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A Comparative Study on the Central Asian-Chinese Border Settlement

Assel Bitabarova (Hokkaido University, Japan)

This paper explores how the Central Asian nations – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan – resolved their knotty border disputes with China, which have yet to be extensively examined by foreign scholarship. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the Central Asian-Chinese boundary negotiations have been conducted at both multilateral and bilateral levels. As is well known, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was founded as a result of the “Former Soviet republics plus China” multilateral boundary negotiations. The following bilateral talks have intensified the Sino-Central Asian border settlement process and the long standing territorial dispute came to an end in January 2011 with the ratification of the Tajik-Chinese border demarcation protocol. Indeed, a century-long dispute between Tajikistan and China in the Pamir mountain range over some 28,000 square kilometers has been considered as the most difficult to settle, and Tajikistan has ultimately transferred more than 1,000 square kilometers to China. However, the most outstanding resistance to the border settlement results with China was in Kyrgyzstan, where the movements against territorial transfers have contributed to the escalation of domestic political instability. This paper is based on published materials of domestic experts and on data obtained via interviews and media coverage during my fieldwork in February-March 2011 in Tajikistan.

Nepal's Border Relations with India and China

Hari Bansh Jha (Center for Economic and Technical Studies, Nepal)

Nepal is a land-locked country, which shares common boundary with India in the south, east and west and Tibet Autonomous Region of People's Republic of China in the north. Since time immemorial, Nepal and India have been maintaining open-border system to ensure free-flow of movement of people from one country to the other. Therefore, even during the period Nepal was virtually cut off from the rest part of the world until the political change in 1951, the country remained India-opened. With a view to consolidating the traditional relations between the two countries, the Treaty of Peace and Friendship was concluded between Nepal and India in 1950 to keep the border between the two countries open to the great advantage of the people of the two countries.

On the other hand, the Himalayas in the north put natural barrier in the free flow of movement of people between Nepal and Tibet. After the Chinese take-over of Tibet in 1950, the local situation along the boundary between Nepal and Tibet/China dramatically changed. The Nepalese and Chinese governments signed an agreement in 1956 whereby strict visa regulation was imposed on the people of either country to cross over the border. Only the border inhabitants living within 30 kilometers of Nepal-Tibet border were exempted from visa formality to cross over the border. Nevertheless, the Nepal-Tibet border has been closed time to time even for the border inhabitants on the pretext of security concerns of the Chinese in Tibet.

In the recent years, there are growing concerns in Nepal for the missing of border pillar and fresh controversy arising between Nepal and China with regard to the demarcation of border along the Mt. Everest, the peak of the world. As it is well known, Nepal and China had largely settled their border problem as far back as in 1960s, but the fresh problems with regard to demarcation of Mt. Everest has cropped up due to the rising level of snow on the peak of Everest. Similarly, there are growing cases of violation of border regulations by the Chinese side, which has created a sense of fear among the Nepalese border inhabitants. The upsurge in informal trade between Nepal and China through the Nepal-Tibet border points is also a matter of concern.

With regard to Nepal and India, the free flow of population has strengthened the traditional ties between the two countries in cultural, religious, social, economic and political fields. Yet foreign influence is growing in Nepal and more than that certain forces have been promoting counterfeit currency and even smuggling of sensitive materials from Nepal to India through certain border points. If Nepal's border relations are not improved, it might bring anomalies in Nepal's relations with India and China.

Territorial Disputes and Civil Society in Japan and South Korea

Alexander Bukh (University of Tsukuba, Japan)

Drawing on theories of collective identity formation and social mobilisation this paper engages in a comparative analysis of the territorial disputes related civil society organisations in Japan and Korea. Its main focus is on organisations engaged in advocating the return of the Northern Territories in Japan and the Dokdo movement in Korea. The territorial disputes in Northeast Asia have long been on the agenda of scholars from a variety of disciplines. Few however have examined the roles and the identities of the non-governmental groups that engage in advocacy activities related to the dispute. In the case of Japan, these organisations are usually dismissed as being mere tools of the state. In the case of Korea they are generally regarded as manifestations of Korean nationalism founded on the historical memory of Japanese colonialism. This paper makes the case for a more nuanced understanding of these organisations. Through analysing a wide range of primary material and interviews with activists this paper locates the identities of these organisations in the nexus of multiple domestic and international discourses.

Japan-Russia Territorial Dispute over the Kuril Islands

Nivedita Das Kundu (Indian Council for Social Science Research, India)

The Japan-Russia territorial disputes over four Kuril Islands – Kunashir, Shikotan, Habomai and Iturup, which have been under Russia's jurisdiction since the end of the Second World War is still continuing. The islands form a strategic boundary between the Russian Sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean. Given the increased activities of major navies and powers in the region, the strategic value of these outposts has increased. The area is also said to be containing substantial energy resources. Russia had made proposals to hand over at least two islands to Japan in 1956, but only after the two countries had signed a peace agreement after World War II. But no progress was achieved on this issue and a peace treaty between the two countries remained unsigned. In recent times, the dispute over the Northern Territories has come to the forefront due to Russia's increasing interest in developing the long-neglected economy of the Russian Far East (including the Southern Kurils), an effort in which ironically Russia considers Japan as a partner. Moscow has in fact repeatedly urged Japan to follow the principle of 'sankei bunri' (separation of politics and economics) while developing closer economic ties with Russia in this region, especially in the energy field. Relations between two very important countries like Russia and Japan is of interest to all the other countries in the region including India. It would be in the interests for all if the two countries could swiftly resolve the issue of the islands but needs to see how and when.

**Exhibiting Visible and Invisible Aspects of Cultures and Histories on the Borderland:
Representation of the Yaqui Culture and History in Museums**

Yuka Mizutani (Toyo University, Japan)

What museum exhibits can present is not limited to material goods such as crafts and tools. In the modern day, they also present invisible aspects of cultures and histories, such as beliefs and notions. In this paper, I examine the parts of the Yaqui culture and history that have been presented in different museum exhibits. The Yaqui is an indigenous people living in what is now the southwestern U.S. and northeastern Mexico, across the international border. The organizations included in the current analysis are the Yoemem Tekia Foundation, Overland Trail Museum, and Hokkaido University. The exhibits held by these three organizations reflect different parts of both visible and invisible Yaqui culture and history, also their relationship between the borders. The differences are due to each exhibit being planned by different types of people for various purposes. At the same time, the facilities and resources of each organization can vary and influence the content of the exhibits. By comparing these three museum exhibits, this paper discusses the possibilities and limitations of different settings. A part of the film *Indigenous Peoples and Borders* will be shown as a part of this presentation.

People in the Shadow of Empire Bordering: New Evenki Transborder Nationalism in North-Eastern Asia

Ivan Peshkov (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland)

The Russian conquest of the Transbaikalian region resulted in the long term migration of Tungusic tribes to the south (Hulunbuir in China) north (Yakutya in Russia). The dispersed Evenki communities are facing the dilemma of choosing their ways to enter modernity as well as the problem of adapting themselves to the quickly changing social and economic reality of the countries they live in (i.e. Russia and China). The dispersion, acculturation and internal differentiation have resulted in the weakness of their “own” administrative structures and the lack of centers generating common cultural patterns. Nonetheless, recently we have been witnessing certain attempts to form integrative projects and beyond-border communities connecting the related groups of the Russian and Chinese Evenki. We can observe the special cases of integration based on official memory and very loyal attitude towards the two Big Nations in the area. The Evenki have started building their new transborder and transnational identity in the shadow of empires. This paper aims at analyzing the modern forms of Evenki transborder nationalism in Russia and China concerning the attempts to redefine tradition and culture, the Evenki participation in the process of shaping both countries’ historiography and the role of the Evenki organizations in China and Russia. The methodological basis for this paper is the anthropological study of forming the Evenki transborder nationalist discourse, particularly considering the history, institutional experiences and present situation of the analyzed group.

Territory, Tribes, Turbines: Local Community Perceptions and Responses to Indian Infrastructure Building along the Sino-Indian Border in Arunachal Pradesh

Mirza Zulfiqur Rahman (Indian Institute of Technology, India)

The paper offers a primary research-based analysis of local tribal community perceptions and responses towards Indian infrastructure building in the border province of Arunachal Pradesh along the three themes broadly identified as territory, tribes and turbines. Several infrastructure projects undertaken by New Delhi in Arunachal Pradesh, have picked up pace in the past decade and have been seen as a concerted effort to strengthen the war preparedness of the armed forces given the contested nature of the said territory between India and China. These projects are often politically portrayed within Arunachal Pradesh, as priorities addressing on a fast-track basis, the huge developmental gap for the various tribes inhabiting Arunachal Pradesh. Simultaneously, the road-building is directed at creating enabling conditions for government and private dam-building companies to carry heavy machinery and turbines to dam project sites, which apart from economic benefits, allow New Delhi to stake its riparian rights over transboundary river waters with Beijing.

China has been faced with similar questions over its infrastructure building projects in the Tibetan Autonomous Region, with assuring war preparedness and strategic advantage along the Sino-Indian border, developing tribal inhabited areas and dam-building issues. Against this backdrop of competitive infrastructure development on both sides of the Line of Actual Control between India and China, this paper will focus on understanding what the combined security, social development and economic agenda of infrastructure building that New Delhi is pursuing in Arunachal Pradesh means for local tribal stakeholders. This paper will analyze local community views, interests, initiatives and responses covering the civil society and communities likely to be affected/displaced by the infrastructure development of dams and military bases along the Sino-Indian border.

Borderland Identities: The Slavic Muslim Minorities in Kosovo and Macedonia

Ladislav Lesnikovski (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan)

The Ottoman millet legacy has weathered time and reforms and has been imbued in the culture and behavior of former Ottoman nationalities. The establishment of clear-cut identities is a more recent phenomenon, and there still exist ethnic anomalies that do not clearly fit into the dominant oppositions. Often these 'anomalous' groups shift their identities and loyalties in response to political developments, and become bone of contention between more powerful groups.

The Slavic Muslim minority identities in Kosovo and Macedonia are interesting cases, since they survived in some form not being assimilated by more powerful groups, especially in the boundary zones. Historically, the categories used to describe the inhabitants of these regions have undergone a series of transformations as a result of boundaries and historical contingencies. Here local, regional and religious identities, based on non-ethnic criteria, remained very important despite the superimposition of ethnic and national identities. How such ambiguous identities respond to the new political developments whether it is the independence of Kosovo or post-conflict Macedonia is of main interest here i.e. the interaction and the self-consciousness of minority groups in this border zones.

