DAY1

General Panel

Panel Code 1~10

**O indicates the presenter.*

Panel code 1／Individual／English **10:55-12:35 Room : J102**

Economics / Finance / Development 1

Chair & Discussant : Kaoru Natsuda（Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

ID : 6558411

▶1 Japan's Critical Minerals Strategy in Central Asia: Engagements with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan

○Elena Shadrina （Waseda University）

The paper examines Japan's critical raw materials（CRMs）strategy towards Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, situating it within the evolving dynamics of green transformation. It argues that Japan's engagement with Central Asian economies has shifted from a predominantly extractive and aid-driven model towards more cooperative forms of partnership. This transition is driven by Japan's heightened concerns over resource security and supply chain resilience in the context of green transformation（GX）, the host countries' ambitions to promote sustainable development through deeper integration into global value chains（GVCs）, and intensifying competition among external actors seeking access to Central Asia's mineral resources.

The paper addresses three core research questions: how Japan conceptualises and operationalises its CRM strategy; how its engagements with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan differ from those in Southeast Asia and from its approaches vis-à-vis other actors in Central Asia; and how these engagements may be reconfigured to foster more reciprocal and sustainability-oriented frameworks. Theoretically, it adopts a multi-framework approach, drawing on geoeconomic statecraft, resource diplomacy, comparative political economy, and GVC theory. This enables a nuanced analysis of Japan's strategic use of investment, development assistance, and industrial partnerships, as well as variations shaped by domestic institutions and governance contexts.

Methodologically, the study combines qualitative analysis with a comparative design and supporting quantitative evidence. It employs process tracing and elements of discourse analysis to examine policy evolution and engagement patterns, drawing on official documents, bilateral agreements, corporate data, and interviews with policymakers and industry experts. Trade, investment, and project-level data provide empirical grounding.

The paper finds that Japan's strategy prioritises supply chain resilience through coordinated state-business engagement, with a stronger emphasis on upstream extraction and long-term access in Central Asia. It concludes that more reciprocal, value-added, and institutionalised partnerships are needed to better align these engagements with shared sustainability and decarbonisation objectives.

ID : 6591223

▶2 Governing Sovereign Debt in Indo-Pacific in the Time of Polycrisis and Global Economic Disorder

○Karina Jedrzejowska （University of Warsaw）

This paper investigates how sovereign debt governance is being reshaped in the Indo-Pacific amid overlapping crises and growing global economic disorder. Its purpose is to assess whether existing mechanisms for sovereign debt restructuring are adequate for a region marked by high external debt burdens, major infrastructure financing needs, exposure to climate and geopolitical shocks, and an increasingly fragmented creditor landscape. In the absence of a statutory international insolvency regime, sovereign debt workouts continue to rely on ad hoc, creditor-led arrangements whose effectiveness is under growing strain as public debt levels rise worldwide. Methodologically, the paper combines a review of contemporary sovereign debt restructuring practices with an analysis of selected reform initiatives, including principles for sovereign insolvency, application of the G20 Common Framework, and new debt instruments designed to link repayment to development, climate, or resilience objectives. The analysis focuses on the Indo-Pacific debt landscape and examines the interaction between traditional multilateral institutions, Paris Club creditors, non-traditional bilateral lenders, and private bondholders. The paper finds that creditor diversification has intensified coordination problems, delayed restructuring processes, and weakened the predictability of outcomes. It

also identifies a widening gap between the scale of debt vulnerabilities facing emerging and developing economies and the institutional capacity of existing governance arrangements to address them. The conclusion argues that sovereign debt governance requires more coherent, equitable, and rules-based mechanisms capable of balancing creditor coordination with debtor development needs. The relevance of the study lies in showing that unresolved debt distress in the Indo-Pacific is not only a regional financial problem but also a broader challenge for global economic stability, sustainable development, and the legitimacy of multilateral cooperation in a period of polycrisis.

ID：6592983

▶3 Can Renewable Energy Shield Global Supply Chains from Global Shocks? Evidence from Trade Uncertainty, Financial Stress, Oil Prices, and Geopolitical Risk

○Saeeda Batool （Ritsumeikan University Osaka Ibaraki Campus）

Global supply chains have become increasingly integrated over the past two decades, improving production efficiency while simultaneously increasing exposure to external disruptions. Recent events, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the US - China trade war, the Russia -Ukraine conflict, and recurring energy and geopolitical crises, have demonstrated that shocks originating in one market can rapidly propagate across international production networks. Despite growing research on the determinants of supply chain disruptions, limited attention has been given to the role of renewable energy（RE）in enhancing supply chain resilience. This study investigates whether renewable energy penetration serves as a structural hedge against global supply chain disruptions by moderating the effects of four major external shocks: trade policy uncertainty（TPU）, financial stress（FS）, oil price volatility（OP）, and geopolitical risk（GPR）. Specifically, the study examines the direct effects of these shocks on the Global Supply Chain Pressure Index（GSCPI）and evaluates whether greater renewable energy penetration weakens their transmission.

The study employs a Structural Vector Autoregression（SVAR）framework using monthly data of global supply chain from GSCPI data sources from 2001 to 2024. Two alternative model specifications are estimated: a baseline model comprising GSCPI and the four structural shocks, and an RE-augmented model incorporating renewable energy penetration as a moderating variable. Dynamic relationships are evaluated through impulse response functions, forecast error variance decomposition, and historical decomposition to compare the magnitude, persistence, and volatility of supply chain responses under different energy transition scenarios.The results indicate that renewable energy penetration significantly enhances global supply chain resilience by reducing both the magnitude and persistence of external shocks. The buffering effect is strongest for oil price volatility and financial stress, followed by trade policy uncertainty, while geopolitical risk exhibits an initial amplification before transitioning into long-run mitigation.

ID：6592861

▶4 The Dynamics of Asia Pacific Technology Stock Indices amid Uncertainty and Geopolitical Risk

○Shinta Amalina Hazrati Havidz[1], Rischan Mafrur[2], Vidya Andini Sorenggani[1], Agung Prema Santhi[2]
（1 School of Business, Western Sydney University, 2 School of Computer, Data, and Mathematical Sciences）

The rise of artificial intelligence（AI）has attracted scholars' attention and affected technology stock performance. While existing studies largely focus on major global markets such as the United States, China, and Japan, less attention has been given to the heterogeneous responses of Asia-Pacific technology markets at the country level. Focusing on the Asia-Pacific countries, where the technology sector leads among other continents, we aim to examine the dynamics of technology stock indices amid uncertainty and geopolitical risk. The novelty of our study is the country-level（Australia, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, China, and India）data for all variables, including technology stock indices, economic policy uncertainty（EPU）, and geopolitical risk（GPR）. Our study covered 3 July 2011 to 31 May 2026, employing an autoregressive distributed lag（ARDL）panel. Two sub-samples were conducted, including（a）the period from the end of 2022 to 2025, to capture the moment after ChatGPT launched in November 2022;（b）2026 only, due to the many unpredictable escalations of EPU and GPR. We discovered several findings, including（1）for the full sample period, as expected, both EPU and GPR negatively impacted the tech stock;（2）after the launch of ChatGPT, there were mix directions of EPU and GPR, but showing insignificant for the long run, while the other

way round for the short run; (3) although the sub-sample period of 2026 used a very short timeframe, the EPU unfolded a stronger negative impact to tech stock, while GPR remain positive insignificant. Overall, the findings suggest that Asia-Pacific technology equity markets are more consistently exposed to economic policy uncertainty than to geopolitical risk, particularly during periods of rapid technological transformation. Tech stock investors should justify their investment strategy during the heightened EPU and GPR, while a time-horizon basis for policy change should be accounted for by policymakers.

