



# Post-Totalitarian China and Political Economy of Transition

Online course in the framework of OBIC's virtual Short-term Research Fellow mobility program

A short course by BBS' virtual guest lecturer:

**Mikhail Karpov (PhD)**

Associate Professor,  
Russian Higher School of  
Economics (Moscow)



## Academic Information

Academic Year: 2020/2021

Semester: Spring

Occasions: 5 (20 hours)

Prerequisites: -

Credits: -

Institute / Department:  
International and EU Studies

Exam / Assignment:  
CooSpace test - 60 multiple  
questions, 60 minutes

Classes on the following days:  
20.04., 22.04., 27.04., 29.04., 04.05.

Time: Tuesday and Thursday,  
15.30 – 18.30

## About the Course

The course focuses on the market reforms and socio-political restructuring in the People's Republic of China (PRC) against the background of the history and outcomes of market reforms introduced in Eastern European former socialist countries and the USSR in the second part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

It is impossible to understand adequately the “Chinese reform miracle” outside the context of socialist systems' internal evolutions in other countries. The course elaborates on the common systemic features of Marxist-Leninist “state socialist system” as well as on the “Chinese characteristics” of its version in the PRC.

Students will gain knowledge of:

- world historiography of the above subjects,
- the concepts of “reforms” in socialist systems,
- their scope, dynamics, structure, potential and outcomes.



Special attention is devoted to substantial structural differences between “totalitarianism” and “authoritarianism” and the concept of “post-totalitarian society” as a genetic offspring of “classical totalitarianism” thus being different from “authoritarianism”.

Another focus of the course is political economy of the financial sector reforms in the “reforming” socialist countries (especially today's China) and the systemic reasons for prolonged macroeconomic instability – going hand in hand with the attempts to bring more market coordination into the state socialist economy.

For more information: [Syllabus](#)

*The virtual mobility is supported by the Oriental Business and Innovation Center (OBIC). Students completing the course will be awarded an official certificate by OBIC.*

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