**Voices of the Borderland Community: The Identities and Educational Issues of
“Repatriates” from Sakhalin**

Svetlana Paichadze (Hokkaido University, Japan)

Hokkaido has relatively few foreign residents compared to other parts of Japan, but one significant group of long-term foreign residents is people from Sakhalin who moved to Hokkaido after the “Cold War” era. In March 2010 there were 68 households comprising 173 people (of which 25 households and 91 people were in the Sapporo area). For many years they lived in Sakhalin as “Korean Russians”, but they returned to Japan as “Japanese” either by descent from a Japanese parent or through marriage to a Japanese decedent. Many have double or triple identities as Russians, Japanese and Koreans. Many of the second generation (born postwar) are Russian native speakers. Many from the first generation also speak Korean. After coming to Japan they learned Japanese, but while continuing to school their children and grandchildren in Russian. One of the significant reasons to “return” to Japan was the prospect of a “good life and good education for the children”, but the new generation does not speak Japanese and the schools are not ready to teach foreign children. As a result, hopes of “good education and good life” became very difficult. This paper explores identities, language use and education issues among this community, which is a legacy of the complicated border and population movements.

North Korean—South Korean Disputes over the “Home” of Sakhalin Koreans

Mooam Hyun (Hokkaido University, Japan)

In the postwar, Sakhalin Koreans were politically close to North Korea. This paper explores the process by which Sakhalin Koreans becomes a “borderland community” of two countries through increased contact with South Korea. Even though many Sakhalin Koreans were originally from the southern part of the Korean Peninsula, what is now South Korea, politically speaking they were treated as the people of the Soviet Union’s friend North Korea. However, in the 1970s, “missing person” broadcasts to Sakhalin from South Korea led to the start of mail correspondence via Tokyo by South Korean families and their relatives in Sakhalin. With the end of the Cold War and improved relations between Russia and South Korea, South Korea send cultural envoys to Sakhalin who reignited in Sakhalin Koreans their memories of “home”. North Korea tried to counter this by claiming their status as the “motherland”, but for Sakhalin Koreans, South Korea was already the “home” to which they should return. In this paper I examine the shift in Sakhalin Koreans’ identities from North to South through analysis of newspapers published by Korean society in Sakhalin during the culmination of the Cold War.

Memories beyond Borders: Karafuto Sites of Memory in Hokkaido

Philip Seaton (Hokkaido University, Japan)

In the aftermath of World War II, many people found themselves on the “wrong” side of redrawn national borders. These people were often “repatriated” to unfamiliar places and saw their “homes” become “foreign”. One such example is the southern half of Sakhalin, which was controlled and settled by Japan after 1905, but incorporated into Russia following Japan’s defeat in 1945. Emotionally significant “sites of memory” are very often marked with monuments and museums. Yet when the actual sites are lost beyond redrawn borders, proxy sites must be created. This paper examines the processes of trans-border memory-making through examination of Hokkaido’s role as a “proxy site of memory” for the history and memories of Karafuto. It examines three particular types of site: 1) Official (government-sponsored) exhibits about Sakhalin in Aka Renga (former Hokkaido Government Building) in Sapporo and the Historical Museum of Hokkaido; 2) The religious site of Hokkaido Gokoku Shrine in Asahikawa, which took over the functions of Karafuto Gokoku Shrine in commemorating the souls of fallen soldiers from Karafuto; and 3) Sites in Wakkanai Park that overlooks the Soya Straits at the emotionally significant “closest point to Sakhalin” in Japan.

“Homecoming” Visits to Karafuto

Masatoshi Miyashita (Hokkaido University, Japan)

Hundreds of thousands of Japanese were expelled from the island of Karafuto (Sakhalin) by the Soviet Union following Japan’s defeat in 1945. Although it is more than 70 years since people lost their homes, there are still some former Karafuto residents in Japan who want to visit Sakhalin. Their towns and villages have changed beyond recognition, but there is still a strong attachment to what they consider their hometowns and villages. Their imaginations extend beyond man-made, national borders and consequently “home” has been imaginatively constructed. This paper explores conceptions of “home” among Japanese expelled from Sakhalin. It considers the significance of sites of memory/commemoration (particularly grave plots of ancestors), reminiscences linked to particular geographical spaces (for example mountains and rivers), and possibly idealized memories of childhood in a “home” that has been “foreign” for the majority of their lives. These images and concepts of home are to be explored through interviews with a group of Japanese people who will participate in a “homecoming” tour to Sakhalin held in August 2011. It explores the complex sentiments and memories of one of the lesser-studied populations of displaced persons at the end of World War II.

The Resolution of Boundary Debate as the Beginning for Strategic Cooperation between China and SOC Countries

Shuqin Gao (University College London, UK)

This paper presents the resolution of boundary debate as the beginning for strategic cooperation between China and Shanghai cooperation organization's countries after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The collapse of the Soviet Union cast a long shadow over future deals about the more than 3,000 kilometers western border between the former Soviet Union and China. The border arrangement spread toward the former Sino-Soviet western sphere, and the western part of the border was divided into four sections. The first section is the 50-kilometers Sino-Russian border. China shared a border with the three successor states, as well as Russia: the 1,700-kilometers border with Kazakhstan, the 1,000-kilometers border with Kyrgyzstan, and the 430-kilometers border with Tajikistan. The three Central Asian countries declared their independence but none of them recognized the existence of the border issue with China in provoking some territorial concessions to Chinese claims. Author will analyze how did China resolve the boundary dispute with SOC countries? How did the successful resolution of boundary dispute set up precondition for their strategic cooperation, in particular, for their energy cooperation? Moreover, author will argue the geopolitical and geo-economic implication of boundary dispute between China and SOC countries for central Asian and Northern-East Asian region.

China's Evolving Self-Identity and Maritime Strategy: Implications for the East and South China Seas Disputes

Christopher Len (Institute for Security and Development Policy, Sweden)

This proposed study explores China's evolving self-identification and examines how this ideational feature shapes China's maritime strategy in the East and South China Seas disputes over islands and boundaries. The author will first characterize China's changing self-identity as three distinct Chinese leadership periods, under (1) Mao Zedong (1949-1976), (2) Deng Xiaoping- Jiang Zemin (1977-2002) and (3) Hu Jintao (2003-Present). The second part will feature China's maritime strategy towards the East and South China Seas in the context of the prevailing self-identity under the respective leaderships. The focus will be on China's dealings with Japan in the East China Sea, and the Philippines and Vietnam, the two biggest claimants against China in the South China Sea. It will be argued that Chinese policy-makers are today internally debating to find a new balance between securing China's economic interests and territorial integrity, having developed a keen sense of its own growing power around 2008. This is China's process of re-defining itself as a re-emerging sea power in the 21st century. Finally, the author will share his thoughts on how this development will have significant implications for Beijing's future maritime strategy, particularly its attitude towards its maritime disputes in East Asia.

The EU's Possible Mediator Role in Asia-Pacific Maritime Border Disputes

Mason Richey (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea)

In a recent monograph—“Addressing U.S.-China Strategic Distrust”—Kenneth Lieberthal and Wang Jisi articulate an understanding of U.S.-China relations that illustrates nearly irreconcilable differences. Among other things, their work discusses the difficulties to Sino-U.S. relations caused by maritime border disputes between China and some of its Southeast Asian neighbors (such as the Philippines and Vietnam). The U.S.’s interests in this sub-region of Asia-Pacific lead it to strengthen its support of claims by these states, because the U.S. might in the future employ them as part of a strategy to encircle China; meanwhile a rising China asserts its prerogative to increasingly shape the geopolitics of a “vital area of its neighborhood.” Naturally this situation leads to security dilemmas. This paper argues that the European Union can, through its CFSP (Common Foreign and Security Policy) contribute to resolving some of the problems caused by such dilemmas. Although the EU cannot solve the underlying conflicts, it is uniquely suited to promoting a multilateral framework through which a declining U.S., rising China, and interested regional groupings (ASEAN, ARF, East Asia Summit) can peacefully negotiate maritime border dispute solutions beyond the possibilities offered by standard bilateral negotiations, which often fail because of security dilemmas.

Landscapes of Energy in the Arabian Gulf: Qatar's Borderscapes: Designing Ecological Peace

Anna Katharina Grichting Solder (Qatar University, Qatar)

The drawing of boundaries to define nations and ownership of oil and gas deposits in the Arabian Gulf are at the origin of territorial disputes in the region. This paper examines the peninsula of Qatar and two border areas- the Hawar Islands and Khor al Adaid which have been the source of conflict in the past. The Hawar Islands, situated off the East coast of Qatar now belong to the island of Bahrain. The islands lie on the path of thousands of endangered migrating birds and play an important role in regional marine ecologies. Khor al Adaid is a unique assemblage of terrestrial and marine environments with a large tidal embayment lying in an area of mobile dunes that straddles the border with Saudi Arabia. Also regarding the site of past border disputes, the area is recognized as an area of global importance. Both of these border areas have been nominated as UNESCO World Heritage Site. Could they one day become zones of cross-border ecological cooperation that could guarantee lasting human and ecological security between Qatar and its neighbors as well as providing well designed and managed spaces for nature observation and protection?

The Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster: Perspectives from the Border Areas

Fuminori Kawakubo (Chuo Gakuin University, Japan)

Junji Shiraishi (Esri Japan Corporation, Japan)

Our proposal of a presentation may be tentatively titled; “The Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster: Perspectives from the Border Areas”. A massive radiation leak occurred at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant as a result of the earthquake and tsunami on March 11. After the accident, the Japanese government drew an artificial border to evacuate people. These borders, which are also concentric circles drawn by the government, do not reflect on-the-ground situation of the disaster-hit area. In the case of the city of Minamisoma, the town was divided into four parts in the initial stage of nuclear crisis: the evacuation zone, the emergency evacuation preparation zone, the planned evacuation zone, and the safety zone. In this context, it can be recognized that bordering practice is the act of the distinction among people even within the same town in the situation of emergency. It is needless to say that radiation goes beyond border. This is a symbolic case of limitless risk. This presentation overviews the post war development of Japan which has put an emphasis on nuclear energy, and examined the current situation of Fukushima and local people living in border areas.

Transboundary Rivers in Central Asia: Conflicts, Prevent, Resolution and Management

Usmonov Furugzod (Tajik National University, Tajikistan)

Central Asian region for years remains one of the most unsecure regions in the world. On one hand the borders between countries are still not demarcated and delimited, on other hand in own south borders region have such neighbours as Afghanistan and Pakistan. Instability in south countries brings to exporting terrorism and narcotraffic. Central Asian countries very often are under attack of terrorists and Islamic extremists. Particularly the higher activity of foreign Islamic activist brings to Civil War in Tajikistan. Some type of modern Civil War – “colour revolution” also happened in Kyrgyzstan, but the reason of it was “rapid modernization”, mainly imported from western countries. The potential risk of conflict in India and Pakistan, as well developing situation in Iran will also reflect to the region.