Panel code 2／Individual／English **10:55-12:35 Room : J103**

Anthropology / Cultural Studies / History

Chair & Discussant : Ji Han（Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

ID : 6595424

▶1 Networks of Islamic Knowledge and Generative AI: A Trial Study of Their Implications for Muslim Practice

○二ツ山 達朗 （香川大学 経済学部）

Several years have now passed since generative AI began to permeate Muslim societies, and the effects and problems it has brought to Muslim religious practices can no longer be overlooked. This article offers an exploratory study of these recent transformations. It seeks, first, to organize the various issues that have emerged from them and, second, to examine how generative AI may affect the networks through which Islamic knowledge is produced, transmitted, and interpreted.

In recent years, new scholarship has begun to address the impact of generative AI on Islamic societies. A range of questions requires further consideration: the advantages and disadvantages of generative AI for Islamic education; the ways in which generative AI may reshape religious authority; the production of images that are regarded as religiously taboo or prohibited; and the problem of ensuring the credibility and authenticity of AI-generated judgments on Islamic matters, including fatwas. Since these issues have implications for a wide range of religious practices, they call for more sustained scholarly inquiry.

Against this background, this presentation focuses on the potentially positive compatibility between generative AI and Islamic networks of knowledge. Islamic knowledge is, in principle, constituted through interrelated elements: the Qur' an; legal sources such as Hadith; Fatwas of prominent jurists and the opinions of Imams, and other religious intellectuals; and the interpretations and ordinary posts of Muslims on Social media.

These elements can be understood and analyzed as a network of relations. When attention is paid to this religious characteristic, generative AI may be regarded not only as a source of disruption, but also as a technology that can make the networked structure of Islamic knowledge more visible and more robust. This study is therefore an exploratory attempt to lay the groundwork for discussing this possibility.

ID : 6595441

▶2 Tensions between Religion and Tradition in Contemporary Indonesia: A Comparative Study of the Independence Day Ceremony and Local Rituals

○Kaoru Nishijima （Komatsu University）

This presentation aims to reexamine the relationship between the state, religion（Agama in Indonesian）, and tradition（Adat in Indonesian）in contemporary Indonesia by comparing the Indonesian Independence Day ceremony held at the Presidential Palace with the royal rituals in West Kalimantan Province, which the presenter has been studying so far. A comparison of these two forms of ritual can shed light on the distinct differences and tensions that exist between Agama and Adat in contemporary Indonesia. At the Independence Day ceremony as a national ritual, the unity of the Indonesian nation is staged through both Agama and Adat. In the ceremony, the government unites the people through religious prayers. On the other hand, the various elements of the local Adat are performed to stage the

state principle of "unity in diversity" of the Indonesian state. The relational configuration of Agama and Adat in the ceremony makes the primacy of Agama over Adat in national unity explicit. In contrast, while the kingship ritual in West Kalimantan contains almost no religious elements, it is grounded in local Adat to stage ethnic unity and their sense of belonging to the land. Drawing on Adat, the local people, who have had a sense of marginalization, can reinforce the legitimacy of their own Adat. This presentation will discuss the tension between Agama and Adat in contemporary Indonesia by examining the differences in their positioning in the central Independence Day ceremony and local rituals in West Kalimantan Province.

ID：6594689

▶3 Representing Indonesia Across Museum Scales: Cultural Diversity, Belonging, and Postcolonial Heritage

○Sabila Duhita Drijono （Faculty of Social and Political Sciences at Universitas Indonesia）

This study examines how objects associated with present-day Indonesia are represented across two postcolonial museums－the National Museum of Indonesia（MNI）in Jakarta and the Asian Civilisations Museum（ACM）in Singapore－to ask how different institutional scales produce distinct representations of cultural diversity as heritage. Through a comparative reading of institutional mission, gallery sequencing, spatial layout, object grouping, and interpretive text（Whitehead, 2025）, it maps the different scales of belonging through which museums operate（Thompson, 2012; Levitt, 2015）: at MNI, these are foregrounded through a linear narrative of nationhood and anti-colonial struggle; at ACM, through a transregional framing of circulation and exchange. The comparison shows that comparable objects are framed in markedly different ways. At MNI, prehistoric, ritual, and regional objects are integrated into a national chronology: Hindu-Buddhist sculptures appear as a civilisational stage leading toward the nation, while a Klungkung royal necklace is recontextualised from aristocratic ornament to evidence of collective sacrifice. At ACM, comparable objects are detached from the modern nation-state and read among transregional connections: Hindu-Buddhist material from the same period appears within narratives of religious spread, while colonial-era Batavia is framed as a crossroads of trade rather than a site of colonisation. Read through the concept of museum frictions（Karp and Kratz, 2006）, these seemingly opposed models turn out to be two techniques of the same process: organising plurality into legible form, a process that remains shaped by inherited colonial classificatory schemes, including the enduring "Greater India" paradigm（Bloembergen, 2023）. This preliminary study asks how museums might acknowledge the partiality of any one framing. It points toward further comparative research, and toward bringing such institutional framings into dialogue－not to merge them into a fuller picture, but to make their respective silences visible.

ID：6582767

▶4 Other Worlds in Fantasy Novels: The Impact of *The Lord of the Rings* on *Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit*

○Kouta Matsumoto （Department of Humanities, Kyushu University）

The Lord of the Rings（*LotR*）, written by J.R.R. Tolkien, is known as one of the monumental works among fantasy novels. Many following works in the fantasy genre are affected by this work. The *Moribito* series is one of them. The series is written by Nahoko Uehashi, a cultural anthropologist. Even though the series is set in another world, based on medieval East Asia, *Moribito* is deeply influenced by *LotR*. This presentation focuses on the representation of other worlds in the universes of *LotR* and *Moribito*. In the *Moribito* series, Nayug, a spirit world, lies behind the tangible world. Nayug can be seen only by shamans, so ordinary people don't know of even its existence. However, Nayug sometimes makes contact with their daily lives. In *Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit*, the first volume of the series, a water spirit in Nayug lays an egg in Chagum, the second prince of an empire. A predator in Nayug aims at his life to eat the egg. Even though he falls into danger, Chagum begins to see Nayug, a skill originally allowed to be used only by shamans. Other worlds also appear in *LotR*. For example, the One Ring makes Ring-bearers see strange views. The lands of Elves such as Rivendell and Lórien can be seen as fairy lands, variants of other worlds. Actually, in her essay, Uehashi argues that *LotR* can be called "the record of the great shamans' journey"（translated by me）. The Hobbits, akin to us, make the journey and have strange experiences as if they were haunted by evil spirits（*mamono*）. In both

works, characters who live ordinary lives are drawn into strange worlds. This presentation reveals how Uehashi receives *LotR* and adopts its influence into the *Moribito* series.

