

SECURE RESEARCH ON AND IN CHINA

Lessons from community experiences

Annex

Government-issued guidelines on research security, academic collaboration and academic freedom



EU

RESOURCE	PROVIDER	YEAR
Research Security Guidelines for Ireland	Irish Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science	2026
Methodological recommendation: Defining the minimum scope of due diligence and risk management in cooperation with third parties within the context of strengthening the resilience of the higher education and research environment against illegitimate interference	Czech Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports	2025
EU Council Recommendation on Enhancing Research Security	EU Council	2024
National Knowledge Security Guidelines – Secure International Collaboration	Government of the Netherlands	2022
Committee on Guidelines for International Research and Innovation Cooperation	Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science	2022
★ Recommendations for academic cooperation with China	Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland	2022
Academic freedom of expression	Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research	2022

NON-EU

RESOURCE	PROVIDER	YEAR
★ China Resources	Australian Government Department of Education	2026
National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships	Government of Canada	2026
Safeguarding Academia	US National Counterintelligence and Security Center	2025
Conducting Open Source Due Diligence for Safeguarding Research Partnerships	Government of Canada	2025
Guidelines to Counter Foreign Interference in the Australian University Sector	Australian Government Department of Education	2025
Trusted Research: Guidance for Institutions and Researchers	Government of New Zealand	2025
G7 Best Practices for Secure and Open Research	G7	2024
Named Research Organizations	Government of Canada	2024
★ China: The Risk to Academia	U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation	2019
Trusted Research Guidance for Academia	UK National Protective Security Authority	2019

Source: MERICS ★ China-specific resources

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Academic institutions' and sector associations' own resources

PLEDGES AND PRINCIPLES	RESOURCE	PROVIDER	YEAR
	★ <u>Resource Hub for U.S. Academic Travel to China</u>	US-China Education Trust	2026
	<u>How universities can protect and promote academic freedom: EUA principles and guidelines</u>	European University Association	2025
	<u>Risk and opportunity assessment for international collaboration and activities</u>	The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education	2025
	★ <u>The KoWinChi Project (Training program for cooperation with Chinese counterparts)</u>	Würzburg University, University of Erlangen–Nuremberg	2024
	★ <u>Cooperation Guidelines</u>	The China Competence Centre at the Julius Maximilians University	2024
	<u>Managing risks in Internationalisation: Security related issues</u>	Universities UK	2022
	★ <u>Guiding Questions on University Cooperation with the People's Republic of China</u>	German Rectors' Conference	2020
	<u>Responsible internationalisation: Guidelines for reflection on international academic collaboration</u>	The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education	2020
	<u>Primary Representative AgreementForm</u>	Scholars at Risk	2026
	<u>G7 Common Values and Principles on Research Security and Research Integrity</u>	G7	2022
	<u>Magna Charta Universitatum</u>	European University Association; Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna	2020

Source: MERICS ★ China-specific resources

General resources



RESOURCE	PROVIDER	YEAR
★ Chinese Academy of Sciences Directory	RAND	2026
★ China Defence Universities Tracker	Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)	2026
★ Chinese students & scholars associations in Europe, and long-distance authoritarian engagement	Sciences Po Center for International Studies	2026
Investigative policy analysis: Leveraging ethnography's postures to research secretive state policies in access-restricted authoritarian contexts	Sage Journals	2026
★ Swedish research collaborations with China still increasing, but politically more difficult	The Swedish National China Centre	2025
★ Managing the Risks of China's Access to U.S. Data and Control of Software and Connected Technology	Carnegie Endowment for International Peace	2025
Regulatory advice 24: Guidance related to freedom of speech	Office for Students (UK)	2024
★ People's Republic of China Legal Research: Introduction to China's Legal System	Harvard Law School	2024
Measures for the Management of Scientific Data	Center for Security and Emerging Technology (CSET)	2023
Model code of conduct: protection of academic freedom and the academic community in the context of the internationalisation of the UK HE sector	Academic Freedom and Internationalisation Working Group	2022
★ How to do Trusted Research: China-Specific Guidelines for European Stakeholders	Association for International Affairs	2022
★ Checklist for Collaboration with Chinese Universities and Other Research Institutions	The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies	2019
★ Resisting Chinese Government Efforts to Undermine Academic Freedom Abroad A Code of Conduct for Colleges, Universities, and Academic Institutions Worldwide	Human Rights Watch	2019
Academic Freedom and Internationalisation Working Group at Human Rights Consortium	Human Rights Consortium, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London	2019
Research, Ethics and Risk in the Authoritarian Field	Palgrave Macmillan	2018

Source: MERICS ★ China-specific resources

Cyber and OSINT resources



RESOURCE	PROVIDER	YEAR
Online Open Source Investigation Toolkit	Bellingcat	N/A
Digital Security Resource Hub for Civil Society	Amnesty International	N/A
Open-source intelligence (OSINT) self-audit for researchers	University of Toronto	2026
John Scott-Railton Shares Tips and Tools to Protect Yourself Digitally	Global Investigative Journalism Network	2026
★ Mining China's 'Little Red Book' for Open Source Gold	Bellingcat	2026
Practical Advice to Avoid Getting Pwned by AI	American Enterprise Institute	2026
★ The Locknet: How China Controls Its Internet and Why It Matters	ChinaFile	2025
★ The Challenges of Conducting Open Source Research on China	Bellingcat	2023
Into the Jungle: Best Practices for Open-Source Researchers	Georgetown Center for Security and Emerging Technologies (CSET)	2022

Source: MERICS ★ China-specific resources

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Associations and mentorship resources



RESOURCE	TYPE
★ European Association for Chinese Studies	International organisation representing China scholars from all over Europe
★ EURAXESS China	Community of researchers
★ Global China Studies Early Career Researcher Network	Community of researchers
★ British Association for Chinese Studies	Community of students and researchers
★ Berlin Contemporary China Network	Community of researchers and scholars
★ Young China Watchers	Community of professionals

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