The Stories of the New Silk Route

Facilitating interaction between global and local within the Belt and Road Initiative.

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P5 Presentation
Complex Cities
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Thesis research topic

China’s Belt and Road Initiative
Revival of the Silk Road
Ancient Silk Route

Belt and Road Initiative
Revival of the Silk Route
China’s Belt and Road Initiative
Win-win Collaboration

Geopolitic, infrastructural mega-project

Win-win collaboration
BRI - Land and Sea Routes

- China - Mongolia - Russia Economic Corridor
- New Eurasian Land Bridge Economic Corridor
- China - Indochina Peninsula Economic Corridor
- China - Bangladesh - Myanmar - India Economic Corridor

Silk Road Economic Belt
Maritime Silk Road
Economic Corridor

Why then Belt and Road as a topic of urbanism research?
Spatial implications
Thanaleng Station is part of the first international railway link serving Laos, connecting the country to Thailand. Tha na Lang village, located just outside Laos capital Vientiane, is proud hosting this, for now merely touristic attraction, that also serves as a wedding location for the local inhabitants.
Gwadar Deep Sea Port, Pakistan, since 2016


Khorgos Gateway Dry-Port, Kazakhstan, since 2015


Powerplant Balochistan, Pakistan, since 2018

Source: https://www.mnenergyservices.com/above-ground-pipelines.php

Urbanisation
Gwadar Deep Sea Port, Pakistan, since 2016


Khorgos Gateway Dry-Port, Kazakhstan, since 2015


Powerplant Balochistan, Pakistan, since 2018

Source: https://www.mnenergyservices.com/above-ground-pipelines.php

Kilamba New City in Luanda, Angola was developed by Chinese company CITIC and designed to house 500,000 people.


Oil Pipelines and Installations

Source: Reuters/China Daily
“[...] our most advanced contemporary environments appear repetitive and uniform. [...] However, the environments we produce today shelter a society that prides itself on individual freedom of choice and self expression. This betrays a misalignment between our present social culture and its physical environment.

win - win collaboration?
interaction between global & local
Impact of BRI on local context - case Khorgos Gateway

Emerging trade hub could revive ancient Silk Road

In a remote part of Central Asia a new colossal dry port is emerging called the Khorgos Gateway. It has sprung up in the desert between China and Kazakhstan in just seven years.

The Gateway is hoping to become the key point of New Silk Road - global trade way between East and West. For centuries ancient Silk Road was the main trade way connecting China and Europe. Khorgos may revive it and completely change the logistics of exchanging goods between Asia and Europe.

But it isn't just a train station and a few warehouses, they've created a new city - with some developers claiming they're building a "new Dubai".

31 May 2017

Research question

How can urban planners and designers shape the Belt and Road Initiative to create interactive urban environments for a globalized future?
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Preparational context questions:

A. What is the Belt and Road exactly about, how does it work?
B. How does it exactly relate to the Ancient Silk Route?

Supportive research questions:

1. Can the current plan for Khorgos answer the needs of future multi-cultural communities?
2. What is the future vision for the development of Khorgos Gateway?
3. How to embed ICBC Khorgos with the surrounding context? How to facilitate spatial, functional and social interaction between the two?

Important abbreviations:

BRI: the Belt and Road Initiative
ICBC: International Centre for Border Cooperation
Methodology

1. Understand the Belt and Road Initiative
   - BRI goals
   - BRI Instruments
   - Role of Urbanism
   - Overview current BRI developments
   - Selection study-case
   - defining the scope

2. Study-case: Khorgos Gateway
   - Field trip to Khorgos
   - Analysis findings
   - Diagnosis BRI
   - defining the problem defining design brief
   - Exploration of theoretical concepts through literature study and discussions with experts

3. Design: Interaction global and local in Khorgos
   - Rethinking the role of ICBC Khorgos
   - Solving identified problems
   - Impact of solutions through the scales
   - Five development goals with strategies and implementations
   - integrating theory and analysis findings

4. Evaluation and transferability
   - Tool for assessment and evaluation
   - Impact on the BRI as a system
   - Transferring results globally
   - Recommendations for future development of ICBC clusters in BRI
   - from case study back to bigger system

