



**Director Mercator Institute for China Studies**

Mikko Huotari is the director of MERICS and one of the leading China experts.

Huotari studied in Freiburg, Nanjing and Shanghai and is doing his PhD at the University of Freiburg. In 2017/18, he was a visiting scholar at the University of California, San Diego.

During his studies, he already specialised in current topics of practice-oriented China research. His research interests include China's foreign policy, Sino-European relations, and global (economic policy) governance and competition.

He has been with Mercator Institute in Berlin since 2014. Initially as head of the programme "Goeconomics and International Security". In 2018 he became Deputy Director and since 2020 he has been Director of the independent research institute.

Mikko Huotari is also a much sought-after expert and interview partner on the topic of China in the media. He has published numerous articles on China's rise as a financial power, trade and investment relations between China and Europe, and geopolitical changes resulting from China's rise as a global security actor.

Huotari was appointed a member of the Sino-German Dialogue Forum in 2019.

**Topics (Selection):**

- China's economic development and role in the world economy
- German/European-Chinese relations
- China's geo-economic and geopolitical challenge