



# The China Model of Resource Governance in the Rare Earth Sector:

Economic Linkages and  
Industrialization as a Solution to the  
Resource Curse

Monday, September 29, 2025

11:00AM - 1:00PM EST

WEBINAR (ONLINE)

Please register to attend:

<https://tinyurl.com/ycxpety9>

Or Scan QR Code:



Beyond the recognition of the threat of Chinese market power, in the critical mineral sector this webinar explores how and why China successfully achieved its status as an indispensable global rare earth producer. Drawing on the economic linkage framework inspired by Hirschman, it demonstrates how China's state-led industrial policy consolidated fragmented production into vertically integrated supply chains, linking upstream extraction, midstream refining, and downstream applications in permanent magnets and clean energy technologies. The study identifies three phases of policy evolution—export orientation and intermediate technology development, forward linkage building and material manufacturing, and consolidation aligned with economic statecraft since 2018—each reflecting adaptive recalibration to shifting global and domestic pressures. By deploying “industrial ethnography” and process-tracing policy interventions, the study shows how China's model of resource governance challenges conventional development theories, providing an alternative pathway of resource-led industrialization with lessons for other mineral producers navigating the twin imperatives of green transition and strategic competition.

## SPEAKER:



**Yingfeng Ji**  
Postdoctoral Fellow  
University of Sussex

## DISCUSSANT:



**Gregory T. Chin**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Politics  
York University

**Dr. Yingfeng Ji** completed her PhD at the University of Cambridge on China's investments in Central Asia. She is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow on the project Green Industrial Policy in the Age of Rare Metals: A Transregional Comparison of Growth Strategies in Rare Earth Mining (GRIP ARM), at the University of Sussex, United Kingdom. Funded by the European Research Council, the GRIP ARM examines how rare metals are reshaping global industrial strategies, with comparative case studies across China, Kazakhstan, and Brazil. Within the project, Dr. Ji's research focuses on China's industrial policy in the clean minerals sector. Her presentation will draw on extensive fieldwork in China since May 2024.