

## **Section 8– Relazioni Internazionali**

**Chairs: Carla Monteleone, Vittorio Emanuele Parsi**

### **Panel 8.1 The decline of the US-led liberal order and the return of great power rivalry in East Asia.**

An order transition appears under way in East Asia. On the one hand, China has been contesting the existing US-led international order in Asia and its normative, as well as strategic, foundations. In the security realm Beijing has challenged the status quo, seeking to undermine existing system of US-led security alliance, particularly through the use of grey zone and hybrid warfare tactics in the South and East China Sea. On the other hand, it has advanced its own promoted a new blueprint for the economic governance of the region, based on initiatives such as Belt and Road (BRI), the Asia Infrastructure and Investment Bank (AIIB) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

The Trump administration has introduced a significant degree of uncertainty about the US will to uphold the current international order. In the security realm, policies reflecting a substantial degree of continuity with past administrations (as the concept of Indo-Pacific, or the efforts to create a networked system of alliances) are coupled with elements of discontinuity, such as the opening to North Korea and a “transactional approach” to security alliances. In the realm of economic governance, the Trump administration has abandoned the aim of promoting any form of open “Trans-Pacific” economic regionalism, in order to adopt a much more confrontational stance towards both China and its own allies.

The panel welcomes papers looking at the US and Chinese strategies in the Asia-Pacific region as well as contributions analysing foreign and security policies of other East Asian states aimed at navigating through the challenges generated by the order transition and the great power competition between Washington and Beijing.

**Chairs:** Matteo Dian