New type of challenges – water problems is reflected to the soft security of region. The growth of population, decreasing the volume of water becomes the most serve problem of the region. Central Asia countries have several cross-border rivers which source of conflicts. The main dispute is between upstream countries – Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan want use water for hydroelectric components, and downstream countries mainly use water for irrigation. The lack of experience of Central Asian authorities and mutual distrust do not allow them at this moment to resolve water problems.

Session Introduction

Yuji Ankei (Yamaguchi Prefectural University, Japan)

We welcome the scholars from all over the world to listen to local voices from African border regions and to share alternative views on the nature of conflicts, civil wars and the political economy of the continent. Prof. G. Mwangi (Kenya) introduces us to the importance of understanding the ecological and historical backgrounds of nomadic Somali as an example, before labeling them as living in the worst “failed state” of the world. Dr. S. Takeuchi and Prof. M. Sawada (Japan) provide us with the experience of military occupation followed by economic investment along the eastern border of the DR Congo with Rwanda and Uganda, respectively. Dr. J.C. Maswana (DR Congo) will resume our panel with China’s increasing presence on African border regions, and will invite all of the participants to discuss African issues in a wider global context.

The Historical Origins of Border Problems between Somali and her Neighbours

Gordon C. Mwangi (Shikoku Gakuin University, Japan)

All the remedies fail if the diagnosis itself is wrong. Since 2007, the Somali Republic has been placed on the top of the list of worst “failed states,” perceived as having fallen short of the basic conditions or responsibilities of sovereign governments. Since independence, its governments have insisted on reincorporating all the land used by Somali people living in her neighbouring countries: Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Kenya. Thus, conflicts on Somali borders never end, and piracy is going on along its long coastal line. I challenge such stereotypic views of Somali people. We should first understand their ethos as a nomadic people in their ecological background, and learn from their history since ancient times. Along this line, we will be able to conceptualise what democracy and agriculture mean for them, and why local clans are more important than a central government for them, why they would not recognize political boundaries drawn by British, French, and Italian colonialists, and so on. Understanding and accepting nomadic ways of life is often difficult for governments run by agrarian peoples like Kikuyu of Kenya, but it will certainly help them to learn how to prevent (or provoke) ethnic clashes within their countries.

Dominance beyond the Border (1): Rwanda – DR Congo Relations and their Impacts on Rwanda’s Political Economy after the 1990s

Shinichi Takeuchi (Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization, Japan)

Despite its tiny country size, Rwanda has exerted political dominance over a part of the huge Western neighbor, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). As a consequence of its military intervention in the civil war of the DRC, Rwanda has enlarged its political influence beyond its western border since the late 1990s. This has caused tremendous impacts on Rwanda’s political economy. One of the most outstanding changes is the marked increase of trans-border mineral trade. Although Rwanda’s export had traditionally depended on coffee and tea, the largest export items today are minerals such as tin and coltan (Columbite-Tantalite) produced in the eastern border areas of the DRC. The high economic growth that Rwanda has realized since the 1990s is mainly attributable to the rapid development of the mineral trade. Impacts of the political dominance are, however, complex: it has been pointed out that the rapid economic growth has critically widened internal economic inequality, which has contributed to deepening the ethnic cleavage. The paper examines impacts of the political dominance, and especially tries to clarify those on the daily life of ordinary people in Rwanda.

Dominance beyond the Border (2): Uganda – DR Congo Relations since 1990's with Special Reference to Oil Discovered in the Lake Albert Area

Masato Sawada (Kyoto Seika University, Japan)

Political and economical changes in DRC (the Democratic Republic of the Congo)-Uganda border since 1990s are described. On both sides of the border between Uganda and DRC, there existed several groups of anti-government rebels. Although each government had tried hard to defeat the rebels on its border, these efforts did not bring about much change to the military balance in the area until 1998, when the second civil war in DRC began. Ugandan army crossed the border, and occupied the vast north-eastern areas of DRC. During this occupation, higher ranking officials of Ugandan army illegally exploited the rich natural resources there, such as gold and wood. UN reports also condemned Uganda because the manipulation of ethnic relationships by Ugandan army caused deadly ethnic cleansing in this area. When the civil war ended, Uganda seems to have pivoted its policy from military occupation to economical investment in DRC. Uganda's trans-border trade with DRC drastically increased as ethnic conflicts have decreased. Recently, petroleum was discovered under the Lake Albert, just on their border, both Uganda and DRC governments are keenly interested in this border for their political survival in the global economy.

Africa's Economic Landscape and Rising China: Trends and Issues

Jean-Claude Maswana (JICA-Research Institute, Japan)

As European nations spread their influence throughout Africa in the 19th Century, they wrangled over the issue of mapping their conquests. The conference at Berlin provided the ground rules for the scramble for Africa—states claiming territory would have to produce proof of economic and infrastructure development in the region claimed. Underlying all the European motives for colonial expansion into Africa was the pursuit for mineral wealth. Clearly, from the outset, drawing borders has been associated with mining exploitation and infrastructure development in Africa. As China is set to become Africa's largest export destination in 2012-2013, using trade and investment data the present paper seeks to explore what could be termed the emerging borders of Africa as seen from Beijing's perspectives. Attempts will be made to answer additional questions such as how African economic borders are being re-designed. How much of this reconfiguration results from China's rising presence? What challenges are emerging from the emerging borders?

Effectiveness of Japan's Defense Policy in its Borderlands

Akihiro Sado (Chukyo University, Japan)

Many people in Japan have come to see China as a threat because of its rapid military buildup in combination with its economic growth and the nation's desire to aggressively expand its sphere of influence, as highlighted by the territorial disputes in which it is currently involved. Particularly in regard to territorial issues, there are growing calls for Japan to respond more effectively to military pressure from China concerning the Senkaku Islands. However, the question is whether Japan's defense system and policy are effective in addressing territorial and maritime delimitation issues. In direct response to the threat from China, Japan adopted a policy of strengthening its defense capabilities for the Nansei Islands in the East China Sea (including the Senkaku Islands) as shown in the National Defense Program Guidelines for FYs 2004 and 2010. Today, the Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) are capable of responding to direct threats to the country's territorial integrity in terms of both morale and proficiency. However, the problem lies in the future because it is unclear how long Japan can maintain the upper hand if China continues to strengthen and modernize its People's Liberation Army at the current rate. More importantly, the policy which Japan implements to defend its land and territorial waters needs a number of modifications.

First, Japan lacks adequate legislation for defending its land and territorial waters; the Japan Coast Guard (the institution tasked with protecting national waters) is not vested with the authority of equivalent institutions in other countries. The second issue involves budgetary concerns. Since the end of the Cold War, Japan's defense budgets have been cut while the duties of the JSDF have been extended to cover overseas dispatches for United Nations Peace Keeping Operations, disaster response efforts and other activities. A continuation of this trend may result in the failure to maintain effective defense capabilities. The lack of adequate laws and the continuation of budget cuts may send negative messages to other nations that could make them question Japan's commitment to defending its land and territorial waters. Some of the measures currently in place to beef up the defense of the Nansei Islands have been called into question. These include the planned deployment of Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) personnel to Yonaguni Island in Okinawa Prefecture. The national budget for fiscal 2013 includes provision to cover expenses in consideration of related infrastructure development, but doubts remain over the effectiveness of the coastal surveillance unit to be deployed on Yonaguni Island in order to protect Japan's borders. The people of Yonaguni Island are also divided over whether a garrison should be established there; even if one is built as planned, there is no guarantee that troops will be welcomed by locals. As the people of Okinawa (which hosts 74 percent of Japan's U.S. military presence) have mixed feelings about the U.S. Forces and the JSDF, the potential construction of a JSDF facility on the island faces a number of issues that would not apply in mainland Japan. Accordingly, the strengthening of defense capabilities for the Nansei Islands requires careful handling in consideration of Okinawa's political climate.

In the current circumstances, Japan should work to quickly enhance its air and sea defense capabilities and enact legislation on territorial and maritime defense. Such marine defense measures include the reinforcement of the Japan Coast Guard. If the territorial disputes between Japan and China grow more acrimonious, a direct military standoff between the two nations could cause the row to spiral out of control. For this reason, the roles of the Japan Coast Guard (a police organization) are important. Now is the time for Japan to engage in a wholesale re-examination of its defense policy for its land and territorial waters, including budgets for defense and foreign affairs.

Local Government's Ocean Policy I—A Case of Taketomi Town, Okinawa

Keiyu Kohama (Taketomi Town Office, Japan)

With the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in 1996, Japan entered an era characterized by a new maritime legal order under which vast sea areas are managed as part of the nation's territory. In July 2007, Japan enforced the Basic Act on Ocean Policy, which clearly defined various matters including the responsibilities of local governments, integrated management of coastal zones and conservation of remote islands. Following the introduction of the act, Taketomi Town Office formulated its own Basic Plan on Ocean Policy as an engine for regional promotion. The plan covers a period of five years from FY 2010, and the town implements 23 specific related measures.

Specific efforts

In recent years, Taketomi Town has faced problems related to marine debris, including deterioration of the natural environment and scenery, endangerment to maritime navigation and damage to fisheries. The locations where marine debris washes ashore on the town's islands depend on seasonal winds, and this flotsam ruins scenery as well as destroying ecosystems. Against this backdrop, local NPOs and other organizations have stepped up their efforts to address the issue of debris washing ashore. Expanded polystyrene accounts for about 40 percent of such flotsam in terms of volume, and an experiment carried out to examine the feasibility of converting this material into styrene oil resulted in the successful development of energy for use with diesel engines, boilers and ships. This drew attention as a possible solution to the marine debris issues that commonly plague remote islands. The town's various efforts to conserve its valuable natural resources include incorporating vast coral reef/seaweed areas and parts of mangrove forests into national or marine parks. Efforts are also being made to establish marine protected areas (MPAs) to support conservation and sustainable use of the local biosphere. The government and local stakeholders have embarked on an initiative for the formulation of rules to ensure safe navigation along Sekisei Lagoon passages positioned as remote island routes, which are indispensable in the daily lives of people living on the town's islands. As Taketomi consists of islands, coral reef areas play essential roles as fishery and tourist resources in addition to acting as routes for visitors/locals and goods in the same way as roads on land. The town also manages such areas as an administrative district based on various initiatives, including efforts to protect the natural environment and collect marine debris arriving from non-Japanese waters for disposal or treatment. The town has called on the national government to include its coral reef areas in the calculation of ordinary local allocation tax and submitted opinions to the organizations involved based on the Local Allocation Tax Act. It will continue its efforts to secure revenue sources that will help conserve the natural environment of these areas.

