

## Seminar

# ‘Geo-developmentalism’: Theorising China’s ‘One Belt, One Road’ Initiative



How to theorise China’s ‘one belt, one road’ initiative? Professor Gerald Chan suggests that a new theory has begun to emerge as a result of the implementation of the initiative since 2013. He calls this new theory ‘geo-developmentalism’ or ‘neo-functionalism with Chinese characteristics’. This theory complements yet challenges the existing model of development championed by the West under the Bretton Woods system. In this seminar, he will identify the essential features of this theory, based on evidence drawn from the launching of various mega infrastructure projects under the initiative around the world.

### About the speaker

Gerald Chan is Professor of Politics and International Relations at the University of Auckland. He is a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge. He is Senior Research Fellow-elect at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany. His latest publications include *From laggard to superpower: Explaining China’s high-speed rail ‘miracle’*, International Affairs, Tokyo, May 2017.

**Date: Thursday, 17 August**

**Time: 4 - 5pm**

**Venue: AM 103, Alan MacDiarmid Building, Kelburn Campus, Victoria University  
([map](#))**

If you are interested to attend this seminar, please email Lai Ching at [laiching.tan@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:laiching.tan@vuw.ac.nz) or call 04 463 9549 to register.