



SWEDISH  
COLLEGIUM  
for ADVANCED STUDY

**Friday, 17 February. 14:50 – 16:20. Room: IHC - Maple  
REGULAR SESSION**

**Session:** State and Civil Society in East Asia in the Age of Globalization

**Session Convener(s):** Dong-No Kim, Yonsei University, Seoul

**Chair:** Dong-No Kim, Yonsei University, Seoul

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*I) Processes of Influence in Civil Societies of East Asia*

Olivier Arifon, Université libre de Bruxelles

*II) From Multiculturalism to Participation: Korean-Chinese Efforts for Representation in Korea and State/ Society Dynamics in Multicultural East Asia*

Seung-Mi Han, Yonsei University, Seoul

*III) The Formation of Maternity Policies in Korea and Taiwan: A Comparative Research on the Gender Policy-making Process between Korea and Taiwan*

Ji-Yeon Lee, University of Toronto and Yonsei University, Seoul

## ABSTRACTS

### Session description

Korea and Taiwan share similarities in their economic development and political change during the modernization era. However, maternity policies in Korea and Taiwan show different political processes and results even though the macro political changes were similar. Both Korea and Taiwan had a high possibility for reforming the maternity policy in the late 1980s and 2001, but they went through different political interactions between social groups resulting in different institutional formations at particular historical conjunctures.

Maternity policies which I deal with in this paper include maternity leave and parental leave. I try to explain variations in the timing and contents of implementing maternity policies between Korea and Taiwan. I focus on the institutional design and the political process of policy-making constructed by the interaction of political regimes, parties and civil organizations, feminist organizations and Trade Unions. My argument is that the differences in maternal policies between Korea and Taiwan are the result of different institutional design and different political processes in maternal policy formation.

### Papers

#### I) *Processes of Influence in Civil Societies of East Asia*

Olivier Arifon, Université libre de Bruxelles

This paper wants to present how digital communication contributes to modify processes of influence of the civil societies in East Asia. It will be guided by identifying methods, trends and similar behaviour to westerns countries or, in contrary, describing solutions able to represent coherent approaches of communication in Asia. It is an anthropological view of communication issues.

In the region, changes of political system and uses of digital communication are keys factors. When citizens and governments use them, they support creation of controlled spaces in democratic regimes or places of expression in authoritarian ones. In many cases, citizens or NGO by organizing strategy of influence, first contribute to personal emancipation and develop actions towards the media, the public sphere and the politicians. In our communication society, citizens, NGO and civil movements knows that they should, at the same time, catch the attention of the public and of the governments, with symbolic and credible arguments in order to convict and, in fine, make things changing.

From Greenpeace for the seas, to Amnesty international for “The control Arms” campaign ([www.controlarms.org](http://www.controlarms.org)) and to the “Jan Satyagraha 2012” in India ([www.ektaparishad.com](http://www.ektaparishad.com)), or with the Losheng movement in Taiwan, various forms exist. We consider here public relations, web site, online petition, lobbying, and networking. Forms includes publishing news on web sites, creating video and audio investigations, spreading information about protests, and organizing communication campaigns based on credible arguments. Such an activism uses media and communication technologies for social movement, at local and global level, and tries to change policies. Some examples, both in Europe and East Asia may reveal similar uses or not, of digital communication strategies in process of influence.

#### II) *From Multiculturalism to Participation: Korean-Chinese Efforts for Representation in Korea and State/ Society Dynamics in Multicultural East Asia*

Seung-Mi Han, Yonsei University, Seoul

This paper deals with the politics of representation in the Korean-Chinese community in Seoul. Particularly interesting are the newly emerging debates on the strategies of several leaders of the Korean-Chinese community not only for their co-existence with other residents in the local area, but also for the possibilities of sending candidates to the local elections for representational politics. Intertwined with it is the issue of urban development of the neighborhood Kuro, which has long been the heartland of small sweatshops and factories of the Korean economic development but now is turning itself to become a new Digital Valley within Seoul. State efforts to regulate these new residents in the community have been made through the lens of multicultural policies and there have been many civilian organizations that have been active in the area to help settle the incoming Korean-Chinese, while there is a growing efforts on the part of the Korean-Chinese community to deal with the State on its own, they began to realize the ever-existing mismatch between their own expectations and those of the Korean government. On the other hand, civilian organizations also realize that their own activities are ignored, bypassed, or pre-empted. By looking at the dynamics of the state, local government and civilian organizations in the district, this paper attempt to delineate the newly forming administrative and political frontline in Korea, which, nonetheless overlaps with the dynamics of transnational Diasporic space in East Asia.

### III) *The Formation of Maternity Policies in Korea and Taiwan: A Comparative Research on the Gender Policy-making Process between Korea and Taiwan*

Ji-Yeon Lee, University of Toronto and Yonsei University, Seoul

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Maternity policies which I deal with in this paper include maternity leave and parental leave. I try to explain variations in the timing and contents of implementing maternity policies between Korea and Taiwan. I focus on the institutional design and the political process of policy-making constructed by the interaction of political regimes, parties and civil organizations, feminist organizations and Trade Unions. My argument is that the differences in maternal policies between Korea and Taiwan are the result of different institutional design and different political processes in maternal policy formation.