Panel code 3／Individual／English **10:55-12:35 Room : J202**

Business / Management 1

Chair & Discussant : Yoshiki Shinohara（Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

ID : 6592568

▶1 Smelling Through the Screen: AR Media Characteristics, Mental Imagery, and Luxury Fragrance Purchase Intentions

○Han-Chiang Ho[1], Candy Lim Chiu[1], ○Jason Lim Chiu[2]（1 Wenzhou-Kean University, 2 Keimyung University）

Online luxury fragrance retail faces a structural sensory gap: screens cannot transmit scent, yet consumers are still expected to make purchase decisions based on a product they cannot smell. This study asks whether interactive augmented reality（AR）can compensate for this gap by stimulating consumers' mental imagery of scent, and whether this compensation mechanism operates the same way for scent-defining products, such as perfume, as for ambiance-oriented products, such as scented candles. A survey of 585 Chinese millennial luxury consumers who explored an AR fragrance showroom was analyzed through multi-group structural equation modeling in AMOS, with the sample split into perfume（n = 283）and scented candle（n = 302）subgroups, and tested through measurement invariance checks, nested-model comparisons of cross-group path differences, and bias-corrected bootstrapped mediation. Results show that telepresence, the sense of being spatially present inside the AR environment, is the most stable driver of richer mental imagery across both product types. The two groups diverge sharply on which AR feature matters most, however: imagery vividness drives perfume-related imagery formation, while visual aesthetics drives candle-related imagery formation, with the cross-group difference confirmed at $p < .001$. Mental imagery, in turn, shapes experiential value, which predicts both purchase and revisit intentions. These findings position AR-induced spatial presence as a viable substitute for missing olfactory cues, while showing that this substitution mechanism is category-contingent rather than universal across scent-related product lines. The study offers online luxury retailers concrete, product-specific guidance on which AR features to prioritize, and contributes to multisensory marketing theory by clarifying the boundary conditions under which visual technology can stand in for an absent sensory channel.

ID : 6570105

▶2 Exploring the Mediating Role of Psychological Contract Breach in the Effect of CSR Perception Gap on Employee Innovative Engagement: A SEM Approach

○Huichu Kao（Department of Technology Application and Human Resource Development, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei City, Taiwan）

This study examines how employees' perceived corporate social responsibility（CSR）gap influences innovative engagement, with psychological contract breach serving as a mediating mechanism. Grounded in social exchange theory and social contract theory, this study addresses the underexplored consequences of misalignment between employees' expected CSR industry standards and their employers' actual CSR performance. When employees perceive a discrepancy between organizational rhetoric and practice, perceived organizational hypocrisy ensues. This inconsistency erodes trust, breaches the psychological contract, and stifles employee willingness to contribute new ideas. Prior research has largely focused on positive CSR perceptions, leaving the behavioral consequences of perceived CSR gaps relatively overlooked. An online survey was administered to 205 full-time employees across multiple organizations, and structural equation modeling（SEM）was employed for data analysis. The results indicate that a negative CSR gap, defined as the discrepancy between employees' perceived employer CSR performance and their

expected industry CSR standards, is associated with both psychological contract breach and innovative engagement. Furthermore, psychological contract breach significantly mediates the relationship between the perceived CSR gap and innovative engagement, confirming it as a critical psychological pathway through which CSR shortfalls suppress creative contributions. These findings highlight the importance of CSR authenticity over symbolic compliance and extend understanding of how internal CSR gaps shape employee engagement. Organizations are encouraged to align CSR communications with actual workplace practices and strengthen internal CSR engagement to foster the psychological conditions necessary for sustaining employee innovative engagement.
Keywords: corporate social responsibility gap, innovative engagement, psychological contract breach, social exchange theory, social contract theory, structural equation modeling

ID：6588271

▶3 Empowering Leadership and Employees' AI-Enabled Innovative Work Behavior: The Serial Mediating Roles of AI Self-Efficacy and Knowledge Sharing

○CHIA-CHEN YU （National Taiwan Normal University）

This study examines how empowering leadership promotes employees' AI-enabled innovative work behavior through the serial mediating roles of AI self-efficacy and knowledge sharing. As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly embedded in the workplace, organizations need to understand how leadership practices can help employees use AI tools to generate, promote, and implement novel ideas. Drawing on social cognitive theory and leadership literature, this study proposes that empowering leadership enhances employees' AI self-efficacy by providing autonomy, encouragement, participation in decision-making, and developmental support. Employees with higher AI self-efficacy are expected to be more confident in applying AI to work-related tasks and more willing to engage in knowledge sharing with colleagues. In turn, knowledge sharing may facilitate the exchange of ideas, experiences, and problem-solving strategies, thereby strengthening employees' AI-enabled innovative work behavior.
Data will be collected from employees with workplace experience using AI tools through self-report questionnaires. The measures will include empowering leadership, AI self-efficacy, knowledge sharing, and AI-enabled innovative work behavior. Structural equation modeling or regression-based mediation analysis will be used to examine the proposed serial mediation model. The expected outcomes are that empowering leadership will positively influence AI self-efficacy, which will enhance knowledge sharing and ultimately promote AI-enabled innovative work behavior. AI self-efficacy and knowledge sharing are also expected to sequentially mediate the relationship between empowering leadership and AI-enabled innovative work behavior.
The findings are expected to contribute to the AI-enabled innovation literature by extending the discussion from organizational-level innovation to individual-level innovative work behavior. Practically, this study highlights the importance of empowering leadership, AI self-efficacy, and knowledge-sharing practices in supporting employees' innovative use of AI at work.
Keywords: empowering leadership, AI self-efficacy, knowledge sharing, AI-enabled innovative work behavior

Panel code 4／Individual／English　**10:55-12:35　Room：J203**

International Relations / Law / Political Sciences 1

Chair & Discussant：Yoichiro Sato（Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

ID：6560612

▶1 Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific: A New Role for Southeast Asia?

○Barbara Kratiuk[1,2] （1 Vistula University, 2 Center for International Studies, Poland）

Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific（FOIP）vision, launched under Shinzo Abe and recalibrated by successive administrations, has positioned Southeast Asia as both a geographic anchor and a normative testing ground for

Tokyo's regional strategy. Yet the post-Abe period has introduced significant tensions: how does Japan sustain FOIP's strategic logic while engaging ASEAN states whose preference for autonomy, non-alignment, and economic pragmatism sits uneasily with an increasingly securitised regional order?
This paper applies securitisation theory to examine how Japan has framed Southeast Asia within FOIP—and how ASEAN, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Vietnam have received, resisted, or selectively appropriated that framing. It complements this with Moravcsik's liberal intergovernmentalism to trace how domestic preference configurations in both Japan and key Southeast Asian states shape and constrain the partnership. The paper argues that post-Abe FOIP represents a hybrid outcome: Japan has deepened security engagement with the Philippines and Vietnam, where preference convergence around maritime sovereignty is strong, while Malaysia's more explicitly hedged posture illustrates the limits of securitisation as a diplomatic tool when domestic preferences resist alignment.
FOIP's reach into Southeast Asia is therefore neither uniform nor assured—it is contingent on the preference structures of states that remain unwilling to choose sides.

ID：6588439

▶2 The New Geography of Danger and Evolution of NATO-Japan Relations

○Wrenn Yennie Lindgren[1,2], Matthew Brummer[3] （1 Norwegian Institute of International Affairs（NUPI）, 2 Swedish Institute of International Affairs（UI）, 3 National Graduate Institute of Policy Studies（GRIPS））

NATO states and Japan share much in common, including core values of democracy, rule of law, human rights, and free markets. They also share a mutual security provider in the United States. Yet despite many common interests across economic, political, and security domains, relations remained strikingly undeveloped for most of the post-WWII era. This gradually changed in the early 2000s following 9/11, and again in the 2010s with the emergence of a more expansionist China. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, NATO-Japan relations have been dramatically upgraded and now represent a formal security alignment. In this paper, we argue that the evolution of NATO-Japan cooperation has been principally driven by geopolitics and their respective security scopes. When NATO and Japan are focused on regional issues, such as border disputes, security interests are incompatible and cooperation is sluggish. Yet as NATO and Japan expand their scopes globally to incorporate such issues cyber and supply chains, security interests align and cooperation is spirited. In systematically tracing this transformation over the post-Cold-War period via document analysis and a set of expert interviews, we explain the past and present and offer insight into the future course of NATO-Japan relations amidst what former NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg has termed the new geography of danger.

