

Curriculum Vitae

Rodrigo Moura

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am a final-year PhD student at the University of Essex's Department of Government, researching Chinese economic statecraft in the Global South. I am interested in the intersection of authoritarian governance and geoeconomics, in particular how autocratic states use loans, investment, and trade to affect geopolitical outcomes.

EDUCATION

2021 – present	PhD candidate, Government, University of Essex <i>Dissertation: Chinese economic statecraft in the Global South. Expected defence: February 2026.</i> <i>Research interests: Chinese economic statecraft, authoritarianism</i>
2020 – 2021	MA Chinese Studies (distinction), School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London <i>Dissertation: Not in my backyard: China and the United States in Latin America</i>
2015 – 2016	LL.M. (merit), King's College London <i>Dissertation: the transnationalisation of anti-corruption law</i>
1999 – 2000	Management programme, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
1991 – 1994	Bachelor of Laws, Universidade de Brasília

Other training

- Dynamic Fiscal Policy in Political and International Economies. *University of Essex, 2025.*
- Longitudinal and Panel Data Analysis. *University of Essex Summer School, 2023.*
- Time Series and Panel Models for Dynamic and Heterogeneous Processes. *University of Essex Summer School, 2022.*

Teaching experience

2025 – 2026	University of Essex. Guest lecturer. Undergraduate modules <i>International Political Economy</i> and <i>International Organisations</i> .
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PUBLICATIONS

Peer reviewed

- Profit or Power: Determinants of Chinese Financing to the Developing World (2024). *Journal of Contemporary China*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10670564.2024.2343731>

Work in progress

- *Fungible power: when Chinese financial flows sustain authoritarian regimes*. In preparation for submission.
- *Some are more equal than others: Unravelling China's bounded generosity in foreign direct investment protection*. In preparation for submission.
- *Introducing the China bilateral investment treaty dataset*. Under review.

Other

- Can Marco Rubio Help Rebuild US Influence in Latin America – and Erode China's? (2025). *The Diplomat*. <https://thediplomat.com/2025/01/can-marco-rubio-help-rebuild-us-influence-in-latin-america-and-erode-chinas/>
- Argentina and Brazil's Divergent Approaches to China's Belt and Road (2023). *The Diplomat*. <https://thediplomat.com/2023/11/argentina-and-brazils-divergent-approaches-to-chinas-belt-and-road/>
- The European Union Has Banned Russian Oil. Will It Make A Difference? (2022). *Australian Outlook*. <https://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/the-european-union-has-banned-russian-oil-will-it-make-a-difference/>

CONFERENCES

- American Political Science Association – APSA (2025). Panel: *Globalization and Political Institutions*. Paper: *Fungible power: when Chinese financial flows sustain authoritarian regimes*. Presenting author.
- European Political Science Association – EPSA (2025). Panel: *Authoritarian rule, transitions and survival*. Paper: *Fungible power: when Chinese financial flows sustain authoritarian regimes*. Presenting author.
- International Political Economy Society – IPES (2025). Paper: *Fungible power: when Chinese financial flows sustain authoritarian regimes*. Presenting author.
- APSA (2024). Panel: *East Asia and the Global Political Economy*. Paper: *Beyond BITs: Unravelling China's Economic Statecraft in FDI Protection*. Presenting author.
- European International Studies Association 2023 (EWIS workshops). Panel: *Blind Spots of International Financial Institutions: New Directions in Research*. Paper: *Profit or power: determinants of Chinese financing to the developing world*. Presenting author.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- APSA 2025 travel grant (\$400).
- APSA 2025 Section 48 international collaboration grant (\$500).
- IPES 2025 travel grant (\$1,000)
- University of Essex travel grant 2024 (£900).
- Essex Summer School scholarship 2023 (£250).

REVIEWER

- Journal of Contemporary China
- Studies in Comparative International Development

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

I am a corporate and commercial lawyer qualified to practice in the England & Wales and Brazil. I specialise in investment in natural resources and infrastructure projects in developing countries. I have worked at law firms in China (**King & Wood Mallesons**) and Brazil (**Pinheiro Neto**) and multinational companies in the United Kingdom and Brazil (**Rio Tinto**, **British Gas**). Since April 2021 I have been advising part-time **Helios Towers plc**, a provider of telecommunications infrastructure in Africa and the Middle East.

Helios Towers plc **April 2021 – present** London, UK
Senior legal counsel (part-time), with a focus on cross-border M&A, disputes, regulation and procurement.

Paternity leave **August 2019 – August 2020**

Kingfisher plc **August 2016 – July 2019** London, UK
Advised the Group on commercial contracts & procurement, technology law and corporate legal matters.

BG Group **February 2010 – September 2015** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 August 2007 – April 2008 São Paulo, Brazil
Advised BG on all legal matters related to the Santos Basin oil and gas project in Brazil and other gas projects in South America.

King & Wood Mallesons **May 2009 – January 2010** Shanghai, China
Advised Chinese companies on joint ventures and investments abroad.

Rio Tinto **August 2005 – August 2007** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Responsible for legal matters related to the expansion of an iron ore mine and logistics in South America.

Pinheiro Neto Advogados **October 2000 – August 2005** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 June 1992 – August 1994 Brasília, Brazil
Advised multinational companies on investments in Brazil.

CA Technologies **January 1996 – October 2000** São Paulo, Brazil
Responsible for legal matters involving CA's Latin American subsidiaries.

LANGUAGES

- English, Portuguese and Spanish: native or bilingual proficiency
- French: full professional fluency
- Chinese (Mandarin) and German: conversational

October 2025