrial cooperation along the “Belt and Road” is constructed. Sun Min of the Central University of Finance and Economics believes that it is necessary to construct a new type of international relations to change the imbalance of development in the world, to rebuild the symbiotic relationship between countries, and to jointly improve global governance. As a big country in the new era, China shoulders the responsibility of actively building new international relations. The proposal of the “Belt and Road Initiative” is a possibility that China provides from the theoretical and practical aspects to solve the problems facing international relations. The “Belt and Road” emphasizes the pluralism of the subject, the openness, inclusiveness, and fairness between the subjects, and answers the three questions of “why build,” “who builds,” and “how to build,” aiming at the market, government, and society. At the same level, we are committed to the construction of a new type of international relations of mutual respect, fairness and justice, and cooperation and mutual benefit.

At the closing ceremony, Dr. Arnold Schölzel, Editor-in-Chief of *Junge Welt* delivered a speech. Professor Alan Freeman, Vice Chair of WAPE released the statement of the forum. Professor Xiaoqin Ding announced the resolution of the WAPE Council. Professor Hansjorg Herr from Berlin School of Economics and Law, Germany; Professor Stavros D. Mavroudeas from University of Macedonia, Greece; Professor Yongmu Jiang from Sichuan University, China; and Professor Xingfang Qin from Yangzhou University, China, were elected as new members of the WAPE Standing Council. Professor David Lane from Cambridge University, UK; Professor Elisabetta Magnani at Macquarie University, Australia; Professor Emeritus Tadashi Sanaka from Hiroshima University, Japan; Professor Uri Zilbersheid from University of Haifa, Israel; Dr. Charan Singh Verma from the Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lukhnow, India; Dr. Sarbjeet Singh from Punjabi University, Patiala, India; Professor Abhey Singh Godara from Chaudhary Devi Lal University, Sirsa, Haryana, India; and Professor Gavin Rae from Kozminski University, Poland, were elected as new members of the WAPE Council. Helmut Dunkhas from the Marx and Engels Foundation and Jonas Becker from Germany were elected as general members of WAPE. Professor Enfu Cheng

made a closing remark and announced that the 14th WAPE Forum themed “Class, State, and Nation in the 21st Century” will be held at the University of Manitoba, Canada, in July 2019.

## Funding

This article is supported by the Project of National Social Science Foundation of China on “The New Changes and Historical Trend of Contemporary Capitalism from the Perspective of Social Structure Accumulation Theory” (Project No.16BKS081).

*Translated by Shan Tong, Professor at East China University of Political Science and Law.*

Reproduced with permission of copyright owner.  
Further reproduction prohibited without permission.