ID：6592028

▶3 The Strategic Projection of Governance as Soft Power: Japan's ODA Evolution（2000-Present）

○MAI TECK PANG, ○UTPAL VYAS （RITSUMEIKAN ASIA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY）

This study seeks to map the longitudinal shift in Japan's development cooperation from 2000 to the present to explore how a major non-Western donor tends to project governance norms as soft power while structurally adhering to a baseline of non-interference. The purpose of this research is to examine the question of how Japan has strategically updated its Official Development Assistance（ODA）frameworks to embrace a value-oriented discourse without necessarily adopting Western-style political conditionality or coercive policy leverage. Despite the explicit introduction of normative language in the 2003, 2015, and 2023 revisions of Japan's Development Cooperation Charter, its implementation bodies, most notably the Japan International Cooperation Agency（JICA）, appear inclined to retain a request-based, technocratic approach that deliberately constrains direct democracy promotion.
This paper will present initial findings on the context and reasons for the approach which Japan has taken regarding ODA provision, based on conducting a systematic content analysis of Ministry of Foreign Affairs（MOFA）white papers, diplomatic blueprints, and historical policy charters leading to and following the changes in the DCC in 2003, 2015 and 2023. Initial findings indicate that the 2015 and 2023 Charter revisions marked a noticeable shift from a passive, request-based framework toward an active, "offer-based" approach. This strategy appears to reframe ODA as a proactive tool for Japan's diplomatic positioning while remaining inclined to protect recipient autonomy.
The paper suggests that Japan's foreign aid model introduces a "attraction-based approach" to aid. This mechanism

indicates that normative influence can be successfully cultivated through mutual attraction to technical and institutional efficacy rather than explicit, punitive political intervention. This research contributes to a theoretical reconceptualization of soft power, which tends to challenge Western-centric assumptions regarding how non-Western donors operationalize governance assistance in the contemporary international order.

Panel code 5／Pre-formed／English

10:55-12:35 Room : J204

Peace and Security in Northeast Asia

Chair : Yoshinori Kaseda (Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)
Discussant : Whi Chang (Sejong University)

ID : 6593986

▶1 Juche as an Ontological Security Framework: North Korea's Nuclear Strategy and Self-Narrative, 2017-2022

○Sachio Nakato (College of International Relations, Ritsumeikan University)

North Korea's nuclear and missile developments between 2017 and 2022 are often interpreted primarily through deterrence, coercive bargaining, or regime survival. This presentation offers an alternative yet complementary perspective by conceptualizing Juche as North Korea's primary ontological security framework and examining how it structures the DPRK's understanding of its nuclear strategy and external environment. Building on ontological security theory in International Relations, the presentation treats Juche not merely as an official ideology but as a narrative structure that stabilizes how North Korean leaders make sense of the world, of themselves, and of significant Others. Drawing on key Juche texts by Kim Il-sung, Kim Jong-il and Kim Jong-un, as well as English-language versions of KCNA statements, the analysis reconstructs a Juche-based self-narrative of a besieged yet heroic revolutionary state that must secure its autonomy through nuclear force. It then traces how this narrative was adapted across three phases between 2017 and 2022: acute nuclear confrontation, summit diplomacy, and post-Hanoi "frontal breakthrough" culminating in the legalization of nuclear forces. The presentation argues that Juche functions as an ideational anchor that enables North Korean elites to reinterpret both escalation and diplomatic engagement in ways that preserve ontological security, with implications for understanding recent discourses such as the "adversarial two-state" view of the Korean Peninsula.

ID : 6593900

▶2 State-Capital Relations and Security Policy in Japan

○Ulv Hanssen[1,2] (1 Faculty of Law, Soka University, 2 The Swedish Institute of International Affairs)

Over the past 10-15 years, Japan has undergone profound changes in its security policy. Japan's military strengthening is largely driven by a strong conviction among the country's political class that China poses a significant strategic and military threat. In addition to hard military measures, these threat perceptions have led to growing efforts to decouple the Japanese and Chinese economies. These decoupling efforts create a potential conflict of interest between the Japanese state which seeks to avoid economic dependence on China and the Japanese capitalist class which strongly relies on Chinese markets and supply chains. This article explores this potential divergence of interest in Japanese state-capital relations. More specifically, it investigates how various segments of Japan's business community view 1) the deteriorating relations between Japan and China, and 2) the Japanese government's military and economic security policies vis-a-vis China. Given the business community's role as a social veto player, the answers to these questions will shed light on the feasibility of the Japanese remilitarization project, and the extent to which the state can exercise autonomy from the capitalist class in contemporary Japan.

ID：6593886

▶3 Japan's domestic policy and Chongryon: An alternative doorway to Pyongyang?

○Youngjoo Jang （Kinugasa Research Organization, Ritsumeikan University）

The major outstanding issues between Japan and North Korea can be broadly categorized into three areas: the abduction issue, security issues including nuclear weapons and missile development, and postwar settlement issues. Since the adoption of the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration in 2002, the Japanese government has consistently emphasized the comprehensive resolution of these three issues. Among them, however, Japan has developed its policy toward North Korea by placing particular priority on the abduction issue, which is regarded as a bilateral concern.
Despite more than two decades of diplomatic efforts, the abduction issue remains unresolved, and the North Korean government has maintained its position that the issue has already been settled. Even during the period of detente in 2018, no Japan-North Korea summit meeting was held. Although PM Takaiichi announced in November 2025 that it had proposed a summit meeting to the North Korean government, Pyongyang has continued to maintain a firm and uncompromising stance in response.
This presentation seeks to clarify the structural factors underlying the stagnation in the resumption of Japan-North Korea negotiations and to propose and examine domestic policy options available to the Takaichi administration for restarting bilateral negotiations.

ID：6593809

▶4 Japan's Response to North Korean Threat

○YOSHINORI KASEDA （Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

The Japanese government has regarded the abduction issue, the nuclear issue, and the missile issue as the main outstanding issues between Japan and North Korea and has prioritized pressure over dialogue in resolving these issues. In particular, since North Korea's nuclear test in 2006, the Japanese government has imposed its unilateral sanctions on North Korea, strengthened its offensive capabilities and legalized the exercise of the right to collective self-defense to enhance both its own deterrence and the extended deterrence based on the Japan-U.S. alliance, thereby having shifted its pacifist security policy based on Article 9 of the Constitution. This presentation will first critically evaluate the Japanese government's perception of the threat from North Korea and its military buildup based on that perception. Next, it will examine the risk of the use of force by the United States and South Korea against North Korea, which could lead to North Korea's armed attack on Japan, and discuss ways to reduce that risk. Finally, it will consider North Korea's cyberattacks on Japan and how Japan to respond to them.

Panel code 6／Pre-formed／English　**15:20-17:00　Room：J102**

Reframing Yokai and War in Mizuki Shigeru's Manga: Perspectives from Psychology, Gender, Science Fiction, and Repatriation Literature

Chair：Ryota Nishino（Meijo University）

ID：6595475

▶1 Exploring the reified Japanese Collective Unconscious: A Jungian Analysis of *Yōkai* in Mizuki Shigeru's *Nonnonba to Ore*（1992）.

○Jose Rodolfo Aviles Ernult[1,2] （1 Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, 2 Ritsumeikan College of International Relations）

This study looks at Shigeru Mizuki's manga Nonnonba to Ore（1992）through the framework of reification, as

defined by György Lukács (1923) and Gajo Petrović (1965). It argues that the Japanese *yōkai* (supernatural creatures) as depicted in Mizuki's decades-long oeuvre function as reified socio-cultural concepts endowed with complete metaphysical existence. Superficially, *Nonnonba to Ore* reads as a semi-autobiographical work; it recounts Mizuki's childhood encounters with this countryside old woman, affectionately known as "NonNonBa," who introduced him to the world of local folklore and *yōkai*. In this study, Mizuki's recollections in *Nonnonba to Ore* are interpreted as mirrors of the symbolic forms and models embedded and deep-seated into the Japanese collective unconscious.