Theory paper:
BRI through the lens of Urbanism
Methodology

1. Understand the Belt and Road Initiative

Theory paper:
BRI through the lens of Urbanism
Methodology

2 Study-case: Khorgos Gateway


Belt and Road Initiative
Reviving the Ancient Silk Routes

International context Khorgos Gateway
National context Khorgos Gateway
Regional context Khorgos Gateway
Local context Khorgos Gateway

KZ CN

CHINA KAZAKHSTAN
Methodology

Design: Interaction global and local in Khorgos

Development goals for Khorgos

A B C D E

S M L XL
Methodology

4 Evaluation and transferability

Introduction

How?

Why?

Result

Effect

Next Up
Analysis through the scales

XL - China & Kazakhstan

Biggest cities and cooperations

Silk Route Heritage
L - Almaty - Khorgos - Urumqi

Legend
- Million city
- Planned development Khorgos
- National border
- Railway line
- Fastest automobile route
- International airport
- Domestic airport
- Fenced accessible route
- Fenced non-accessible route
- Taxi / auto-stop / car
- Travel time:
  - 350 km: 3 hours
  - 650 km: 7 hours
  - 30 km: 1 hour
  - 120 km: 2 hours
  - 130 km: 2 hours
  - 140 km: 2 hours
  - 150 km: 3 hours
  - 180 km: 3 hours
  - 200 km: 4 hours
  - 230 km: 4 hours
  - 300 km: 5 hours
  - 350 km: 6 hours
  - 350 km: 7 hours
  - 400 km: 8 hours
  - 450 km: 9 hours
  - 500 km: 10 hours

Almaty - Khorgos
- Seasonal train, twice a week
- Travel time: 5 hours
- Touring bus every 3 hours
- Travel time: 7 hours
- Taxi / auto-stop / car
- Travel time: 4 hours

Urumqi - Khorgos
- Train, once a day
- Travel time: 12 hours
- Taxi / auto-stop / car
- Travel time: 14 hours

Introduction
- How?
- Why?
- Result
- Effect
- Next Up

Not attractive
- Lack of support for young families
- Safety issues
- High level control
- Higher education
- Job opportunities with housing provided
- Good economic conditions for business
- Agricultural industry
- International shopping and entertainment centers

Hard to reach
- Air pollution due to old transport
- Remote location
- No convenient connection
- No big leisure and entertainment facilities
- International higher education
- Job opportunities with housing provided
- Good economic conditions for business
- Agricultural industry
- International shopping and entertainment centers
Zharkent to Khorgos 40 km
50 minutes traveling from Zharkent to Khorgos by taxi
S - Khorgos Gateway

Analysis Summary

**Local People**

- Like to build their own housing.
- Want a big shopping and entertainment mall like in Almaty.
- Care for their children to get international education.
- Want to have more meeting places like parks, squares and markets.
- Need easier/cheaper ways of travelling in the region as villages and new developments are far away from each other.

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**Kazakhstan China**

Khorgos is not attractive enough yet to go through the effort of uncomfortable travelling there.

The established Almaty and Urumqi make it hard for Khorgos to compete for visitors and residents in the thinly populated region.

Regardless the free housing and job opportunities in Nurkent, Zharkent is a more attractive city for its culture, entertainment, shopping and freedom to build one's own housing.

The car-only connection between Zharkent, Nurkent and Khorgos is not optimal and works against the potential of the new developments.

The Almaty and Xinjiang regions are rich in Silk Route Heritage, however, many sites lack exposure and accessibility.

Zharkent and the region used to be strong for agriculture. The BRI gave it a chance to revive but more support is needed to make it the strength of the region again.

Programme of the ICBC is not attractive enough for locals.

Accessing the ICBC is inconvenient and paid. Environment is not welcoming, border very hard.

Regardles the free housing and job opportunities in Nurkent, Zharkent is a more attractive city for its culture, entertainment, shopping and freedom to build one's own housing.

The Almaty - Astana is currently stronger than Almaty - Khorgos. Almaty - Khorgos - Urumqi is not realising its full potential yet.