Contribution to efforts for the creation of an oceanic state

Taketomi Town has five particular charms: a beautiful natural environment, scenery, traditional culture, history and islanders. It is capable of making a significant national contribution based on its prized world-class natural environment, and forms an important part of Japan's territorial sea borders and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) due to its coverage of the nation's southernmost inhabited islands. Protecting the magnificent natural environment and the local culture supported by the area's marine environment, as well as establishing and ensuring the maintenance of safe and secure communities by overcoming regional challenges, is expected to contribute greatly to the creation of an oceanic state.

Local Government's Ocean Policy II— A Case of Goto City, Nagasaki

Minoru Kubo (Goto City Office, Japan)

Outline of Goto City. (A) Location: Goto City is located at the westernmost point of Kyushu about 100 kilometers to the west of Nagasaki Prefecture. It consists of 11 inhabited islands and 52 uninhabited islets. (B) Population and demographics: (1) Population: 40,622 (source: 2010 population census) (2) Ratio of residents aged 65 or over: 33.4%; ratio of residents under 18: 11.8% (3) The city's rapidly aging population and declining birthrate are seen as a microcosm of Japan's future demographic structure.

Initiatives drawing on the advantages of the islands. (A) Efforts to make the islands Japan's top camellia producing region: Efforts are under way to revitalize the region by capitalizing on the 4.4 million camellias that grow locally and the nation's largest output of camellia oil. (B) Promotion of the Goto Eco-Island Plan: (1) Goto City has 82 electric vehicles, 15 chargers and 17 rapid chargers. (2) A test to verify appropriate operation of Japan's first floating wind turbine was conducted locally in July 2012. (C) Efforts to promote the inscription of Nagasaki's Churches and Christian Sites on the World Cultural Heritage List: Goto City is home to 21 churches. The Former Gorin Church on Hisaka Island and Egami Church on Naru Island are on the Tentative World Cultural Heritage List as property components. (D) Tuna farming: (1) Five companies engage in tuna farming on Fukue Island. (2) Shipments of locally cultured tuna are expected to exceed 500 tons in FY 2012. (3) One of the companies involved engages in full life cycle aquaculture based on artificial incubation.

Present situation of the marine border. (A) Possible Internet sale of the uninhabited Hocho Island: (1) The uninhabited island was put up for sale on the Internet in August 2010. (2) This prompted the government to establish the identity of the owners of all 52 uninhabited islands. (3) Concerns were raised about possible island purchases using foreign capital. (B) Present situations of the Danjo Islands and Hizen Torishima (a group of remote border islands: Danjo Islands: (1) The islands are situated 72 kilometers to the southwest of Fukue Island. (2) They consist of five islets, including Oshima and Meshima, and several rock reefs. (3) The islands were designated as a national natural monument in 1969. (4) Meshima Island – the site of a lighthouse – became uninhabited in 2006; Hizen Torishima: (1) Hizen Torishima is situated 61 kilometers southwest of Fukue Island. (2) It consists of three rocks: Minamiiwa (88 m²), Iwase Nakaiwa (80 m²) and Kitaiwa (19 m²). (3) The Finance Ministry completed property ownership registration for the land in 1970. (4) It was designated as a low-water line preservation zone on June 1, 2011. (5) It serves as a base point for Japan's exclusive economic zones. (C) Seizure of Chinese fishing boat captains in waters near Hizen Torishima: (1) On November 6, 2011, a Chinese fishing boat captain was arrested on suspicion of violating the Fishery Act. He was accused of fleeing in defiance of an order from a Japanese patrol vessel to stop for on-site inspection four kilometers north-northwest of Hizen Torishima within Japanese territorial waters. (2) On December 20, 2011, a Chinese fishing boat captain was arrested on suspicion of violating the Act on Regulation of Fishing Operation by Foreign Nationals. He was accused of engaging in coral fishing four kilometers north-northwest of Hizen Torishima. (3) Following these arrests, the Goto City Government asked the Nagasaki Coast Guard Office, the Nagasaki Prefectural Government and the Fisheries Agency's Kyushu Fisheries Coordination Office to step up their surveillance efforts. (4) Previously, the many Japanese fishermen operating in waters near Hizen Torishima and the Danjo Islands also fulfilled a border patrol function. However, a decline in their numbers caused by rising fuel oil prices, aging, a lack of successors and other reasons means that they can no longer play this role. (D) Harborage by Chinese fishing boats: (1) Many foreign fishing boats (mainly from China) take refuge in the bays of Fukue Island during typhoons and at other times. (2) As a result of such activities, the submarine transmission pipe feeding a small local water-supply system was damaged, fixed shore nets were torn and other issues have arisen. Some Chinese fishermen have also illegally landed on the islands.

Japan's Northern Territory Issues

Ryoichi Honda (The Hokkaido Shimbun Press, Japan)

1. A "border" city

Nemuro City is located on the Nemuro Peninsula, which juts into the sea off eastern Hokkaido. The Habomai Islands, which can be seen from Cape Nosappu at the tip of the peninsula, collectively form one of the Four Northern Islands (also known as the Northern Territories) under the effective control of Russia. Between the Nemuro Peninsula and the Habomai Islands lies the Nemuro Strait, where an intermediate line has been drawn as a geographical middle division between Japan and Russia. It is a virtual division, but as no formal border has been demarcated, the term border is placed in quotation marks: Nemuro is a "border" city, not a border city.

2. A city in dire straits

Border cities around the world have thrived on trade. In Nemuro, however, trade with the Russian-controlled Northern Territories was prohibited because it was deemed tantamount to allowing effective control by Russia. This prompted some Nemuro locals to poach fish as a means of survival.

3. Three periods of poaching

There have been three periods of poaching by Nemuro fishermen. The first was the era of reporting ships from 1947 to 1990, when Japanese fishermen were allowed to operate in Soviet territorial waters on condition that they provided the Soviet coast guard with information about Japan. The second was the period of small high-speed Japanese poaching vessels, which lasted from autumn 1978 to 1990. The third was the period of Russian poaching vessels from 1991 to the present. Reporting ships and Japanese poaching vessels both disappeared in 1990 due to the collapse of the Cold War structure and the improvement of Japan-Soviet relations. A visit by then-Soviet President Gorbachev to Japan in 1991 led to Soviet vessels being granted access to Nemuro Port in the same year, and Soviet/Russian ships have brought sea urchins and crabs to the area ever since. 20121113 BRIT XII – 2012 Fukuoka/Busan

4. Seizure and shooting incidents

Abundant marine resources on the far side of the intermediate line motivated many Japanese fishermen to operate beyond this boundary, resulting in seizure and shooting incidents. From April 1946 to June 2012, 9,493 Japanese fishermen on 1,340 vessels were seized by Russian authorities. From this total, 31 people on 23 vessels have not returned to Japan (as of October 10, 2012). This is because ships sank during seizure; as a result, some fishermen were unaccounted for and some killed themselves during detention by the Soviet/Russian authorities. A total of 13 shooting incidents occurred from January 1950 to January 2010, of which four took place during the Soviet era and nine during the Russian era. There was a shooting-free period of just over six years until August 2006 thanks to improved Japan-Russia relations.

5. Japan-Russia relations and Nemuro

Nemuro has long been affected by national policy, as manifested by the operation of reporting ship/poaching vessels and the occurrence of shooting incidents. The outstanding territorial problems place constraints on cooperation between Japan and Russia in marine resource management and on-site collaboration by the Russian Border Patrol and the Japan Coast Guard. Addressing the issues at hand requires broad consideration of Japan-Russia relations and acceptance of the reality that unresolved border issues have caused a variety of problems.

Central Asian Labour Migrants to Russia: Employment Agencies vs. Informal Job Search Networks

Paul Fryer (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

This presentation addresses the population movements that followed the collapse of the USSR, namely voluntary labour migration from neighbouring former Soviet republics into the Russian Federation. Economically buoyant Russia is a top destination for migrants from the poorest Central Asian republics of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Existing research suggests that most migration from the region is made through informal channels across porous borders, though this process is not without risks – its illegality has led to problems of exploitation. Governments and international organisations have responded by focusing efforts on establishing official employment agencies in urban centres with poor results, as most migrants come from the peripheral countryside and find informal networks simpler. New communications technologies make it easier to contact friends and family already in Russia (eg, mobile telephones, internet) to find jobs or to engage in virtual discussions about working conditions (eg, internet forums, blogging sites) that diminish the risk of exploitation and avoid using official efforts. This paper looks at government efforts to manage migration through official employment agencies against a background of existing informal job search networks. This paper contributes to the global discussion on transnational labour migration through the unique experience of Central Asians in Russia.

The Concepts of Land in the Polish Zionism in the Partition Period

Haruka Miyazaki (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Japan)

Geographical Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and other Slavic Countries¹ was being published from 1880 to 1902 in Warsaw with a total of fifteen volumes. After the third partition of Poland in the late 18th century (1795), the territories of the former Polish=Lithuanian Commonwealth was divided and went under control of Russia, Prussia and Austria. The borders after the third partition were later redrawn by the Napoleonic Wars (1805-15). The Congress of Vienna (1814-15) created the Kingdom of Poland (Królestwo Polskie) and appointed a Russian Tsar as her king. The intimate relation with the Russian Empire gave Russia much power over Poland. The independence of Poland would not be established until the end of the First World War.

The dictionary was being published during the last two decades of the partition period. The place of publication, Warsaw, was then under the Russian rule. According to the title of the dictionary and its editorial policy written by Filip Sulimierski², it “officially” covered the territory of the Kingdom of Poland and its neighboring “Slavic countries.” The editor, however, attempted to record nearly all the places (even very small villages) in the grand territory of the former Polish=Lithuanian Commonwealth. It was a literal reconstruction of the “lost fatherland” under censorship. After the publication of the first five volumes, the then-editor passed away without knowing the resurgence of Poland and her new territory — being completely different from what he recorded.

In this fifteen-volume dictionary, we can see some symbolic place names such as “Żydów (Jews),” “Żydowa Nowina (Jewish news),” or “Palestyna (Palestine).” There were at least six “Jews” and three “Palestine” in the former Commonwealth. It indicates that people expressed not only the geographical features or historical traces of the places where they lived but also their other potential interpretations towards the places.

My presentation will focus on the toponym (i.e. the study of place names) of the Jewish communities (gminy żydowskie) in the Warsaw and Łódź districts, the centers of the Jewish population. The Jewish was one of the main minority groups in the Kingdom of Poland at the turn of the 20th century. When the Zionists movements began to develop, such concepts of “land” or “fatherland” became dynamic in respect to the lost (and later regained) Poland and the new country in Canaan. By analyzing data elicited from newspapers, pamphlets, and memoirs concerning the Zionists movements, I will show the trace of changing meanings of “land” in the Polish Zionism in the partition period.

