

## Visiting Speaker Series 2017-18 Term 2

# The Social Credit System: A New Mode of Governance in China?

## Séverine Arsène

Managing Editor, Asia Global Institute,  
The University of Hong Kong

**9 Apr 2018 (Monday)**

**4:30 – 6:00pm**

**Room 1118, 11/F,**

**Yasumoto International Academic Park**

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Séverine Arsène is the managing editor of *AsiaGlobal Online*, a new digital journal at the Asia Global Institute, The University of Hong Kong.

She was the chief editor of the peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary social sciences journal *China Perspectives*, from 2013 to 2017. A political scientist and sinologist, Dr. Arsène has published extensively on Chinese cyber policy, notably as an associate researcher at the Centre for Research on Contemporary China (CEFC) in Hong Kong. She previously held teaching and research positions at the University of Lille (France), the CNRS Communication and Politics Laboratory (Paris, France) and Orange Labs in Paris and Beijing, and she was a Yahoo! Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University. She holds a PhD in political science from Sciences Po Paris.



### ABOUT THE TALK

The Internet plays a central role in the Chinese government's strategy to acquire a new status as a "great power". Connectivity is an instrument to enhance economic development and quality of life, as well as modernize the administration with more efficient governing techniques, including acquiring new forms of control over the population. Against this background, Dr. Arsène will discuss the significance of the plan to develop a Social Credit System with the publicized goal to enhance trust in society. She will describe the objectives, scope of data collection and provide some examples of implementation. This will lead to a discussion of the type of governance that is promoted through such an instrument. She will finally also highlight the need to differentiate analytically between the government's project and the various social credit instruments developed by corporations like Alibaba and Tencent.

**Free Admission**

**The seminar is conducted in English**

**Enquiry: Centre for China Studies | [ccs@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:ccs@cuhk.edu.hk) | [www.cuhk.edu.hk/ccs](http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/ccs)**