The Almaty and Xinjiang regions are rich in Silk Route Heritage, however, many sites lack exposure and accessibility.

Zharkent and the region used to be strong for agriculture. The BRI gave it a chance to revive but more support is needed to make it the strength of the region again.

Programme of the ICBC is not attractive enough for locals.

Accessing the ICBC is inconvenient and paid. Environment is not welcoming, border very hard.

Programme of the ICBC is not attractive enough for locals.
Theory Summary

**BRI Goals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRI Goals</th>
<th>Collaboration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial integration</td>
<td>Politico-Economic Instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unimpeded trade</td>
<td>Economic corridors, trading agreements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy coordination</td>
<td>Diplomatic agreements, policy programmes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People to people bonds</td>
<td>Silk Road cultural legacy. Educational programmes, Cultural exchange programmes, Chinese Culture Institutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unimpeded trade</td>
<td>Special Economic Zones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BRI Instruments**

- Capital loans, Technical financial instruments.
- Economic corridors, trading agreements.
- Diplomatic agreements, policy programmes.
- Silk Road cultural legacy. Educational programmes, Cultural exchange programmes, Chinese Culture Institutes.
- Special Economic Zones

**Spatial Planning and Design Tools**

- Trans-territorial Vision, Spatial Development Perspective.
- Structural Visions, Polycentric Development Strategies, Cross-border Cooperation Programmes.
- Embedding Infrastructure, Urban Interaction Design.

**Spatial Cohesion across borders and scales**

**Legend**

- Railways
- Sea lanes
- Economic corridor
- Land borders
- Special Economic Zones
- Planned Economic zones
- Maritime Silk Road
- Khorgos Gateway

**Map**

**Introduction**

**How?**

**Why?**

**Result**

**Effect**

**Next Up**
Design challenge

Facilitate Interaction
Rethinking the role of ICBC Khorgos

Role across scales:

Future Trends:
we won’t be bound to one place and will travel faster
digital citizenship, digital trade = empty shopping malls

Nomads of globalisation

Digital trade

IKEA Co-living research

Introduction, Why? Effect, Next Up
Consequences digital trade

Wholesale malls are drastically losing visitors.
Urumqi shows another challenge that ICBC Khorgos might need to battle: empty wholesale markets, that welcomed thousands of people on daily basis just 5 years ago. Digitalization of trading through social platforms like WeChat (Chinese WhatsApp with a digital wallet), made frequent visits to physical malls unnecessary. With further progression of this trend, the brand-new ICBC might suffer the same fate.

Consequences digital trade

*Wholesale malls are drastically losing visitors. Should we build more new ones? Does the ICBC programme need this?*
Co-living

All across the world communes and co-living is gaining popularity. As our societies mix more, less people have one and fixed place to call home.

Millennials want experiences not possessions, say co-living entrepreneurs

“Shared living spaces are booming in major cities as young people seek a more sociable lifestyle, according to the entrepreneurs behind the “co-living” accommodation trend”

MINI’s co-living destination in Shanghai “brings know-how from vehicles into places where we live”

Car brand MINI is diversifying into urban development with the MINI Living building in Shanghai, which will see a disused industrial complex transform into apartments, offices and leisure spaces.

The brand is working with Chinese developer Nova Property Investment Co on the project, which involves converting a former paint factory in the city’s Jing’An district into a space for co-living and working that also promotes engagement with the local community.


IKEA Co-living research

do you want to live in a community that has locations all over the world?

- yes, I want to be connected: 79%
- no, I prefer to stay put: 21%
Development goals Khorgos Gateway

*Based on future trends, site analysis, BRI agenda and focus on interaction between global and local.*

Underlying goal: facilitate interaction between local and global aspects in each domain.
Development framework Khorgos Gateway

**Space and economy**

- **Easy accessibility through efficient connection**
  - **Strategy 1**: Efficient connection in local region
  - **Strategy 2**: Polycentric cluster Khorgos - Almaty - Astana

- **Leverage the potential of the local region**
  - **Strategy 1**: Develop agriculture and farming
  - **Strategy 2**: Embed the urban developments with respect to local landscape and uses

