



PLENARY SESSION # 9

Sunday, 19 February. 10:50 – 12:20. Room: IHC – Stein Auditorium

Session: The Future of Social Movements

Chair: Mary E. John, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi

The Decline of Representation: The Question of Equality and Two Delinkings Between Political Form and Social Form
Wang Hui, Tsinghua University, Beijing

The Knowledge Architecture and the Practices of Politics

Ranabir Samaddar, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group

The Return of Social Movements

Michel Wieviorka, École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris

ABSTRACTS

The Decline of Representation: The Question of Equality and Two Delinkings Between Political Form and Social Form

Wang Hui, Tsinghua University, Beijing

The paper is a theoretical survey into the political crisis both in China and in social democracies by arguing that two forms of social/political systems are undergoing a process of delinking between political form and social form against the background of social inequality. The paper will try to give another inquiry on "equality of what".

The Knowledge Architecture and the Practices of Politics

Ranabir Samaddar, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group

Abstract TBA

The Return of Social Movements

Michel Wieviorka, École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris, and Fondation des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris

The concept of 'social movement' has been used in the past in order to analyse the working class movement, during the sixties and the early seventies and then, in the seventies, the "new social movements". Is it still pertinent? The answer is given by analysing the recent struggles that developed, either in the so-called "western" societies, with the strong but critical notion of indignation, either in the Arab and Muslim world: not only the concept is still useful, much more than in the previous years, but we are living an historical moment, with the return of social movements.