



**Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo:
Contemporary China Research Base Seminar Series (No.9)**

現代中国研究拠点セミナーシリーズ(第九回)

Speaker: Dr. You Ji (University of New South Wales)

Topic: "Xi Jinping's Assertive Leadership in His First Year in Office"

Date: 18:30-20:00, 21th January, 2014

**Venue: Room 108(Discussion Room No.1), Institute of Social Science,
University of Tokyo(Hongo campus)**

Language: English

Abstract

Xi Jinping's first year in office can be characterized by an unusual assertive leadership. In the domestic front his political leadership could be compared with his predecessors' technocratic leadership in that he is more willing to forge a structured personal following for the purpose of early consolidation of power. He is more willing to mobilize support from key power institutions, such as the PLA, to fulfil his agenda. For instance, he overcame the internal resistance to erect the National Security Council. Now he has four-power in himself, and is likely to become the most powerful post-Deng leader in China. His governing principle in 2013 was recentralization of power so that tough reform policies could be initiated and implemented against vested interest groups. This will continue in 2014. Externally he has raised China's assertive diplomacy to a new level, e.g., through establishing the ADIZ that is clearly a game changer on the existing status quo in Asia. In the years ahead he will have both opportunities to effect change and encounter mounting challenges, such as deepening corruption and continued economic slowdown. Whatever that is installed for him, people in the world are watching carefully.

About Dr. You Ji

Dr. You Ji is Reader at School of Social Science, the University of New South

Wales and currently visiting senior research fellow at the East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore. He graduated from the Peking University and Australian National University. He is author of three books, including *China's Enterprise Reform: Changing State/Society Relations after Mao*; and *the Armed Forces of China*, and numerous articles. His papers appear in journals such as *the Problem of Communism*, *the China Journal*, *the Pacific Review*, *Comparative Strategy*, *Asia Policy*, *Japanese Studies*, *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, *the Naval War College Review*, *Journal of Contemporary China*, and *Contemporary Security Policy*. He is on the editorial board of *the China Journal*; *Provincial China*; *East Asia Policy*; *Asian and Middle East Studies*, *Issue and Studies*, and *Journal of Contemporary China*.

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