- **Spatially embed in local context**
  - **Strategy 1**: Expand and densify starting from the existing settlements
  - **Strategy 2**: Expand on existing villages as much as possible

**Culture and Society**

- **Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route**
  - **Strategy 1**: Khorgos Silk Road & Culture Heritage Hub

- **Encourage international interaction and collaboration**
  - **Strategy 1**: Communal living space for 'nomads of globalisation'
  - **Strategy 2**: Reasons for interaction between locals and internationals

**Policy Recommendation**

- **Stimulation and (BRI) investment in infrastructure**
- **Tax discount and government support for agri and farming businesses on SEZ**
- **Expand on existing villages as much as possible**
- **Special residence permit pass for free entrance locals**
Development framework Khorgos Gateway

Space and economy

**Strategy 1**
Efficient connection in local region

**Strategy 2**
Polycentric cluster
Khorgos - Almaty - Astana

Policy Recommendation
Stimulation and (BRI) investment in infrastructure

Leverage the potential of the local region

**Strategy 1**
Develop agriculture and farming

**Strategy 2**
Embed the urban developments with respect to local landscape and uses

Spatially embed in local context

**Strategy 1**
Expand and densify starting from the existing settlements

Planning Recommendation
Expand on existing villages as much as possible

Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route

**Strategy 1**
Khorgos Silk Road & Culture Heritage Hub

Strategy 1
Communal living space for 'nomads of globalisation'

Encourage international interaction and collaboration

Policy Recommendation
Special residence permit Pass for free entrance locals

**Introduction**
How?
Why?
**Result**
**Effect**
Next Up
Development framework Khorgos Gateway

**Space and economy**

- **Strategy 1**: Efficient connection in local region
- **Strategy 2**: Polycentric cluster Khorgos - Almaty - Astana

**Policy Recommendation**
- Stimulation and (BRI) investment in infrastructure
- Tax discount and government support for agri and farming businesses on SEZ
- Expand on existing villages as much as possible

**Culture and Society**

- **Strategy 1**: Communal living space for "nomads of globalisation"
- **Strategy 2**: Reasons for interaction between locals and internationals
- **Strategy 1**: Khorgos Silk Road & Culture Heritage Hub

**Policy Recommendation**
- Special residence permit Pass for free entrance locals

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**Introduction**

**How?**

**Why?**

**Result**

**Effect**

**Next Up**
Development framework Khorgos Gateway

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**Space and economy**

- **Strategy 1**
  - Implementation 1: Efficient connection in local region
  - Implementation 2: New road connections near the border (see map)

- **Strategy 2**
  - Implementation 1: Highspeed connection Astana - Khorgos, with a branch to Almaty

---

**Culture and Society**

- **Strategy 1**
  - Implementation 1: Communal living space for ‘nomads of globalisation’
  - Implementation 2: Shared housing facilities, equal quality for everyone (hostel/commune village)

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**Planning Recommendation**

- **Strategy 1**
  - Implementation 1: Expand and densify starting from the existing settlements
  - Implementation 2: Expand and densify Khorgos

---

**Policy Recommendation**

- **Strategy 1**
  - Implementation 1: Tax discount and government support for agri and farming businesses on SEZ
  - Implementation 2: Cross-border hubs interaction installation

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**Strategy 2**

- Implementation 1: Embed the urban developments with respect to local landscape and uses
  - Implementation 2: Soften the security barrier of ICBC
  - Implementation 3: Provide Silk Route touring packages to China and Kazakhstan

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**Strategy 1**

- Implementation 1: Khorgos Silk Road & Culture Heritage Hub
  - Implementation 1: Museum/info/edu centre
  - Implementation 2: Cross-border hubs interaction installation

---

**Culture and Society**

- **Strategy 1**
  - Implementation 1: Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route
  - Implementation 2: Encourage international interaction and collaboration

---

**Strategy 1**

- Implementation 1: Official residence permit for free entrance locals
  - Implementation 2: Add locally desirable functions: education, free housing, leisure, quality public space, shopping
Implementations across scales

Introduction

How?

Why?