¹ Bronisław Chlebowski, Władysław Walewski red., według planu Filip Sulimierski, Słownik Geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich (Warszawa, 1880-1902), tom I-XV1-2.

² F. Sulimierski(1843-1885); geographer, mathematician, the main editor and the initiator of the publication project.

North Korean Asylum Seekers and Dual Nationality

Andrew Wolman (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea)

The border between North and South Korea represents a paradox of sorts. On the ground, it is one of the strongest and most impenetrable frontiers ever devised by mankind. However, as a matter of (South) Korean constitutional law, the border simply does not exist. Instead, the Constitution defines the country's territory as encompassing the entirety of the Korean peninsula. This has real world implications, especially for individuals who are able to escape from North Korea. This paper examines one of those implications, specifically the manner in which courts and asylum officers in some (but not all) countries have concluded that the broad scope of South Korean nationality laws disqualifies North Korean escapees from refugee status due to article 1(A)(2) of the 1951 Refugee Convention, which states that an asylum seeker who is a dual national must fear persecution in both of his or her countries of nationality in order to be considered a refugee. The paper concludes by arguing that it would make more sense for tribunals to analyze the potential dual nationality of North Korean asylum seekers using the principle of 'effective nationality', which has often been endorsed by commentators but less commonly used by tribunals in recent years.

Alike But Not Fully Alike: On the Liminality of Twin Cities

Pertti Joenniemi (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

The paper approaches city-twinning, in exploring seven north European cases of city-pairs located on their respective sides of state borders, as a manifestation of state borders having to a degree lost their ability to contain and regulate processes of urbanization. In essence, twinning amounts to ambiguity that reaches beyond the self/other distinctions frequently used in categorizing processes and entities. It is argued that owing to these qualities, city-twins embody the potential of subverting various divisive distinctions. They remain difficult to subsume under the existing social categories and present, more generally, urban sociology, political geography and IR-theory with considerable challenges in revealing incongruities and vulnerabilities. In aiming at contributing to a better theoretical understanding as well as an unveiling of the structures that provide twinning with meaning, the paper employs liminality as a lens through which the nature of the transformative processes underway is illuminated and probed. Such an approach offers, the paper proposes, purchase and a way to address some of the shortcomings embedded in the customary approaches endeavouring at accounting for the more general transformative processes that also undergird city-twinning.

Koza as a Borderland: The Reconstruction of Militarized Places, Memories, and Identities

Takashi Yamazaki (Osaka City University, Japan)

While border or boundary has been one of the major key concepts and research topics in Political Geography, the discipline now sees newly emerging research themes such as roles of non-international borders and identity formation through bordering processes. Responding to these new trends, this paper pays attention to the multidimensionality and multifaceted effects of borders and bordering processes. As a case study from such a perspective, this paper explores the formation of a military base town called Koza in Okinawa, Japan. Although military base towns are not necessarily located close to international borders, their formations usually consist of various processes of domestic and international militarization. Koza was formed in front of the US Kadena Airbase during the Cold War and has constituted a kind of contact zone in which different social (racial, gender, regional, etc.) groups interact and uneven power relations unfold. Using written materials and narratives collected from the author's fieldwork, this paper illustrates how Koza can be conceptualized as a borderland and how its spaces, people's memories, and place-based identities have been (re)constructed and negotiated in relation to the borders of the foreign military base.

European Functional Border Regions: An Urban Potential Typology

Christophe Sohn (CEPS/INSTEAD, Luxembourg)

The objective of this paper is to empirically assess the urban potential of European border regions following a functional approach. The research, conducted in the framework of an ESPON project (GEOSPECS), covers all the border regions of the EU enlarged to Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein and mobilizes data collected at municipality level. First, the paper highlights the concepts and methods used in order to delineate the border regions according to a functional perspective based on travel distance and to assess their urban potential. Second, the implementation of a supervised classification allows defining a typology characterizing the urban potential of border regions in relation to the metropolitan functions of the urban centers and their location vis-a-vis land borders. Third, the analysis of population change (2001—2006) applied to the different categories of urban border regions suggests some final remarks with theoretical implications: if the border context is not incompatible with the development of competitive urban regions as suggested by (neo)classic location theories, the strong contrast between West European countries and East and Central European countries highlights the determining role of open borders in the urbanization of border regions.

Border Issues in Postcolonial Macao

Albert Wong (Macao Ricci Institute, China)

The sense of border in Macao can be conceived in four approaches, against the China Mainland, Hong Kong, “Elsewhere”, and among different communities in the city. The author suggests that the liberalization of the gambling industry, more than the official discourse of “Macao People Ruling Macao” describing the political status of the postcolonial city, is the major contributor to the building of the local identity for the past decade, which was nonexistent before the city’s handover to China, as described by the poet Virginia Cheang. It is interesting to see how both the constructive and destructive powers of the liberalization can be instruments of the growth of locality. It is also found that the sense of locality could also be a threat to developing a more democratic Macao, and even to its very uniqueness. A deeper decolonization through learning the city’s history from a viewpoint other than those provided by the Chinese and Portuguese states is needed for building a healthier sense of locality.

Transnational Island's Exchange: Cases of Tsushima and Goto Islands

Yuji Suzuki (Nagasaki Wesleyan University, Japan)

Putting the concept of border issues aside, it is commonly known in the island nation of Japan that remote islands form the country's outer perimeter and are directly related to territorial demarcation. The main islands of Japan are Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu, along with Okinawa's main part since its reversion to Japan. Among the numerous islands lying around these main landmasses, remote ones located in open sea areas naturally serve as starting points for the nation's territorial demarcation. However, Japan had no clear rules about its territorial waters at least until the Shogunate era, and fishing rights in coastal waters determined the extent of fishery activities. In those days, sailing boats were used for marine transportation, and fishermen also employed rowboats. Such operators therefore saw the high seas as their marine routes, and many traveled to fishing grounds near remote islands in open sea areas or even further to locations near the Korean Peninsula and the Asian Continent. In the 18th century, however, Japan began to demarcate its territorial waters in line with the development of engine-powered boats, the frequent appearance of foreign vessels near national boundaries and the general acceptance in Western Europe of a distance of three nautical miles (the length of a cannon shot) from the coast as the extent of territorial waters (as recognized by Britain and other maritime nations).

This demarcation significantly affected fishing activities, as fishing vessels entering other countries' territorial waters could be seized by those nations' patrol boats. Putting aside the existence of problems with territorial waters, Japan's remote islands are adjacent to the seas of other countries such as Russia, South Korea, China and Taiwan. Remote islands of Kyushu (particularly those of Nagasaki) have historically had close relations with the Asian Continent. Typical examples of such connections include envoy dispatches by Queen Himiko in ancient Japan as well as Japanese missions to Sui China and then to Tang China during the Yamato period (250 – 710), which included the Asuka period (538 – 710), and the Heian period (794 – 1185). Needless to say, these relations brought influences from the Continent to Japan in the form of writing systems, money, Buddhism, textiles, pottery, a variety of production techniques and the like via the Korean Peninsula, the Goto Islands and Tsushima Island. In subsequent years, Japan's relations with the Continent were strengthened through various forms of trade, including licensed exchanges with Ming China. Even during Japan's period of national seclusion, some diplomatic channels remained open as shown by Korea's Joseon missions to the country. These visits were made from a base in Tsushima, and helped to spread Chinese culture throughout Japan. Recently, Tsushima and other remote islands of Nagasaki have been the subject of attention in relation to robust exchanges that have taken place between Japan and South Korea. In the 1274 Mongol invasion of Japan, Mongols attacked northern Kyushu. The discovery of artifacts stemming from the attack and other developments led to the establishment of a Mongolian village in the Takashima area of Nagasaki's Matsuura City, which has a sister-city agreement and ties of friendship with a Mongolian municipality. In Goto City, the International Camellia Congress to be held in 2020 is expected to boost exchanges with China and promote the activities of the Goto Kids International Association. Additionally, Iki City has continued exchanges with South Korea in culture and performing arts, and Hirado Island has deepened relations with Taiwan to the extent that it was used as the location for a film featuring Koxinga, a hero in Taiwan and China. Rather than focusing on borders, these exchange projects and other developments are intended to promote internationalization and enjoyment of neighborly relations and to support mutual understanding regardless of differences. As shown by these examples, islands of Nagasaki are currently undergoing a process of internationalization. However, amid today's changing social tapestry, challenges in such development must also be considered.

Transnational Regional Exchange between Fukuoka, Tsushima and Busan

Naoki Arai (Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center, Japan)

Border and territorial issues regarding the Takeshima islets have recently attracted attention as a major challenge in Japan-South Korea diplomacy. Nevertheless, stable relations, including those over border issues, have been maintained in the Japan-Korea Strait Zone. The area encompasses Japan's northern Kyushu and Korea's southeastern regions; it is the border area where Japan and South Korea lie geographically closest to each other across the Tsushima Strait. Active inter-regional exchanges take place with a high-speed ferry service between Fukuoka and Busan as the main means of transportation. This report compares travel patterns and activities of Japanese/South Korean tourists based on the results of a survey conducted on tourism trends of passengers on the ferry service between the cities, which serve as nodal points for transportation and exchanges in the Japan-Korea Strait Zone. It also identifies challenges and discusses the roles of transnational inter-regional exchanges. The main results of the survey and related findings are summarized below.

1. For Japanese tourists, Busan is an urban tourism destination. Most survey respondents took one-night/two-day trips there and limited their activities to certain areas of central Busan. The majority cited food and shopping as their objectives for visiting and the basis of their activities, while only a few visited historical and cultural heritage sites.
2. Most South Korean tourists traveled without stopping for long at particular places. They visited tourist spots, hot springs and cities in Fukuoka and other prefectures within Kyushu, staying for two nights and three days on average. Many of them cited visits to historical/cultural heritage sites and hot springs as their objectives for visiting and the basis of their activities; this was in sharp contrast to the responses of their Japanese counterparts.
3. In Japan-South Korea relations, issues regarding the perception of history lie behind the dispute over the Takeshima islets and pose a major challenge. The Japan-Korea Strait Zone is home to many historical and cultural heritage sites, providing evidence of exchanges between the countries in ancient times. In recent years, new inter-regional initiatives have been implemented to promote preservation or reformation in order to make tourist spots of heritage sites that show negative aspects of the history between the two countries. Such work is expected to promote mutual understanding and exchanges through heritage tourism.
4. Japanese and South Korean tourists frequently cited hands-on experience and exchanges (e.g., participation in events, exchange activities and sports) when asked what they would like to do on future visits. Accordingly, enhancing the capacity to host tourists with hands-on experience/exchange options is expected to help expand and deepen the scope of tourism exchanges between the two countries.
5. Tsushima, a border island located in the Japan-Korea Strait region, promotes exchanges with South Korea as a way to revitalize its sluggish regional economy and society by capitalizing on its geographical and historical proximity to the nation. The initiative includes hands-on experience/exchange events for Japanese and South Korean tourists, exchange activities and programs leveraging the government's special district system to develop future leaders in Japan-South Korean exchange promotion. This work is attracting attention as a cutting-edge attempt to expand and deepen Japan-South Korea relations.

