

Japan, China, and the Construction of History



Workshop at the occasion of Leo Douw's retirement

Date: Thursday-Friday, 25-26 June 2015

*Location: Amsterdam, Roeterseiland Campus r. P 0.20
Plantage Muidergracht 24 Amsterdam*

*The workshop has been kindly funded by the Research Group *Moving Matters* of the Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research at the University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences; the International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden; and the History Department, Faculty of Humanities at the VU University Amsterdam.

MOVING MATTERS

Amsterdam Institute of
Social Science Research



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The relationship between Japan and China is of central importance in world politics. The flows between both countries of technology, commodities, cultural production, and people constitute one of the motors of the world economy, but the on-going conflicts between both countries also pose one of the major potential threats to world peace. The workshop will consider the relationship between Japan and China from historical, anthropological and political science perspectives, with special attention for how the mainstream nationalist discourses in the region can be attenuated. Participants have been invited within this broadly defined field of Sino-Japanese interactions: they will discuss the possibilities for economic cooperation across the region, its embedding in a wider Eurasian context, Sino-Japanese diplomacy and the difficulty of reconciling the existing nationalisms with cross-border identity formation. Special attention will be paid to historical constructions of Sino-Japanese relations in all these fields, and for the imperial and colonial legacies as a whole of both countries. The lead question for these constructions is, how an alternative can be offered to the nationalist discourses, which predominate in the regional public debate and may impede peaceful solutions to the on-going conflicts.

Leo has worked as a lecturer of Modern Chinese History and Society mainly at the VU University's History Department (since 1975) and at the University of Amsterdam's Department of Anthropology (since 1989); in UvA's Department of Political Sciences he taught courses in EU-Pacific Asia relations (1998-2006). During the past decade his research focus has increasingly been on the settlement of migrant populations across the Taiwan Strait under Japanese colonialism, 1895-1945, when Taiwan was part of the Japanese Empire; these are studied as a part of migrations, trading and settlement across the East Asian region.

The Organizing Committee,

Prof. Susan Legêne (Chairman, Dpt. of History, VU University Amsterdam)

Prof. Pál Nyíri (VU University Amsterdam)

Prof. Mario Rutten (Chairman, Dpt. Of Anthropology, University of Amsterdam)

Prof. em. Willem van Schendel (University of Amsterdam)



*The first picture above is a scene from the negotiations about the Treaty of Shimonoseki in 1895; it shows the Chinese delegation headed by Li Hongzhang being humiliated by the Japanese delegation headed by Itō Hirobumi; the second picture symbolizes the present-day ongoing diplomatic stalemate between China and Japan, with Xi Jinping and Abe Shinzō reluctantly shaking hands during the APEC meeting in Beijing, November 2014. A long way to go!

Access

The address of the workshop's venue is: room P 0.20 of the P-Building (also: Euclides building, Roeterseiland Campus, Plantage Muidergracht 24. For access go to: <http://campus.uva.nl/roeterseiland/wat-zit-waar/wat-zit-waar.html>, scroll down a bit to find and enlarge the map - "vergroot de plattegrond"). The Euclides or P-building is the red one to the right above the other red, square-shaped one.

Access by car: nearest parking is under the Stopera: <http://www.parkeren-amsterdam.com/parkeergarage-stopera>; from there you may access the workshop venue easily by public transport (see below), or by walking all the way (20-25 minutes; going from there by subway does not save much walking time).

Access by public transport is as follows:

1. by way of tram line 9, stop Plantage Lepelstraat: cross the road, turn left and walk straight into the Plantage Lepelstraat, which is practically opposite the tram stop, and brings you straight to the Euclides Building after 150 meters.
2. by way of the subway: stop Weesperstraat. You may take any exit you wish, but best follow direction Sarphatistraat. Wherever you emerge, find the redbrick "Sarphati Plaza" building alongside the very near crossroads with traffic lights (Weesperstraat/Sarphatistraat) and take the Sarphatistraat the other direction from that building. For the Workshop venue follow the Sarphatistraat a few hundred meters on the left side, then turn left into the Roetersstraat, follow until you reach the crossing with the Plantage Muidergracht, and enter that turning to the right. The venue is at a few hundred meters ahead on your right side.

Registration for auditors

Please send an email to L.M.Douw@uva.nl **before Tuesday 17 June** and transfer 10 euro to bank account: NL07 INGB 0001 5726 52, t.n.v. Leo Douw, Amsterdam, o.v.v. Workshop. The amount is for lunch(es) and other catering. The workshop papers and some further organizational details will be sent you by the email upon payment.

Program

Thursday 25 June

9.00-9.30 hrs. Entrance

9.30-12.45 hrs., Panels 1 & 2: East Asia in world politics: 1. Alternatives to Realism?

9.30-11.00 hrs. Panel 1. Chair and Opening: Susan Legêne

Shaolian Liao, University of Xiamen: *Economic Complementarity between China and Japan: A Potential Stabilizing Factor in Bilateral Relationship*

Henk Overbeek, VU University Amsterdam: *East Asian Internationalization Strategies Compared*

Peter Peverelli, VU University Amsterdam: *Sino-Russian-North Korean Cooperation in the Tumen River Area Development Project.*

Discussants: Otto Holman, Gerd Junne

11.00-11.15 hrs. Coffee & Tea

11.15-12.15 hrs. Panel 2. Chair: Willem van Schendel

Mehdi Amineh, University of Amsterdam: *China – Eurasia energy relations*

Tjalling Halbertsma, University of Groningen: *East Asia: a view from Mongolia*

Discussants: Alice Ekman, Julia Bader

12.15-14.00 hrs. Lunch

Panels 3 & 4 East Asia in world politics: 2. Alternatives to Nationalist discourses?