Result

Effect

Next Up
**Strategy 1 - Efficient connection in local region**

**Implementation 1**
Busline Zharkent - Khorgos

**Implementation 2**
New road connections near the border for better access

**Strategy 2**
Polycentric cluster
Khorgos - Almaty - Astana

**Implementation 1**
Highspeed connection Astana - Khorgos, with a branch to Almaty

**Policy Recommendation**
Stimulation and (BRI) investment in local infrastructure
Strategy 1
Implementation 1 - Busline

Existing situation
Overlay weekly user patterns

Transport modes

- Taxi
- Car
- Shuttlebus to work

Local Cities + Villages
Agriculture
Industrial Zone (IZ)
IZ: Local Agriculture
Dry Port
ICBC
New Housing Development
Public Transportation Route
Freight Transportation Route
Train Station

Collaboration
National Border
Soft Border

Strategy 1
Implementation 2 - Better border access

Existing situation
**Strategy 2 - Khorgos Gateway in a polycentric cluster**

**Strategy 1**
Efficient connection in local region

**Implementation 1**
Busline Zharkent - Khorgos

**Implementation 2**
New road connections near the border for better access

**Strategy 2**
Polycentric cluster
Urumqi - Kashgar - **Khorgos**
- Almaty - Astana

**Implementation 1**
Highspeed connection Astana - Khorgos, with a branch to Almaty

**Policy Recommendation**
Stimulation and (BRI) investment in local infrastructure
Strategy 2
Implementation 1 - Highspeed connection

1h

3h

Existing situation
**Strategy 1 - Leverage the local potential, agriculture**

**Strategy 1**
Develop agriculture and farming

**Implementation 1**
Research and development centre for agriculture near the border

**Implementation 2**
Space and infrastructure on the SEZ for agriculture business (what transportation modes?)

**Policy Recommendation**
Tax discount and government support for agri and farming businesses on SEZ.
Zharkent and Khorgos-region known nation-wide for agriculture
Strategy 1
Implementation 1 - R&D center
Implementation 2 - Space for agri-industry

Existing situation
Encourage international interaction and collaboration

**Strategy 1**
Communal living space for ‘nomads of globalisation’

**Implementation 1**
Shared housing facilities, equal quality for everyone (hostel/commune village)

**Strategy 2**
Reasons for interaction between locals and internationals

**Implementation 1**
Learn (language, tech, culture)
Eat (cooking classes, shared meals, restaurants)
Party (festivals, celebrations)

**Implementation 2**
Add locally desirable functions: education, free housing, leisure, quality public space, shopping

**Policy Recommendation**
Special residence permit
Pass for free entrance locals

---

**Strategy 1**
*Implementation 1 - co-living at ICBC*
**Implementation 1**

**Shared housing facilities for ‘nomads of globalisation’**.

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**Millennials want experiences not possessions, say co-living entrepreneurs**

“Shared living spaces are booming in major cities as young people seek a more sociable lifestyle, according to the entrepreneurs behind the “co-living” accommodation trend.”

[Source](https://www.dezeen.com/2016/04/05/co-living-shared-collective-accommodation-housing-millennials-trend-common-wework/)

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[Source](https://www.dezeen.com/2017/11/23/mini-co-living-destination-shanghai-china-industrial-architecture-residential/)

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[Source](https://www.dezeen.com/2016/07/08/six-best-co-living-developments-around-the-world/)

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[Source](https://www.dezeen.com/2016/04/05/co-living-shared-collective-accommodation-housing-millennials-trend-common-wework/)
**Strategy 2 - Reasons for interaction between locals and internationals**

**Implementation 1**  
Learn (language, tech, culture)  
Eat (cooking classes, shared meals, restaurants)  
Party (festivals, celebrations)

**Implementation 2**  
Add locally desirable functions: education, free housing, leisure, quality public space, shopping

**Policy Recommendation**  
Special residence permit  
Pass for free entrance locals
SelgasCano completes plant-filled co-working space inside Lisbon market hall for Second Home

Spanish studio SelgasCano has transformed part of Lisbon’s oldest food market into a plant-filled co-working space for Second Home, which is furnished with winding communal tables and mid-century chairs.

