

# Curriculum Vitae

I.sinfield@lse.ac.uk  
leon.sinfield.20@gmail.com  
+447833473559

## Education

PhD International Relations, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) (September 2024 – March 2028); doctoral research project: “Russia and China as Anti-Hegemonic Actors in the Persian Gulf Region”.

MA International Relations, with distinction, University of Manchester (September 2021 - September 2022); including achieving a distinction (74) in thesis entitled, ‘China’s Expanding Influence in Russia’s “Near Abroad”: the Case of Uzbekistan’.

First Class Honours in BSc Mathematics and Philosophy from the University of Manchester (2017 - 2020)

A Levels (Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School, 2015-2017): Mathematics A\*; Further Mathematics A\*; Physics A

## Writing

Is China’s Role in European Security Expanding? - Central European Institute of Asian Studies (September 2024) <https://ceias.eu/is-chinas-role-in-european-security-expanding/>

China Is Not a Revisionist Power in the Gulf – *The Diplomat* (August 2023)  
<https://thediplomat.com/2023/08/china-is-not-a-revisionist-power-in-the-gulf/>

## Traineeships

### **Research Assistant Traineeship: Austrian Institute for International Affairs (April 2023 – August 2023)**

Participating in various research projects on China’s foreign policy and engaging with the academic community of the institute:

- Participating on research projects on China’s relations with Serbia, Russia, the EU, and other China-related topics.
- Supervised by Thomas Eder, post-doc researcher on China at the institute.
- Contributing to academic debate at discussion groups and seminars held every two weeks among the institute’s staff.

### **Research Assistant Traineeship: Institute of International Relations Prague (October 2022 - January 2023)**

Conducting research for various projects at the Asia-Pacific Unit of the institute’s Centre for the Study of Global Regions.

- Main areas of research: Russo-Chinese military and political relations; the national security risks to the West posed by Chinese technology companies; Russian geopolitical strategy and relations with non-Western countries in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine.

- Mentored by Alica Kizeková, senior researcher at the institute and head of its Asia Pacific unit.
- Research on Russia's geopolitical strategy in 2022 for an online commentary, co-authored with Alica Kizeková. Focusing on Russia's relations with non-Western powers and Russia's efforts to increase cooperation with these states in order to support its war effort in Ukraine.
- Took part in running the Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue conference held by the institute in the Czech MFA, including producing reports on talks given by the foreign minister and other officials.

## Employment

### Writer and Editor: Then & Now (March 2023 – present)

Script writing, research, writing newsletters and running social media accounts for philosophy and history YouTube channel Then & Now:

- Writing scripts for short video essays that regularly get hundreds of thousands of views on YouTube.
- Includes both editorial tasks and writing newsletters, for example, in a style that is engaging to the channel's audience.
- Using platforms like Mail Chimp and Social Pilot to design and publish social media content to Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, etc.

### Editorial: Organization for World Peace (July - October 2021)

Two shifts a week using WordPress to edit articles on international current affairs:

- Researching, editing, formatting and publishing articles for theowp.org
- Fact-checking information on current political events in countries around the world.
- Editing of reporting, analysis and opinion articles.

### Tutoring (April 2021 - September 2021; April 2023 - May 2023)

Tutoring an 11+ student (10-years-old) and a 13-year-old secondary school student maths, science and English in one-on-one sessions for TutorDoctor, both in-person and online.

### Transcription (April 2021 - present)

Working to close deadlines producing transcriptions of audio files (such as interviews and focus groups) for commercial clients with TauRho Transcribes.

## Languages

English – Native

Russian – Basic (learning at present)

## Placements

### Editorial: Men's Health Magazine (August 2019)

- Checking and correcting the grammar, sentence structure and language of text written by writers who contribute to the magazine.
- Fact-checking.
- Research for articles.
- Writing-up information found in research. This involved writing paragraphs and short bodies of text to be used in articles, written in the particular style required.

- Transcription of recorded interviews.

**Editorial: Manchester University Press (April 2019)**

- Editorial: improved sentence structure and corrected punctuation, grammar and spelling for a preface and a number of blurbs for upcoming books.
- Production: made corrections to indexes in accordance with the MUP house style; double-checked corrections made to proofs of upcoming books.
- Administration: scanned and created a database of the books found in the MUP office; gained an insight into the process of publishing a book by sorting through files for books already published (such as contracts and permissions information).