Jungian theory posits the existence of a collective unconscious, a universal repository of models which describe structures, patterns of behavior, and personality of all humankind. By examining specific stylistic conventions in the manga, this paper demonstrates how *yōkai* conform to a structured map or repertoire of reified motifs and images, each one of them corresponding to a function, theme or pattern present in the cultural history of Japan. For instance, certain monstrous *yōkai* may represent fears of the unknown, which correlates to societal anxiety towards rapid modernization and industrialization; while benevolent spirits may embody ideals of tradition, loyalty and socialization. Utilizing a psychoanalytic framework, this study argues that *Nonnonba to Ore* functions not merely as a personal memoir, but both as a cultural and historical text reflecting the structural formation of Japanese historical memory in which Mizuki consciously positioned himself as a medium.

Keywords: Mizuki Shigeru, *Yōkai*, Nonnonba, reification, collective unconscious.

ID : 6576225

▶2 Monstrous women as a medium for (un) comfort and subversion toward Japan's collective identity: Transgressive female bodies in Mizuki Shigeru's war manga

○Kaori Yoshida (Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)

War-themed popular media in postwar Japan have been often criticized for the predominance of male-centered victimhood narrative, conflating masculine and national desire, by typecasting female characters as vulnerable victims along with their roles of caring mother/wife and nurse (Napier 2016). Meanwhile, dynamics within manifestations of female victims, wherein female bodies in Japan 'proper' are prioritized over those deemed as the 'other,' have not been much discussed. Looking at these gaps will illuminate what lies beneath Japan's collective identity.

This study investigates manifestations of less visible female victims－(enforced) comfort women－in postwar Japanese manga. While some manga depict these women as hostile, potentially inducing a revisionist interpretation (e.g. Kobayashi's Sensōron), and others use provocative depictions exposing the Imperial Japan's violence against women (e.g. Ishizaka's Attack Champion), Mizuki Shigeru's depictions are more ambiguous and nuanced. His yōkai (monstrous) or grotesque manifestation of comfort women, being attractive and repulsive, highlights the view of these women as 'abject' (Kristeva 1980), transgressing the boundary between 'self' and 'other' to disturb the unified Japanese national body.

To demonstrate how the female abject challenge the gendered narrative of victimhood, which shapes Japan's collective identity, this paper analyzes visual and narrative depictions of comfort women in three of Mizuki's war manga: Onward Towards Our Noble Deaths (1973), Kunyan (1992), Enforced Military Prostitution (1999). It applies the concept of 'grotesque' that explains the mechanism of aesthetics of hybrids evoking disgust, comical and empathy, and Creed's (1993) 'monstrous feminine,' which illustrates abject as the projection of unconscious fear of men toward women. The paper argues that these women, as haunting ghosts of Japan's wartime past, not only challenge the narrative of women as vulnerable victims through vengeful acts but also open a space where boundaries between human and non-human, self and other, and victim and victimizer are transgressed.

ID : 6575053

▶3 If blood spoke truth to power… : Mizuki's personal and political opinions in Kaijū Raban (1958) and its iterations

○Ryota Nishino (Meijo University)

Mizuki Shigeru's Kaijū Raban (Monster Raban, 1958), its precursor, Roketto man (1958), and subsequent manga and

anime adaptations (1966, 1987, 1996) have escaped critical appraisal, even though he believes it is 'well made' (Mizuki 2002: 457). Raban, modelled after Gojira, is a colossal monster living in the New Guinea Sea. In the story, Japanese scientists learn that the monster's blood might contain life-extending properties for humans and embark on a mission to extract it. The ensuing events confront the reader with tensions between life and death, the scientific and supernatural, and individualism and altruism. Uniting these tensions is Raban's blood, which informs the question: how Mizuki conveys his opinions on contemporary Japan through its symbolism. This presentation reads Kaijū Raban and allied works through the prism of blood as a signifier of Japanese national identity (Robertson 2011; Nishida 2021). The argument of this presentation is that Mizuki repositions blood from the nationalist to the harmonious co-existence between nature, humans, and yōkai. Mizuki's representations of blood carry his personal and political messages across Kaijū Raban and its successors. The New Guinea setting references Mizuki's experiences in the Asia-Pacific War where he sustained critical injury to his left arm. It gives voice to the monster, the people of New Guinea, and Japanese veterans who died during the war. Furthermore, featuring yōkai adds complexity to the limit of the nationalistic use of blood. These references collectively oppose what Mizuki portrays as the unreasonable actions of the Japanese scientists and government. Thus, rather than dismissing Kaijū Raban, its predecessor, and sequels as satirical spoofs of Gojira, Mizuki demonstrates his storytelling prowess towards personal and political ends. The presentation advances the centrality of blood and its symbolism beyond the nation and humans.

ID：6572932

▶4 Threshold Monsters: Repatriation and Aesthetics of Displacement in Mizuki Shigeru's Manga

○Shige（CJ）Suzuki （The City University of New York, Baruch College）

This paper examines Mizuki Shigeru's manga through a lens of "repatriation literature"（*hikiage bungaku*）, initially proposed by Pak Yuha（2016）, situating his work in relation to war experience, imperial collapse, repatriation from the South Pacific, and the postwar difficulty of return and social reintegration. While representative manga artists such as Tezuka Osamu and Nakazawa Keiji primarily depict war as experienced within mainland Japan, Mizuki's experience as an imperial soldier stationed in the South Pacific and his interactions with local populations place him in a markedly different position in relation to wartime experience and postwar memory. Focusing on his early *kashihon*（rental manga）period, including *yōkai* and monster manga, the paper frames these figures as historically grounded formations shaped by war, bodily injury, and postwar displacement, rather than products of folkloric revival or postwar "database" production and consumption（Shamoon, 2013）.

Through close readings of selected manga alongside historical contextualization, the paper analyzes narrative content and visual form. Particular attention is given to Mizuki's juxtaposition of simplified human figures with highly detailed nonhuman characters and backgrounds, as well as his disruption of conventional visual pacing. These formal strategies are treated as central to his aesthetics of displacement and marginal postwar subjectivity, and are situated within broader questions of postwar memory, embodiment, and the unresolved aftereffects of Japanese imperialism.

The paper argues that Mizuki's monsters occupy liminal positions between visibility and invisibility, life and death, and the human and nonhuman. These threshold figures mirror Mizuki himself—a war-disabled veteran who lost an arm at a field hospital during bombardment and returned to a society with little place for him—suggesting that the monstrous is not merely a folkloric category, but a condition produced by war, defeat, and social marginalization.

Pak, Yuha.（2016）. Hikiage bungaku ron josetsu: Aratana posuto-koroniaru e［引揚げ文学論序説 新たなポストコロニアルへ］. Jinbun Shoin.

Shamoon, D.（2013）. The Yōkai in the database: Supernatural creatures and folklore in manga and anime. Marvels & Tales, 27（2）, 276–289.

Panel code 7／Pre-formed／English **15:20-17:00 Room : J103**

Emerging Management Issues in Learning, Work, and Service Innovation: Behavioral and Policy Perspectives

Chair : Kuang-Ming Kuo（National United University）

ID : 6582976

▶1 Strengthening the Service Innovation System: The Role of Science and Technology Policy in Taiwan

○Hsin-Yi Hu （National United University）

The service sector accounts for nearly 70% of Taiwan's gross domestic product and plays a critical role in national economic development. Despite its growing importance, the effectiveness of government policies in promoting service innovation remains insufficiently understood. This study aims to examine how government subsidy programs, regulatory frameworks, and innovation talent development influence service innovation in Taiwan and to explore their policy implications for strengthening the service innovation system.

