HKU PPA
Department of Politics and Public Administration

PPA Talk Series 2026-27:

The fear of being overwhelmed?

The "yellow peril" in the German Empire (1871-1918) and its resurgence in the present

September 23, 2026 (Wednesday) **3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Rm 966, 9/F, The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU

Speaker:

Dr. Jürgen ZIMMERER
Professor of Global History
Department of History
University of Hamburg



Biography:

Jürgen ZIMMERER is Professor of Global History at the University of Hamburg. His research focuses on German colonial history, memory politics and mass violence. From 2015 to 2025 he served as director of the research centre "Hamburg's (post-)colonial legacy".

Abstract:

When the German Empire sought to become a world power following the founding of the nation-state in 1871, China was simultaneously seen as a target of imperial ambitions and as a threat. The slogan of a "Yellow Peril" was gaining traction. This lecture outlines the origins and function of this concept and describes its continuities up to the present day.

Moderator:

Dr. Daniel MARWECKI
Lecturer
Deputy Director, Master of International and Public Affairs (MIPA)
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