“We wanted absolutely to maintain that inherited idea of one single open space, getting small companies to share a huge table divided in three, encouraging relationships,” explained architect Lucia Cano.

“The flowing design of the table gives members their own area of private space to focus on their work whilst keeping a sense of community.”

https://www.dezeen.com/2017/02/14/second-home-lisboa-market-hall-co-working-plants-office-selgascano-portugal/

Green Open Border
Visual Reference

https://divisare.com/projects/244824-turenscape-bridged-gardens

Implementation 2 - Places for interaction
**Strategy 1 - Embed with respect to local context**

**Strategy 1**
Embed the urban developments with respect to local landscape and uses

**Implementation 1**
Soften the security barrier of ICBC

**Implementation 2**
Embed the Khorgos expansion in surrounding context

**Strategy 2**
Expand and densify starting from the existing settlements

**Implementation 1**
Expansion model of phased units

**Implementation 2**
Expand and densify Khorgos
Strategy 1
Implementation 1 - Soften the border

Existing situation

DOMO Architecture + Design Mexico border
**Strategy 1**

Implementation 2 - Embed Khorgos expansion

Also applies to strategy 2

Existing situation

Khorgos current situation

New-town Nurkent
Newtown Nurkent constructed to support Khorgos Gateway
**Spatially embed in local context**

**Strategy 1**
Embed the urban developments with respect to local landscape and uses

**Implementation 1**
Soften the security barrier of ICBC

**Implementation 2**
Embed the Khorgos expansion in surrounding context

**Strategy 2**
Expand and densify starting from the existing settlements

**Implementation 1**
Expansion model of phased units

**Implementation 2**
Expand and densify Khorgos

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**Strategy 2 - Expand and density from existing settlements**

[Map Diagram: Local Cities + Villages, Agriculture, Industrial Zone (IZ), Dry Port, ICBC, New Housing Development, Collaboration, National Border, Soft Border, Public Transportation Route, Freight Transportation Route, Train Station.]

1 KM
Strategy 2
Implementation 1 - Unit expansion

Existing situation

Newtown Nurkent
Nothing to do
Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route Strategy 1

Khorgos Silk Road & Culture Heritage Hub

Implementation 1
Provide Silk Route touring packages to China and Kazakhstan

Implementation 2
Local village life experience

Implementation 3
Museum/info/edu centre regional Silk Route Heritage

Implementation 4
Cross-border hubs interaction installation

Strategy 1 - Expand and density from existing settlements
Strategy 1
Implementation 1 - Silk Route Tours