14.00-15.00 hrs. Panel 3. Chair: Peter Post

Arif Dirlik, formerly Duke University, University of Oregon: *"Born in Translation: 'China' in the Making of 'Zhongguo'"*

Henk Schulte Nordholt, Hofung Technology, *The Chinese dream: a new form of nationalism?*

Discussant: Chris Lorenz

15.00-15.30 hrs. Tea & Coffee

15.30-16.30 hrs. Panel 4. Chair: Arif Dirlik

Koen de Ceuster, Leiden University: *Korean nationalism(s) and the politics of memory*

Leo Douw, University of Amsterdam & VU University Amsterdam: *The revision of flows under Japanese colonialism*

Discussant: Harriet Zurndorfer

Friday 26 June

9.30-10.00 hrs. Entrance

10.00-12.15 hrs. Panel 5 & 6 Flows of technology, cultural production and the construction of a regional identity

10.00-11.00 hrs. Panel 5. Chair: Margaret Sleeboom

Byungil Ahn, Saginaw Valley State University (Michigan): *The re-migration of Huakyo (the Chinese in Korea) to the US and Their Identity Crisis since the 1990s*

Ingrid d'Hooghe, Clingendael - Netherlands Institute of International Relations: *China's cultural diplomacy in North-East Asia*

Discussant: Pál Nyiri

11.00 – 11.15 hrs. Coffee & tea

11.15-12.15 hrs. Panel 6. Chair: Leo Douw

Jeroen de Kloet, University of Amsterdam: *Umbrellas and Revolutions – The Aesthetics of the Hong Kong Protests*

Margaret Sleeboom-Faulkner, University of Sussex: *'Asia' as a Platform for Bioethics Debate*

Discussant: Arif Dirlik

12.15 – 14.00 hrs. Lunch

14.00-16.15 hrs. Panel 7 & 8 The Colonial Legacy

14.00-15.00 hrs. Panel 7. Chair: Man-houng Lin

Jin-a Kang, Hanyang University, *Nationalism across frontiers: the narratives and economic activities of Tongshuntai, an overseas Chinese company in Korea during the first Sino-Japanese War*

Junghye Yi, Incheon National University: *On the Overseas Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Incheon of Korea under Japanese colonialism, 1910-1945*

Discussant: Peter Post

15.00-15.15 Tea & Coffee

15.15-16.15 hrs. Panel 8. Chair: Liao Shaolian

Huei-Ying Kuo, Johns Hopkins University: *Chinese business networks in South China under colonialism, 1910s-1940s*

Man-houng Lin, Academia Sinica (Taiwan): *The "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere": A New Boundary for Taiwanese People and Taiwanese Capital, 1940-1945*

Discussants: Sikko Visscher, Frans-Paul van der Putten

16.15-17.00 **Concluding Discussion**
Participants

Prof. Byungil Ahn , Saginaw Valley State University (Michigan) bahn@svsu.edu

Dr. Mehdi Amineh, University of Amsterdam M.P.Amineh@uva.nl

Dr. Julia Bader, University of Amsterdam J.Bader2@uva.nl

Dr. Koen de Ceuster, Leiden University K.de.Ceuster@hum.leidenuniv.nl

Prof. em. Arif Dirlik, formerly Duke University, University of Oregon Dirlikster@gmail.com

Dr. Leo Douw, University of Amsterdam & VU University Amsterdam L.M.Douw@uva.nl

Prof. Alice Ekman, The French Institute of International Relations (Ifri) and Sciences Po, Paris ekman.ext@ifri.org

Prof. Tjalling Halbertsma, University of Groningen T.H.F.Halbertsma@rug.nl

Dr. Otto Holman, University of Amsterdam O.H.Holman@uva.nl

Dr. Ingrid d'Hooghe, Clingendael - Netherlands Institute of International Relations ingridchinarelations@gmail.com

Prof. em. Gerd Junne, University of Amsterdam gjunne@gmail.com

Prof. Jin-a Kang, Hanyang University (Seoul) canton@hanyang.ac.kr

Prof. Jeroen de Kloet, University of Amsterdam B.J.deKloet@uva.nl

Prof. Huei-Ying Kuo, Johns Hopkins University hkuo@jhu.edu

Prof. Susan Legêne, VU University Amsterdam, Chairman, History Department s.legene@vu.nl

Prof. em. Shaolian Liao, University of Xiamen sliao@xmu.edu.cn

Prof. Man-houng Lin, Academia Sinica (Taiwan) linmanko@gmail.com; mhlmh@gate.sinica.edu.tw

Prof. Chris Lorenz, VU University Amsterdam c.f.g.lorenz@vu.nl

Prof. Pál Nyiri, VU University Amsterdam: P.D.Nyiri@vu.nl

Prof. em. Henk Overbeek, VU University Amsterdam H.W.Overbeek@vu.nl

Dr. Peter Peverelli, VU University Amsterdam P.J.Peverelli@vu.nl

Dr. Peter Post, Netherlands for War Documentation peterpost67@gmail.com; p.post@niod.knaw.nl

Dr. Frans-Paul van der Putten, Clingendael - Netherlands Institute of International Relations fputten@clingendael.nl

Prof. em. Willem van Schendel, University of Amsterdam h.w.vanschendel@uva.nl

Drs. Henk Schulte Nordholt, Partner Hofung Technology hsn.hft@gmail.com

Prof. Margaret Sleeboom-Faulkner, University of Sussex M.Sleeboom-Faulkner@sussex.ac.uk

Dr. Sikko Visscher, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences sikko.visscher@knaw.nl;

Prof. Junghee Yi, Incheon National University hwsan@naver.com

Dr. Harriet Zurndorfer, Leiden University h.zurndorfer@kpnplanet.nl