The History of Korean Language Education in Tsushima

Miran Lee (Tsushima High School, Japan)

Tsushima Island is the closest place in Japan to South Korea, located at the border between the two countries. In 2012, over 90,000 South Korean tourists had visited Tsushima as of July, while only 1,500 Japanese tourists visited in the same period. This is clearly due to the island's proximity to South Korea. Due to Tsushima's geopolitical location, the Korean language has long been used there, and many locals speak it. Against this backdrop, a Korean course was established within the academic course of Tsushima High School when the prefectural government launched the Remote Island Study Program for High School Students¹ in 2003. To date, 111 students, including those who are currently enrolled, have taken the course, with 65 of them from the island and 46 from elsewhere.

Recently, a variety of studies have been performed on the history of Korean language education in Japan. However, little is known about its history in Tsushima since 1880 (when the Department of Korean Studies was established at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies) after the establishment of the Korean Language School in Tsushima (as Japan's first Korean-language education facility) and similar schools in Izuhara and in the Japanese Legation in Choryang. This lack of information is believed to have stemmed from the transfer of diplomatic authority with Korea from Tsushima to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs when prefectures were established in place of feudal domains. However, Korean language education has continued uninterrupted in Tsushima, as indicated by the establishment of the Department of Korean Language Studies at Nagasaki Prefectural Izuhara Junior High School in 1882 and the holding of night-school Korean language lessons and study meetings. This report discusses the history of Korean language education in Tsushima, which deserves greater prominence in Japan's Korean language education history. It also briefly discusses Shotaro Kokubu and Kyosaku Maema, who were born in Tsushima and had close relations with Korea.

I hope the report will help to create a more complete picture of Korean language education history in Japan and that it will serve well as a set of recommendations for future exchanges between Japan and South Korea, particularly in terms of the roles Tsushima can play in bilateral relations.

Transnational Regional Exchange between Wakkanai City and Sakhalin

Hideshi Sato (Wakkanai City Government, Japan)

Geographical locations of Wakkanai and Sakhalin: The distance between Cape Soya and Sakhalin's Cape Crillon is about 43 km. Currently, the Japanese ferry company runs a regular ferry service between Wakkanai and Korsakov.

Relations between Wakkanai and Sakhalin: (1) A private enterprise began a regular ferry service between Wakkanai and Otomari (now called Korsakov) in 1911. (2) The Ministry of Railways (later known as Japan National Railways) began a regular ferry service between Wakkanai and Otomari (now called Korsakov) in 1923. (3) The Ministry of Railways began a regular ferry service between Wakkanai and Honto (now called Nevelsk) in 1924.

Predecessors serving as bridges between Wakkanai and Sakhalin: (1) On June 4, 1972, the Mayor of Wakkanai, the Speaker of the Wakkanai City Assembly and other local leaders visited Nevelsk on the chartered vessel Rirei Maru (135 tons) belonging to the East Japan Sea Ferry Company (now called Heart Land Ferry) and concluded a friendship city agreement. (2) In 1980, representatives of Wakkanai's local business community built the Wakkanai Japan-Soviet Friendship Hall under their own initiative.

Conclusion of friendship city agreements with Wakkanai: (1) Today, Wakkanai has friendship city agreements with three cities in Sakhalin. (2) The Wakkanai City Government's Sakhalin Office was established in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in 2002.

Facilitation of human/freight logistics to promote economic exchanges: (1) Exchanges in a variety of fields, including visits by young people, and practices relating to culture and sports became active in around 1992. Today, a wide range of exchanges are conducted in both public and private sectors. (2) The Friendly City Conference for the Promotion of Economic Exchanges is held annually in the venue alternating between Wakkanai and Sakhalin. (3) The Wakkanai-Korsakov Joint Conference for the Promotion of Regular Sea Route Use is held in the venue alternating between Wakkanai and Sakhalin. (4) The Wakkanai Chamber of Commerce and Industry has run the Project for Russian Trainees since 1994. (5) A Russian company and a Wakkanai enterprise established a joint venture called Wakkor Company through this project in 2001. The venture subcontracted civil engineering work at Sakhalin Energy's Prigorodnoye LNG plant for the Sakhalin Project II. (6) Wakkanai has run the Project for Friendly City Government Employees since 1993. Recently, sector-based training programs have been held on the topics of finance, dairy farming, tourism, waste disposal, education and municipal assembly secretariats. (7) Wakkanai engages in initiatives to attract tourists from Sakhalin in order to support the provision of a regular ferry service between Wakkanai and Korsakov. Efforts are also made to promote freight utilization.

Development of Sakhalin: The development of Sakhalin has changed the region's landscape.

Business between Wakkanai and Sakhalin: Efforts are made by Wakkanai companies to promote business in Sakhalin, which has a market of more than 300,000 people, based on the establishment of Wakkanai standards.

Defying Borders: Cyberspace and East Asian Security

Monika Chansoria (Centre for Land Warfare Studies, India)

The security dangers in East Asia and further Asia-Pacific are expanding in spheres/spaces that are beyond the borders of a single nation. The qualitative reordering of power within Asia, which boasts of the world's fastest-growing economies as well as fastest-rising military expenditures, has resulted in strategic stability becoming a key challenge.

With the world heavily slipping into, and relying upon, the age of information, a future conflict within Asia or beyond could witness tactics of cyber war becoming a key component and feature in all likelihood. It needs to be accepted that growing reliance on cyberspace has made issues pertaining to national security ever more susceptible. The future conflict and wars of the 21st century will not remain restricted to the traditional military sphere.

The shifting geo-strategic power equations in Asia seem to be arising with much of East Asia's security architecture being designed around the essentially realist principles of balances of power and the maximization of state interests. As the political history of the region tragically demonstrates, strategic competition between states over territory and resources continues to provide the core motivation for military conflict.

In this reference, the role of Information Warfare is very significant since it shatters the boundaries between military and society, as well as between peace and war. The nature, method and target of computer-based information warfare claims the capacity to pose a considerable threat that will transgress boundaries especially with China's growing focus on cyber and space capabilities. Therefore, the entire nature of future conflict in Asia and beyond will be transformed owing to the capacity to attack and disable an adversary's transport, energy supply and communications networks using computer technology.

Computer-based information warfare deliberately targets the adversary's political, economic, social and military infrastructures thereby creating the possibility of a national crisis, in which any nation may well get exposed to be exposed to attack from more conventional sources. Cyber attacks are being regarded as an asymmetrical strategy including carrying out intrusions into information and communication networks of other countries for the purpose of gathering intelligence.

Between Sederot and the “Green Line”

Zeev Zivan (Ben Gurion University, Israel)

This lecture describes the fate of the rural settlements around the Gaza Strip [GS] borders during the past decade—suffering from a war of attrition, from mortar and rocket fire from the GS. The official reports usually state that: “a rocket fell in open territory.” However, sometimes there are direct hits and people are wounded or killed. Meanwhile, people suffer psychological trauma due to living under constant fire over many years without recourse. The latest technological innovation, the “Iron Dome” defense system was developed by “Rafael” at great expense. Yet, the relatively high cost of these Israeli defensive missiles would never be justified if it were not for the official policy of the Government of Israel supporting the survival of these frontier residents to prevent them from fleeing to “safer” regions. In practice, the “Iron Dome” system, initially developed to protect the borderland residents, has been retasked to also protect the larger cities in southern Israel: Beer-Sheva, Ashdod, and Ashkelon. Cities ca.40 km from the GS were not endangered until recently. Palestinian terrorists are able to build rockets in local workshops and to fire them anywhere with an every-growing range. Public representatives demand that the Government honor its commitment and provide them with this effective defense system.

Biometrics as Borderland: A Methodological Approach to Materiality

Hidefumi Nishiyama (University of Warwick, UK)

This paper argues that biometric identification is not simply mechanical verification but it is simultaneously normalisation in which bodies become classifiable in the spectrum of un/desirability. From the late nineteenth century management of recidivists to the twenty-first century counterterrorism border security, biometric technologies are often said to identify an individual by verifying bodies on-site with stored biometric data. Reading of bodies however also involves prediction of identity that normalises bodies in terms of their characters, dispositions, and ultimately future. At the beginning of Shōwa era Japanese scientists led by Furuhashi Tanemoto began to classify ethnic groups by calculating their fingerprints, and established differences were later employed to discriminate “civilised” and “Japanese-type” bodies from “primitive” and “dangerous” ones. Drawing on Japanese scientific studies on fingerprints between the 1920s and 1930s, I argue that scientific biometric identification makes bodies a site of bordering practices that normalise bodies by predicting their dispositions in a similar but yet distinct manner to the way in which risks of immigrants are calculated today. Either primitive or terrorist, identity cannot exist prior to identification, nor is it to be recognised. Identity is to occur in the process of identification where the concept of un/desirability becomes possible.

The US Military Presence in Japan's Outlying Territories: Okinawa

Tomohiro Yara (Freelance Writer)

Okinawa is facing at least three borders. They are the territorial water boundary; the iron fence surrounding US military base; and the invisible wall segregating the local islanders and people in mainland Japan. These three boundaries have individual problems and are intertwined to create the so-called "Okinawa issue". The most critical issue opposed by the local people is the heavy presence of the US military bases often justified by fears of the rising military power of China. The center of this issue is the fact that the US military bases have occupied up to twenty percent of Okinawa Island. The most notorious installation is the US Marine Futenma Air Station located in the middle of Ginowan city, the hometown for 90,000 residents. The distance from Futenma Air Station's runway to the nearest private home is only 160 meters and it is only 300 meters from the nearest elementary school. This disastrous situation originated from WWII. The military had grabbed parcels of land from local residents to construct their bases and in turn, relocated all the local people to concentration camps during the battle of Okinawa. Since then the bases have remained until today.