The modern musart
A musart route inspired contemporary silk route

KAZAKHSTAN
KHOVRDOS - TARIQ - AKYRTAS - KARAMERGEN - ASTANA

CHINA
KHOKHOS - URAMIQ - YINING - AKSU - KASHGAR

Analysis
Local identity and strength Zharkent and Khorgos region

The modern musart
A musart route inspired contemporary silk route

A 6-DAY TRIP THROUGH CHINA'S MOST PRECIOUS SILK ROUTE GEMS

A 10-DAY TRIP THROUGH KAZAKHSTAN'S MOST PRECIOUS SILK ROUTE GEMS

Source: Travel pictures.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>Urumqi City Strolling</td>
<td>Discover the vibrant city center of Urumqi, visiting its most famous attractions (mosques, bazaars and main roads).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 2</td>
<td>Turpan City</td>
<td>Experience the unique Uygur culture by going around Turpan city. Visit the livestock market (on Fridays only), visit the world largest ancient Islamic tower (Emin Minaret), and try local cuisine. If time permits, drive to Shanshan town to see one of the gorgeous sand landscapes in Kumtagh Sand Dunes Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 3</td>
<td>Jiaohe and Gaochang</td>
<td>It is time for the first ruins: Jiaohe (5 km west from Turpan) and Gaochang (30 km west from Turpan) will be visited. Two well-preserved ruins that used to be important Silk Route centers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 4</td>
<td>Yining</td>
<td>The northern point of the famous Muzart Pass, Yining is an unmissable stop in the Silk Route tour. Take a look at the unique architecture in the city and visit the outskirts, where rural life has changed little.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 5</td>
<td>Aksu</td>
<td>At the southern point of the Muzart Pass, where both natural and historical sites are a must-see. Aksu has impressive, red stone colored canyons and the Tarim River. Historical spots are the Kizir Thousand Buddha Cave and the Ruins of Subash Ancient Buddha Temple.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 6</td>
<td>Kashgar</td>
<td>The last stop is Kashgar. With a population of over 500,000, it is fair to say that Kashgar ‘city live’ must be explored. But apart from modern Kashgar life, the city also has beautiful remains of Silk Road times, like Kashgar Stone City, ruins of a once vibrant hub. Other options to visit include Abakh Khoja Tomb, Id Kah Mosque, Karakul Lake and Three Immortals Buddhist Caves.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on the scenario where ICBC’s will be spread all over the world. An installation of double sided screens (two countries on different sides of one border), that acts like a portal and gives the possibility to observe the people on the other side of the world or even interact with them. A kind of global Skype conversation.
Design impact

Design summary

- Easy accessibility through efficient connection
- Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route
- Embed ICBC in local context
- Leverage the potential of the local region
- Encourage international interaction and collaboration at ICBC

Intervention (INTERACTION)

Local

- Business (B)
  - B 1.1
  - B 1.2

- Culture (C)
  - C 1.1
  - C 1.2
  - C 2.1
  - C 2.2

- Urban (D)
  - D 1.1
  - D 1.2
  - D 1.3
  - D 1.4

- Infrastructure (E)
  - E 1.1
  - E 2.1

Global

- Business (B)
  - B 1.1
  - B 1.2

- Culture (C)
  - C 1.1

- Urban (D)
  - D 1.1

- Infrastructure (E)
  - E 1.1
  - E 2.1

Accessibility (ACCESSIBILITY)

- Win-Win (LOCAL-GLOBAL)

Research question

How can urban planners and designers shape the Belt and Road Initiative to create interactive urban environments for a globalized future?

Proposal

ICBC as a typology for BRI spatial development
Network of globalised pockets
*ICBC as a typology for BRI spatial development*

ICBC within supporting cluster
ICBC along the New Silk Route. Local context can tap into the globalized pocket as needed

Global network of intercommunicating ICBC’s

ICBC
Internation Centre for Border Cooperation
Network of globalised pockets

ICBC as a typology for BRI spatial development
Overview Design

- Encourage international interaction and collaboration at ICBC
- Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route
- Embed ICBC in local context
- Leverage the potential of the local region
- Easy accessibility through efficient connection

**Interactions**

**LOCAL**

- **A 1.1**
- **A 1.2**

**GLOBE**

- **S**
- **M**
- **L**
- **XL**

**WIN**

**E 2.1**

**INTERACTION**

**BUSINESS**

- **B 1.1**
- **B 1.2**

**CULTURE**

- **C 1.1**
- **C 2.1**

**URBAN**

- **D 1.1**
- **D 1.2**
- **D 1.3**
- **D 1.4**

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

- **E 1.1**
- **E 2.1**
- **E 2.2**

**ACCESSIBILITY**

**Key Points**

- Easy accessibility through efficient connection
- Celebrate the gems of local culture and Silk Route
Plans towards P5

Further develop the following aspects:
Time - phasing of each strategy and implementation over time. Short-term and long-term results.

Evaluation - detail the working of the evaluation and assessment tool. How is it used to assess the design? How is it used to determine the development goals. How do the different domains (business, culture, urban infrastructure) relate to each other?

Effect for the BRI as a system - elaborate and explain more how the effect of my project affects the BRI as it is proposed now. Map showing how several polycentric clusters connect and interact with each other.

Considered products (next to P5 report):
Booklet: ‘BRI spatial agenda’ (????). A document containing vision, recommendations and strategies (based on my report) for future spatial development of the BRI.

‘Stories of the New Silk Route’. Visual explorations of interactions between global and local at ICBC and within the BRI as a system. Could be a separate document or a part of the ‘BRI spatial agenda’.