A qualitative research approach was adopted. Data were collected through five in-depth interviews with experts from research institutes and policy organizations, as well as four industry focus-group discussions involving representatives from the medical service, tourism and hospitality, and financial service sectors. The collected data were analyzed to identify major barriers and enabling factors affecting service innovation.

The findings indicate that government support programs have contributed to service innovation; however, funding levels are often insufficient to sustain long-term innovation activities. Regulatory restrictions, particularly in areas related to personal data protection, financial security, and industry-specific compliance requirements, were found to impede innovation implementation and diffusion. In contrast, innovation-oriented and interdisciplinary talent was identified as a critical driver of service innovation and organizational competitiveness. The study further revealed a lack of cross-ministerial coordination, insufficient experimentation and testing platforms, and inadequate policy resources devoted to service innovation development.

This research concludes that an effective service innovation system requires stronger policy integration, more flexible regulatory environments, increased investment in innovation support mechanisms, and systematic cultivation of interdisciplinary talent. The findings provide practical recommendations for policymakers seeking to enhance service innovation capacity and improve the competitiveness of Taiwan's service industries.

ID : 6582990

▶2 The Impact of Career Doubt on Job Anxiety and Job Involvement among Newcomers: The Moderating Role of Career Self-Efficacy

○Hsiao-Ling Chen, ○Meng-Ling Fan, Yu-Fang Lee, Wei-Chi Yu, Bo-Ying Chen （National United University）

This study explores the psychological challenges and behavioral outcomes faced by early-career workers navigating a rapidly changing workplace environment. Drawing on Conservation of Resources（COR）Theory and Social Cognitive Theory（SCT）, the primary purpose of this research is to investigate how career doubt－defined as uncertainty and anxiety regarding one's career choices and professional capabilities－influences job anxiety and job involvement among newcomers. Specifically, the study examines career doubt as a resource threat that may induce psychological strain and withdrawal. Furthermore, it seeks to identify the moderating role of career self-efficacy in buffering the negative impacts of these doubts.

The methodology utilizes a quantitative survey design targeting early-career professionals aged 18 to 30 with job tenures between 3 and 24 months. Data will be collected through convenience sampling across diverse industries, including finance, education, catering, and healthcare, with a target sample of over 200 respondents. The measurement

instruments include the Vocational Identity Status Assessment (VISA) for career doubt, adapted scales for job anxiety, the revised Lodahl & Kejner scale for job involvement, and the Career Decision-Making Self-Efficacy Scale. Statistical analysis will be conducted using SPSS, involving reliability testing, Pearson correlation, and hierarchical regression analysis to test the hypothesized relationships.
The expected results suggest that career doubt will significantly and positively influence job anxiety while negatively impacting job involvement. Crucially, career self-efficacy is anticipated to act as a moderator; individuals with higher self-efficacy are expected to exhibit a weakened positive relationship between career doubt and anxiety and a mitigated negative impact of doubt on involvement. These findings aim to provide theoretical insights and practical management strategies to help newcomers transition from career distress toward stable professional development.

ID : 6582993

▶3 Does supervisor organizational embodiment matter? Examining its role in the relationship among work engagement, social exchange relationships, and positive job attitudes

○Pen-Yuan Liao, Shao-Ru Wang (National United University)

Drawing on social exchange theory, this study developed and tested a model linking work engagement to positive job attitudes. Data were collected from a three-wave survey of 194 employees in Taiwan. After controlling for demographic characteristics and proactive personality, the results showed that work engagement was positively related to both perceived organizational support and leader−member exchange. Perceived organizational support and leader−member exchange partially mediated the relationship between work engagement and job satisfaction. In addition, perceived organizational support partially mediated the relationship between work engagement and affective organizational commitment. Furthermore, supervisor organizational embodiment moderated the relationship between work engagement and perceived organizational support, such that the positive relationship was stronger among employees who perceived higher levels of supervisor organizational embodiment than among those who perceived lower levels.

ID : 6582999

▶4 Push-Pull-Mooring Theory and Switching Intention from Long- to Short-Form Videos in Microlearning

○Kuang-Ming Kuo, ○Yi-Yun Tsai, Tzu-Yin Hsueh, Pei-Hsin Chen, Yun-Hsuan Sun (National United University)

With the rapid development of Internet technology and mobile devices, short-form videos have become an important medium for young people to access information and acquire knowledge. As users' attention becomes increasingly fragmented, learning practices have gradually shifted from traditional long-form video formats to more flexible short-form video-based learning.
Microlearning emphasizes focused topics, concise content, and flexible access, which closely correspond to the features of short-form videos, such as brief duration, fast-paced delivery, and condensed information. However, although short-form videos are increasingly used for learning, limited empirical research has examined why learners switch from long-form to short-form video platforms.
This study aims to investigate learners' switching intentions from long-form video platforms to short-form video platforms in a microlearning context. The Push-Pull-Mooring (PPM) model is adopted as the theoretical framework. The target participants are students aged 12 to 24 years. Data are collected through an online questionnaire survey and analyzed using Structural Equation Modeling and machine learning techniques. The study also examines the applicability of the PPM model to learning-related platform switching behavior.
A pilot test was conducted with 30 respondents. The reliability analysis showed that all Cronbach's alpha values exceeded 0.70, indicating satisfactory reliability and internal consistency. The formal survey is currently in progress, and the expected findings may provide practical implications for short-form video learning service providers.

Panel code 8／Individual／English **15:20-17:00 Room : J202**

Economics / Finance / Development 2

Chair : Elena Shadrina（Waseda University）

ID : 6592995

▶1 Bridging finance and growth: The role of FinTech and financial inclusion in South Asia

○Sheikh Abu Taher （Department of Finance and Banking, Jahangirnagar University）

The rapid development of information and communication technology（ICT）, particularly mobile phones, and internet services, has altered financial sector through FinTech innovations, thereby increasing financial inclusion and economic growth. The current study aims to explore the FinTech innovations, financial inclusion and economic growth nexus in consideration with South Asian eight economies over the period from 2004 to 2023. The study exploits secondary data collected from World Bank, GSMA Mobile Money Deployment Tracker, Statista, and Mobile Money Regulatory Index Database and employs rigorous panel data approach, including pooled OLS, fixed-effects, random-effects, robust fixed-effects and GMM estimations to address potential endogeneity issues. Logarithm of GDP per capita is proxied by economic growth and dependent variable of the selected economies, whereas number of Banks, number of bank branches per 1000 square kilometer, ATM density, number of mobile money operators are selected as independent variables（proxied as FinTech innovations and financial inclusion）. The research further incorporates macroeconomic control variables such as inflation, tariff rates, and trade in services. The findings of the research demonstrate a positive association between FinTech innovations, financial inclusion and economic growth in South Asia. The research contributes to the existing literature by illustrating key determinants of economic growth and providing policy implications for enhancing digital financial services and formal financial access to achieve sustainable economic growth in the region.

