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Freedom

## A China we can talk to?

Talk and discussion with the founder of the Reading the China Dream website David Ownby

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Chinese intellectuals inhabit a world parallel to and at the mercy of the world of Xi Jinping and the Party-State where they write and publish to try to influence public opinion and perhaps the state on the issues they are allowed to discuss. This world is circumscribed and has shrunk under Xi Jinping, but over the course of 40 years Chinese intellectual life underwent a transformation like that of China's economy and society; globalization changed the way Chinese intellectuals think and write with the result that, to a surprising degree, Chinese and Western intellectuals now share a common vocabulary and common references.