Despite the legitimate and desperate appeals and requests from the local leadership to scale down the US military presence, the US and Japanese government has almost ignored the voices of the local people by justifying it with the classical phrase "for regional stability". The pleas of the local people have been pushed aside by both the US and Japanese governments who seem to be "sacrificing a leg to save the life". It is as if they believe that in order to have so-called "regional stability", Okinawa must sacrifice its islands for the occupation of US military bases. The local people feel this situation was mishandled by mainland Japan ever since Okinawa had become part of Japan at the end of the 19th century. Since then, a very high and thick wall has divided the two camps. The antagonistic relationship between the local people and the US Bases became more serious when the US Marines deployed the MV22 Osprey military planes to Futenma Air Station. In fact, the US media had given the controversial aircraft the nickname "flying coffin" or "widow maker" because of its high record of mishaps.

In September 2012, more than a hundred thousand Okinawan residents had gathered to protest the deployment of this plane, and hundreds of people had blocked the entrance of the Futenma until police riot forcefully demolished the human barricade. The people's protests have become stronger than ever before and the US bases issue in Okinawa is now in a very critical stage. The decision to deploy the Osprey aircraft to Futenma by the US and Japanese government has become a time bomb between the US and Japanese military alliance. The Tokyo government is not responsive to Okinawa's legitimate concerns. The Japanese mainstream media do not seem to pay much attention to the US military bases issue because they regard it as old news. Politicians are staying clear from this issue because they do not want to be responsible for this highly controversial national security issue. Furthermore, they are also afraid that if the US bases are relocated, they might just land in their own hometowns. The Okinawan issue of the US Bases has created growing antagonism from the local residents against the US military presence in Japan. This crucial territorial issue largely ignored by the majority of mainland Japan, is now in a stalemate position.

A Night in Shenzhen; Freedom and Status is Just over the Fence

Jonathan Burrow (University of Oulu, Finland)

Any Friday or Saturday night, long lines of Hong Kong residents proceed calmly through across the Hong Kong Shenzhen border, they scan their ID cards and fingerprints and head across the border for the restaurants, night clubs, massage parlours and other night time delights of Shenzhen a short trip across the heavily enforced border from their homes and workplaces. This evening crowd is not a unified group nor is it a one way flow. Instead the regular movement for leisure and pleasure across the border is a diverse and challenging two-way flow of conspicuous and inconspicuous consumption which has at its centre highly regulated individual mobility and for many an important component of their everyday life.

The Hong Kong - Shenzhen boundary dissects what is increasingly becoming a contiguous mega region, one that have built a symbiotic cross border entertainment industry that capitalises on the persistent feeling of difference that crossing the border creates. This paper will explore the nature and emotions of the cross border entertainment paradigm through case studies of individuals who participate in it and the relationships they have developed. These relationships can be exploitative, profitable and egalitarian. Based on previous ethnographic fieldwork and recent economic trends this paper will explore “a night in Shenzhen” as a component of these individuals border city experience.

The Origin of Vladivostok in Context of Geopolitical History

Sergey Tkachev (Far Eastern Federal University, Russia)

History of Vladivostok has been 152 years. Today its role of a springboard of Russian political influence in the Pacific region remains very high. In any case, the holistic understanding of Russian Far Eastern policy is impossible without understanding of Vladivostok position as imperial city, fortress, naval base, the city with powerful representative functions and the Euro-Asian nature.

My presentation is covered the beginning of Vladivostok (the first 50 years of its existence), the time of the active colonization of the Far East, the formation of new Russian borders, the change of the political landscape, when the role of this city also dramatically and sometimes diametrically changed.

The history of the choice of location for the center of Russian influence in the Pacific is of special interest. And here not only hydrological characteristics of the port, but also the most likely choice of political opponents in the region, changes in the boundaries of the Russian sphere of influence and geopolitical interests have played a crucial role.

The regular vulnerability of Vladivostok as a consequence of geographic isolation from central Russia is fundamental to understanding its role in Russian politics in the Far East at the turn of the XIX-XX centuries. On the other hand, even the huge financial investment to the development of communications could not change the geographical situation proper. Living activities of fleet require an easy access to a break-out. But geography of the Russian Far East, even in the southern harbors, assumes the freezing during winter months. However, even in summer the fleet found oneself in inland seas and straits that were controlled by other powers. Hence an interim, a temporary position of Vladivostok as a major naval Russian base in the Pacific, seems to be a springboard for further taking of the southern ocean harbors and straits.

Functioning of Cross-border Governance within the Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai Eurometropolis through the Lens of the Cross-border Public Transportation Issue

Frédéric Durand (CEPS/INSTEAD, Luxembourg) &
Jen Nelles (Urban Affairs and Planning Hunter College, USA)

The cross-border governance issue is a crucial stake for understanding the driving forces and the brakes of the territorial integration in Europe. The idea of this communication is to contribute to this debate by focusing the study of cross-border governance in the field of public transportation within the cross-border metropolitan region of Lille. After introducing the political and geographical context that led to the emergence of the Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai Eurometropolis (located at the Franco-Belgian border), an innovative analysis of the organizations was performed using the method of Social Network Analysis (SNA). Three hypotheses were tested to better understand the relationships and positions of the various organizations involved in cross-border cooperation. The first one tests the extent to which political competency translates into influence in cross-border networks. The second explores the effect of the international border on information exchanges between political actors. The third hypothesis relates to the role that various actors play within the network and, more specifically, the function of brokerage.

Keywords: cross-border governance; public transportation; social network analysis; spatial planning; Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai Eurometropolis

City Twinning in European Cross-Border Regions

Adam Ploszaj (University of Warsaw, Poland)

The aim of the paper is to analyse city twinning as a framework for cross-border cooperation in European cross-border regions. First part of the paper focuses on the quantitative study of city twinning in cross-border regions across internal and external borders of the European Union. The analysis is based on large database of twinning cities agreements covering all EU regions, prepared by the author as part of ESPON TERCO project. Spatial analysis of the data shows significant differences in intensity of twinning cities cooperation between the analysed cross-border regions. This observation leads to the second part of the paper, dedicated to explanation of this phenomenon. A number of factors that could underlie the observed diversity are discussed. The paper offers presentation of the current state of city twinning in European cross-border regions, and its conclusions establish new research problems that are worth examining in the future.

The Uyghur Diaspora in Central Asia: A Historical and Present Review

Jiaying Xu (Research Center for the History and Geography of China's Borderlands, China)

Uyghur people are an ethnic group mainly living in Xinjiang, China. But now there are Uyghur diaspora in Central Asia due to the evolution of geopolitics. How did it form and what are its present problems? The paper will review its history and probe into its present problems as well as the possible solutions.

Firstly, this paper will review the historical progress of Uyghur diaspora in Central Asia, narrate its background and analyse its characteristics as well as its cultural evolution with the changes under different political situation.

Secondly, the paper will also focus on the current situation and problems of the Uyghur diaspora, through discussing its cultural identity, cross-border crime as well as its influence on regional safety.

Thirdly, after concluding the roles played by the Uyghur diaspora in the geopolitical evolution of the 20th century, the paper tries to value the Uyghur diaspora in the regional politics and safety as well as the cross-border management cooperation.

Exile to Motherland and Exile to Hometown: Repatriate from Karafuto and Remaining in Sakhalin

Taisho Nakayama (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Japan)

The border line between Japan and Russia/USSR has been changed several times on the Sakhalin Island and neighboring straits. The last one occurred on August 1945. The USSR invaded the southern Sakhalin/Karafuto, which was one of colonies of Japanese empire. Most of Japanese inhabitants were exiled to the main lands of Japan, they were called “repatriates”. Most of Korean inhabitants and a few of Japanese inhabitants were remained in the Island, they were called “remaining” or “unreturned” Japanese/Korean.” The “Repatriate” complained that they have lost their “home town” and the “Remaining” complained that they have lost their “motherland.” As we know, the border changing collapsed their conventional lives. “Moving” was the important problem for “repatriate”, because they have lost their “hometown” living in their “motherland.” On the other hand, “un-moving (remaining)” was the important problem for “remaining” because they have lost their “motherland” living in their “hometown.” This paper focuses on the voices and views of the generation, who were born or grew in “Karafuto” because their identity and social background were different from those of the first generation who had led and represented themselves since the beginning, and try to discuss how we can imagine this border area.

“Romanians” beyond EU Border: Is Romania Heartland or Economic Asylum for Moldovans and Romanian Diaspora in Ukraine?

Keiji Sato (Hokkaido University, Japan)

The 2007 Romania’s integration into European Union has given a great geopolitical impact on political orientations of Moldovan government, and local governments of Chernovtsy and Odessa regions in Ukraine, which include ethnic Romanians as major regional minority. During the EU integration process, Romanian government changed regulation that allows foreigners who had ancestors with Romanian citizenship during interwar period to gain the Romanian citizenship. Moldovans and Romanian diaspora in Ukraine aspired to hold the Romanian citizenship, not only by primordialistic perspective (ethnicity) but instrumentalistic one (economic wealth). This research, taking the case studies of social organizations, political parties and NGO of Moldovans and Romanian diaspora in Ukraine that explicate Moldovan unification with Romania or “national integration” of Romanian society, discusses different stances, arguments and methodologies for achievement of their “common” political goals in each social group. It reveals that geopolitical location in each case affects each group of ethnic intimacy with Romanians in the Republic of Romania. This research utilizes author’s field works in Moldova, Chernovtsy and Odessa regions in Ukraine and interview with representatives of these organizations, political parties and NGO.

Session Introduction

The panel wishes to disseminate the first results of an epistemological border workshop which objective was to develop pluridisciplinary approaches in border studies, incorporating non-social academics, and initiating creative process through artists and architects' cooperation. The panel will discuss Social Sciences' findings on borders' changes by presenting the outcomes of dialogues with hard sciences, especially in the network and artificial intelligence fields.

A number of social science researchers have found inspiration in hard science to develop certain paradigms, such as the metaphor of "membrane" specific to osmotic systems used by Zygmunt Bauman to describe boundaries in the globalized world. However such interaction does not lead to a common articulation of science paradigms. Social science researchers often borrow models from hard science without actually mastering them. This panel will disclose the results of a discussion of patterns designed by hard science when used to study other phenomena such as turbulence, network partitioning, network dynamics, superposition of possible states in quantum mechanics and their dynamic interpretation in terms of branching, and more generally complex system simulation patterns combining several working modes.

Recent hard science developments used for control devices (such as biometry) are also tackled to better understand technical conditions governing changes in control and boundary devices and assess their impact on social and political processes. Debate between social science and hard science has revealed very useful to devise joint paradigms for the study of boundary regulation events, area structure, etc., and document the way hard science impacts government policies and transgression strategies are carried out by trespassers on site.

Interactions and articulations between research, architecture and art have been attempted successfully in recent years and generate innovative synergy, particularly useful for the production of new paradigms. Concerning borders, architects' contributions have shed light on policies and systems for land development of boundary areas and new interstitial modes, providing more means to model ever more complex configurations generated by control modes as well as reactions by local populations. Artists have helped us enhance models and representations of boundaries and actual experiences, and rethink the way we disseminate the results of our research to the general public.