Keywords: Financial inclusion, financial system, FinTech innovations, cashless society, economic growth, digital economy

ID : 6594446

▶2 Rising Rates and Falling Yen: Evaluating the Economic Impacts of Dual Shocks

○Munim Kumar Barai （Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

This mixed-methods study aims to evaluate the economic fallout of interest-rate policy reversals and the gradual depreciation of the yen in Japan. The Bank of Japan（BOJ）ended negative rates in 2024 and has since initiated a gradual monetary-policy tightening cycle as a reversal of its 2013 quantitative-easing policy. Though these measures were expected to push the yen higher, instead, the yen has been gradually depreciating against most major currencies. The interest rate differentials between the US and Japan are mentioned as the cause of this decline in the value of the Yen. However, the sustained depreciation of the Japanese yen－which hit historic 40-year lows against the US ＄ recently－and the interest rate hike have fundamentally reshaped Japanese society. While a weak currency is benefiting major corporate exporters, the resulting structural pressures have created a “double whammy” of cost-push inflation and shrinking real household wealth for regular citizens. As Japan relies heavily on other countries for its foundational resources, the weak currency directly inflates the domestic price of essential day-to-day items. Not only that, the commoners are also facing increasing costs when borrowing for mortgages or other purposes. Though a weak yen has given a boost to inbound tourism, outbound travel and education are to suffer. Notably, the dual shocks are also creating a two-tier corporate economy－the export-oriented big industries and their workers benefit, while workers at Small and Medium Enterprises（SMEs）－which employ roughly 70% of Japan’s workforce－face severe margin compression. The SMEs are now swallowing high import costs but mostly lack the market leverage to pass them on to consumers. A weak yen may also discourage skilled foreign workers from filling widening labor market shortages due to Japan’s demographic decline.

Keywords: Bank of Japan, Interest Rate, Interest rate differential, double whammy, SMEs, Tourism

ID：6595436

▶3 Asia Bond Market Development since Chiang Mai

○Ian James Bisset （Fukuyama University）

The Asian Financial Crisis（AFC）of 1997 marked a turning point in regional financial governance, catalyzing deeper cooperation within ASEAN and, more importantly, ASEAN+3. One of its most significant long-term outcomes has been the rapid development of local currency bond markets（LCBMs）, one of the goals of the Chiang Mai Initiative（CMI）. Over the subsequent decades, developing Asia has faced new shocks－notably the 2008 Global Financial Crisis,, and the COVID-19 pandemic－while also adapting to the rise of China and the expansion of the Belt and Road Initiative（BRI）as a major source of infrastructure finance.

However, the emergence of the BRI has introduced a more complex dynamic. While it has expanded access to long-term infrastructure financing, much of this lending has been denominated in U.S. dollars, reintroducing elements of currency mismatch, particularly in smaller or less financially developed ASEAN economies. In this context, the capacity to absorb foreign currency funding depends critically on the depth and resilience of local financial markets.

This study, using Bloomberg bond market data, finds that larger Asian economies with deeper and more liquid bond markets are better able to manage and absorb shocks associated with BRI-related USD lending, as they possess stronger domestic funding bases and more developed risk management frameworks. In contrast, smaller economies remain more exposed to external financing risks.

Overall, while developing A sia has made substantial progress in reducing systemic vulnerability and avoiding the “double mismatch” problem that defined the 1997 crisis, currency mismatches have not been fully eliminated. Instead, they have evolved, reflecting a more complex interplay between regional financial integration, domestic market development, and external financing initiatives such as the BRI.

Panel code 9／Individual／English　**15:20-17:00　Room：J203**

International Relations / Law / Political Sciences 2

Chair & Discussant：Utpal Vyas（Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

ID：6534292

▶1 Technocracy: Polity, Governance, and Political Evolution

○Victor N Shaw （California State University-Northridge）

Technocracy is a type of polity. It is part of governance. It is a phase of political evolution. With these three characteristics, the state not only adopts technocracy wholly as it progresses to the future but also features technocracy to some extent while it goes through autocracy and democracy.

It is about logic and evidence. Technocracy builds upon facts. It operates on the principle of objectivity. In governance, the state needs to begin with reality, internally citizens and their material conditions and non-material aspirations, externally foreign countries for possible alliances or conflicts. Technocracy follows logic. It draws upon reason, reasoning, and rationality. Being a machine of violence or a battlefield for power, the state must develop long-term strategies and timely tactics for operational effectiveness, cost efficiency, and policy success. Logic and evidence prevail in substance, salience, and significance when technocracy reigns in its own era. The state then turns into an open, simple, and straightforward process to administer civil affairs. There is no wishful thinking, impulsive tempering, or irrational commanding associated with autocrats and autocracy. Nor is there politicking, partisanship, or power dealing symptomatic of demagogues and democracy.

It is about mechanism and institutionalization. Technocracy invents rules and procedures.

Rules formalize business and business processes. Procedures standardize dealings and dealing transactions. In administering civil affairs, the state finds a useful, effective, and reliable mechanism in the form of rules and procedures. Technocracy invests in institutions and civil services. Institutions organize resources and put things into work. Civil services count on trained personnel and their professional performance. Running a city, region, or state, the government relies upon bureaucracy and bureaucrats for policy execution, service delivery, and general operation. It is

true that institution, mechanism, and institutionalization are indispensable factors and forces in governance or administration of civil affairs, even in the polity of autocracy and democracy.
This paper explores technocracy with respect to all its internal features and external conditions. It also touches upon autocracy and democracy in the background as comparisons.
Keywords: Polity, Governance, Technocracy, Political Evolution

ID：6585711

▶2 State-Business Relations and the Divergent Visions of Techno-Nationalism in the Asian Semiconductor Sector

○Yuxin PENG[1], Astha Chadha[2] （1 Ritsumeikan University, 2 Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

This article examines the nature and objectives of techno-nationalism among major Asian economies, namely, South Korea, Japan, and India, as comparative cases, in the context of U.S. semiconductor export restrictions against China. Existing studies commonly distinguish between the two paradigms of techno-nationalism: developmentalism-oriented techno-nationalism, which centers on industrial catch-up, technological autonomy, and the enhancement of national competitiveness; and security-oriented techno-nationalism, which centers on supply chain security, technological control, and geopolitical competition. Although previous research has noted the possible shift from a developmentalism-oriented to a security-oriented paradigm, it has largely overlooked the core issue of the significant variation in such state-led and corporate-enabled transformation across different economies.
This article raises the question- In the backdrop of the US-China tech rivalry, how have states and corporates in Japan, South Korea, and India, undertaken semiconductor industry development pushed by their respective visions of techno-nationalism? Through comparative case study analysis and process tracing of the evolution of the domestic semiconductor sector in the three Asian economies, this article finds that amid US-China rivalry over tech hegemony, Japan has undergone the deepest security-oriented transformation due to the strong convergence between national strategic objectives and industrial interests. In South Korea, chaebols' heavy dependence on the Chinese market means that corporate commercial interests do not fully align with the state's national security objectives, thereby constraining the country's security-oriented transformation. In India, while the US-China rivalry has propelled the nascent and limited domestic semiconductor industrial capital, it also implies that its techno-nationalism remains primarily developmentalism-oriented and is characterized by state-led industrial catch-up. The paper argues that such variation is mediated by each economy's state-business relations, defined by both the degree of convergence between national strategic objectives and industrial interests, and the state's policy leadership capacity vis-a-vis business actors.

ID：6588739

▶3 School-Based Disaster Risk Reduction in Vanuatu: A Comparative Analysis of National DRR Frameworks

○Noriko Kawasaki （University of Miyazaki）

This study analyzes three foundational national documents on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Vanuatu－ "Key Messages for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in Vanuatu", "School-Based Disaster Risk Reduction for Vanuatu", and the "2024－2030 Vanuatu DRR and Education in Emergencies (EiE) Strategy"－ to clarify how existing policy frameworks can more effectively support DRR education in schools. DRR education plays a key role in resilience building, that is, strengthening people's ability to prepare for, cope with, and recover from disasters. Although the three documents share a common goal of strengthening community resilience, their guidance for school implementation remains dispersed. This research aims to identify essential policy elements that can be synthesized into a coherent foundation for school-based DRR practice.
I conducted a comparative analysis to identify areas of convergence and divergence across the three documents using a qualitative document analysis approach. The results reveal three major findings. First, all documents emphasize an all-hazards approach and the importance of empowering children as active participants in resilience building. Second, while the Key Messages document provides clear hazard-specific actions, it lacks educational framing. Third, the EiE Strategy outlines systemic goals－such as curriculum integration and teacher capacity development－but does not provide operational guidance for classroom practice.

