

Pearl S. Buck and US–China Relations during the Second World War Ranger Kinney '24; Selda Altan, History

The novelist and political activist Pearl S. Buck founded the East and West



Association in February 1942 to facilitate cultural exchange between Asia and the West. Although the Association aimed to support the Allied war effort in Asia during WWII by creating a positive view of China in the West, its internationalist outlook included a criticism of British colonialism in India and racism in the US. This project aims to analyze

Pearl S. Buck's activities in the East and West Association to understand the Association's foreign policy vision and the background of its critical perspective on American policy toward China after 1945 when the US-backed nationalist regime in China lost the civil war to the Chinese Communist Party. Using the Pearl S. Buck Special Collections of Randolph College Library, the project will highlight a cordial phase of US–China relations while demonstrating the impact of civilian diplomacy and women's activism in international relations.