These findings indicate that promoting DRR education in Vanuatu requires not only policy alignment but also the extraction and translation of essential DRR elements—including hazard messages, preparedness behaviors, and school–community coordination mechanisms—into practical, age-appropriate teaching tools. The conclusion of this study argues that a synthesized, teacher-friendly DRR framework is necessary to bridge the gap between national policy and everyday school activities.
Future work will involve co-designing DRR teaching materials with local educators, piloting them in selected schools, and evaluating their effectiveness in improving student preparedness and community engagement.

Panel code 10／Individual／English **15:20-17:00 Room : J204**

International Relations / Law / Political Sciences 3

Chair & Discussant : Hidetaka Yoshimatsu（Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University）

ID : 6586853

▶1 Navigating International Relations for Sustainable Development: Bangladesh Between Japan and China's Strategic Influence

○Dr. S. M. Ali Reza （Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh）

This study explores how Bangladesh navigates its international relations with Japan and China to advance sustainable development objectives in an increasingly competitive geopolitical environment. As two of Asia's most influential powers, Japan and China have emerged as key development partners for Bangladesh through trade, investment, infrastructure financing, technology transfer, and capacity-building initiatives. The research aims to examine the opportunities and challenges of Bangladesh's engagement with these strategic partners and to assess how balanced diplomacy can contribute to sustainable economic and social development.
The study adopts a qualitative research approach, drawing on policy documents, bilateral agreements, government reports, development cooperation frameworks, and scholarly literature. A comparative framework is employed to evaluate the nature and impact of Japanese and Chinese engagement in Bangladesh. The findings reveal that Japan contributes significantly through high-quality infrastructure development, enhanced human resources, support for governance, and economic cooperation. China, meanwhile, plays a crucial role in large-scale infrastructure investment, industrial development, and expanding trade connectivity. The results indicate that Bangladesh has largely pursued a pragmatic foreign policy strategy that seeks to maximize developmental benefits from both partners while maintaining strategic autonomy. Such an approach has strengthened economic growth prospects, modernized infrastructure, and enhanced regional connectivity.
The study concludes that Bangladesh's ability to balance relations with Japan and China is critical for achieving sustainable development goals and safeguarding national interests. Rather than aligning exclusively with either power, Bangladesh benefits from a diversified partnership strategy that enhances economic resilience and diplomatic flexibility. The research contributes to broader discussions on middle-power diplomacy, development cooperation, and strategic balancing in the Indo-Pacific region. Its findings are relevant for policymakers, scholars, and development practitioners seeking to understand the relationship between international relations and sustainable development in emerging economies.

ID : 6586846

▶2 Bangladesh Nationalist Party, International Relations, and Sustainable Development: Balancing Strategic Partnerships with Japan and China

○SK Azizul Bari Helal （Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh）

This study examines the foreign policy perspectives of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) on Bangladesh's strategic engagement with Japan and China, and their implications for sustainable development. As Bangladesh seeks

to achieve long-term economic growth, modernize infrastructure, and promote regional stability, understanding how major political actors envision international partnerships is crucial. The research explores how the BNP may balance relations with two influential Asian powers while safeguarding national interests and promoting sustainable development goals.

The study employs a qualitative research design based on document analysis, including BNP policy statements, party manifestos, government reports, academic literature, and policy documents related to Bangladesh-Japan and Bangladesh-China relations. A comparative analysis framework is used to assess the opportunities and challenges associated with cooperation with both countries. The findings suggest that the BNP's foreign policy orientation emphasizes pragmatic diplomacy, economic diversification, and strategic autonomy. Japan is viewed as a reliable partner in quality infrastructure, governance, and human resource development, while China is recognized for its significant contributions to trade, investment, and large-scale infrastructure projects. The analysis indicates that a balanced engagement strategy can enhance economic resilience and support sustainable development objectives without excessive dependence on a single external actor.

The study concludes that maintaining constructive relations with both Japan and China offers Bangladesh greater diplomatic flexibility and development opportunities. A balanced foreign policy approach can contribute to economic growth, infrastructure development, and regional cooperation while preserving national sovereignty. The research is relevant to policymakers, scholars, and development practitioners seeking to understand the intersection of political party perspectives, international relations, and sustainable development in contemporary Bangladesh.

ID：6595282

▶3 China's Overseas Investments and its Responsibility for Environmental Preservation: Perceptions of a Diverse Range of Actors with a Focus on Egypt

○Mina Tadrous Milad Tadrous （Research Organization of Open Innovation and Collaboration, Ritsumeikan University）

China's responsibility for environmental preservation has become a major debate worldwide, but the literature lacks discussions on the perspectives of people for whom China's investment may cause environmental problems. This article aims to answer the question: How do Egypt's diverse range of actors represent their views on China's responsibility for environmental preservation? To assess the nature of people's perspectives, this article uses universalism and particularism as opposing concepts and tries to categorize people's perspectives along the continuum between the two. Based on 39 semi-structured interviews, this article finds that the majority of the Egyptians demonstrate their universalist tendency in their assessment of China's action on environmental preservation. However, amongst the universalists, the views about China's responsibility diverge depending on whether they focus on China's environmentally oriented projects or on an unintended environmental consequence of China's infrastructure investment, which is detached from environmental consciousness. On one hand, with regard to China's behavior in investments in Egypt, approximately four-fifths of the interviewees view China as responsible due to its effective policies to preserve the environment. They have emphasized that environmental preservation must be favored over any aspect of economic development. On the other hand, regarding China's indirect engagement with environmental preservation, around three-fourths of the interviewees view China as irresponsible for funding and investing in GERD's construction, given that this dam has significant negative impacts on environmental aspects in Egypt. They consider China as prioritizing economic benefit over environmental concerns. This may affect China's reputation as a responsible great power, not because it is confined to China, but because of it, China is regarded as irresponsible.

ID：6595447

▶4 Jordan's Water Diplomacy under Asymmetry Bargaining Power in Transboundary River Negotiation

○渡邊 駿 （京都大学）

Access to freshwater has become increasingly contested due to population growth, climate change, and rising water demand. This is true for Jordan, a water-scarce country experiencing continuous population inflows because of

regional turmoil. Because Jordan shares 40% of its water resources with neighboring countries and rising demand affects all the countries, conflicts over transboundary water resources have become a growing concern. This raises the question of how weaker riparian states, such as Jordan in the Jordan River basin, secure favourable outcomes in negotiations over shared water resources. The study asks under what conditions weaker riparian states obtain favourable outcomes in asymmetric transboundary water negotiations and aims to develop a theoretical framework that integrates insights from foreign-policy analysis, hydro-hegemony, and small-state studies. It develops a theoretical model through a critical review of the literature on international negotiation, hydro-hegemony, small-state diplomacy, and issue linkage. Based on this model, the study examines Jordan's water negotiations with Israel in the Jordan River basin after the 1994 peace treaty. While the treaty confirmed mutual recognition of rightful allocations of the transboundary waters, issues remained regarding allocation implementation. With increased demand, negotiations continued and led to additional water-allocation agreements. The analysis suggests that favourable negotiation outcomes are shaped not simply by material capabilities but by the interaction of issue-specific resources, credible domestic commitment, negotiation strategies, and normative legitimacy. The study contributes to the literature on transboundary water governance by offering a more dynamic account of bargaining power beyond material asymmetry, and more broadly to debates on small-state agency in international negotiations.