The panelists will account for workshops led on networks, technology, materialization/dematerialization, and representation of borders that reveal how formal and experimental science theories, models and techniques provide useful conceptualization tools which can be intersected with social science analyses.

Presented to operators (customs authorities, government officials, security industrials or military representatives), they have proven useful to discuss the consequences of various hypotheses examined during the debate. They constitute important steps toward the publication of an Anti-Atlas of Borders at the Turn of the 21st Century. Each presentation will present of research results which methodology pretends to renovate border studies and which the authors wish to discuss by the other BRIT scholars.

(EU)-European Border Research and the Re-Framing of European Borders

James W. Scott (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

This presentation will contribute to the study of border concepts as they have evolved within the European integration context. In this specific case, European Union funded research since the 1990s will be analysed with regard to the scientific framing of border-related issues. This will be done in three ways: 1) tracing the shifting policy concerns that inform the EU's definition of research agendas, 2) tracing the socio-political issues that have emerged in actual research and 3) relating these conceptual shifts to more general academic and policy debates on borders. One of the main rationales for this research is to highlight convergence and divergence between different areas of European research on borders.

On-board Borders?

Amaël Cattaruzza (Saint Cyr Coëtquidan Military School, France)

The generalization of technologies for border management responds to a new conception of border security based on old military strategies: intelligence (individualized control, anticipation) and mobility (projected forces). The example of patrol robots, as the European TALOS project, reveals this idea of mobile border surveillance, rapidly deployable and actionable at any place of land border. What do these technological tools mean for our border representations? Do they change the way we look at it? This presentation will focus on the different point of views of the actors and observers of this phenomenon (military, industrial, political, civilian, militant, artistic, etc.). Confrontations of military research programs and artists production have allowed to take the debate between military knowledge and civil society rights further. With this discussion, our purpose is to evaluate how far our border conceptualization will be affected, or not, by this technological transformation.

Session Introduction

Borderlands provide many opportunities for encountering all sorts of differences, including social, cultural, political, economic, physical and natural ones. A multitude of differences meets in borderlands and borders are their markers. The concepts of familiarity and unfamiliarity are often used to explain whether differences between countries and within cities encourage or discourage mobility and interaction across inter-national and intra-urban borders (Bauman, 1995; Prentice, 2004; Spierings & Van der Velde, 2012).

By building on recent work on everyday encounters with social-cultural differences in cities (Valentine, 2008; Askins & Pain, 2011), this session aims to explore what being and feeling (un)familiar implies with a specific focus on crossborder contexts. In so doing, a wide range of differences on display and their complex interplay in borderlands can be considered here to scrutinize encounters with the (un)familiar on ‘the other side’.

The session explores, from a variety of angles – both theoretical and empirical, experiences and outcomes of encounters with cross-border differences as well as strategies used to deal with unfamiliarity and develop familiarity with differences in inter-national and intra-urban borderlands.

Living with (un)familiarity: Shopping in the Dutch-German Borderland

Bas Spierings (Utrecht University, Netherlands) &
Martin van der Velde (Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands)

Many international differences can be experienced in shopping spaces on both sides of a national border. Other languages, unfamiliar goods and unknown spatial codes are only a few of the physical-functional and socio-cultural differences that could cause exciting and stimulating situations but could also be perceived as problematic and deterring. This paper analyses perceptions, motivations and practices of cross-border (non)shoppers and provides insights into ways in which people from cross-border regions deal with differences and the extent in which they interact across borders. The aim is to both theoretically and empirically substantiate the dynamic concept of (un)familiarity by scrutinising the impact of 'push', 'pull', 'keep' and 'repel' factors on shopping (im)mobility in the Dutch-German Rhine-Waal Euroregion. These factors are seen as rooted in dynamic processes of constructing, deconstructing and reconstructing differences between places on both sides of the border. In so doing, attention is paid to changing shopping practices and motivations and influencing changing perceptions of international differences. As such, the paper also discusses 'familiarisation processes' in cross-border regions. The concluding section provides critical reflections on the current European policy approach towards cross-border development and integration. In fact, the paper ends with a plea for more instead of less borders, as borders are markers of international differences which could promote cross-border mobility and interaction.

Friend or Foe? Russia from a Finnish Perspective

Henrik Dorf Nielsen (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

Former Finnish President J.K. Paasikivi once said; “there is nothing we can do about geography”. The statement refers to the proximity of Finland’s neighbor towards the East; Russia, which for decades has been the centre of a political debate in Finland. The debate has been taking place both within the Finnish parliament as well as the Finnish public sphere, and has at times been quite intense. The core of the debate has been on Finland course towards Russia, how should Russia be treated, as a friend or a foe? The aim of this paper is to take a contemporary look at the Finnish-Russian relation, by examining official Finnish documents, such as policies, reports, strategies etc. within the fields of international cooperation, development policy, and foreign and security policy involving Russia, released by the Finnish ministry for foreign affairs. The paper seeks to determine how Finland perceives and portrays Russia in its policies in terms of (un)familiarity. By uncovering the rational and emotional blocks of (un)familiarity expressed in the policies, we are able to see what pull and repel factors are at play.

Constructing (Un)familiarity: The Role of Tourism in Identity and Region Building at the Finnish-Russian Border

Alexander Izotov (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

This paper investigates the role of tourism in the construction of (un)familiarity in Karelia at the Finnish-Russian borderland. From a historical perspective, it deals with a culturally homogenous space, which more recently, became divided by the border into two nation states that differ politically, ethnically and linguistically. In the course of the Cold war, unfamiliarity was one of the tools used by the Soviet political elite in construction national identity. However, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, when the border regime became liberalized and cross-border interaction began, familiarity became one of the key factors of the regional identity construction. The case of Sortavala, on which this study focuses, allows us to analyze how identity was constructed in official and media discourses. Although familiarity in the local context is more prominent, unfamiliarity is also at stake, not only in a negative sense, but also from a sense of curiosity about historical ties between the different parts of Karelia. This paper contributes to an understanding of EU external bordering politics. It also highlights the role of local actors in the (re)construction of borders. Tourism is seen as one of the facets of local identity formation. This study attempts to understand tourism-driven cross-border region-building processes.

Tourism Development in the Borderlands in Central Europe

Marek Wieckowski

(Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)

Within the borderlands tourism is considered one of the most important branch of economy and is often treated as the sole opportunity for development, becoming, at the same time, the primary domain of transboundary integration. It has been noted that tourism within the borderlands constitutes an element of integration, abolition of myths and stereotypes, lowering of language and mental barriers, etc. and a main source of income and improvement of life quality for local population. Integration processes are nowadays based mainly on the use of space on both sides of the border – which can hardly be called fully developed transboundary regions.

The main aim of this study has thus been to analyze the role and significance of political boundaries in the functioning of tourism in borderlands. Author underlines a role of changes in the function of borders.

Tourist space develops there, where the area is attractive for tourists (e.g. attractions associated with the boundary, peripheral location, nature) and could be based upon complementarity (e.g. prices, offers). In every case of a borderland, between the two sides of the border there exists an imbalance in the magnitudes of flows and in the state of tourist development. According to the theories of regional and local development we deal with asymmetry between the two parts of the borderland, the discontinuity of space, and the development conform to the proposition of the mosaic. The concept of spatial discontinuity in the functioning of tourism has been analysed, as well location of the reception and emission areas in borderlands.

Post-colonial (Un)familiarity as a Factor in the Integration Process of Macau and Hong Kong

Werner Breitung (Sun Yat-sen University, China)

Macau, Hong Kong and their surroundings can be seen as post-colonial borderlands. Borders are transecting and characterizing these places; they are separating people and forming identities. The borders are intriguing not only in terms of scale, which is neither national nor municipal (or both to some extent), but also because of their dynamics. Speaking of these borders, the author prefers to address the processes of separation and integration during and after the colonial period rather than viewing the borders as static spatial entities. Politically, this integration process is a major project of national importance. Also widely recognized are the economic driving-forces and implications - especially in the case of Hong Kong. What has only recently become apparent is the cultural aspect of integration. Perceived cultural distance and unfamiliarity among the people on the different sides have proven to be major obstacles in the integration process. The author combines his findings from in-depth empirical research in Macau with recent observations from Hong Kong to discuss the residents' attitudes towards the borders, their respective identities and (un)familiarities with places and people and the relevance of these for the changing border regimes and integration processes.

Absent, but Real? Perceptions of the Thai-Burmese Border by the Inhabitants of Mae Sot, Thailand

Indrė Balčaitė (University of London, UK)

Migration across the Thailand-Burma border – a mountainous frontier of autonomy and refuge between the two lowland polities – has been a daily occurrence ever since it was nominally established through the agreements between the Siamese royal court and the British colonial administration of Burma.

Since 1980s, cross-border migration has taken a clear direction as Burmese (mostly Karen) refugees flushed into Thailand due to pressure from the Tatmadaw forces quelling the Burman opposition and Karen ethnic insurgency. The border is still vaguely policed yet given the usual direction of migration, it is occasionally being enforced within Thailand through police checks targeting undocumented migrants. Karen National Union's ceasefire with the Burmese central government and pending big infrastructure development projects that will potentially transform this fluid borderland provide a backdrop for an inquiry (grounded in ethnographic research in Thailand's Tak province and Burma's/Myanmar's Karen/Kayin State) into the uncertain and shifting realities of the borderlanders and their own boundary-making. The line between the

Two nation-states being blurred, its enforcement delayed and far from total as the local inhabitants are used to transgressing and escaping it, to what extent is it still meaningful as a category constructing 'difference' and shaping self-perceived identity within the Thai-Burmese borderland?

Development Potential of Building Closer Cultural Ties in the Kaliningrad Oblast/Warmia Mazury Region

Stanislaw K. Domaniewski (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

Since 1989 the opening up of former Communist borders has created vast possibilities within Europe for trade and cultural interaction. Great strides have been made towards integration throughout vast areas in both Western and former Soviet Bloc economies. Nonetheless, certain border areas, such as the Polish-Russian border, are still difficult to access. This area is still a sealed border that requires individuals to make an effort to access the other side.

My presentation will be based on my PhD project “Development Potential of Building Closer Cultural Ties in the Kaliningrad Oblast/Warmia Mazury Region: Analysis of Braniewo/Mamonovo and Individual Cross Border Interactions and Relations in a Post-Communist Space”. The study is being undertaken in collaboration with the Karelian Institute’s “EU Border Regions” (EU FP7) project. The presentation will discuss a brief overview of the background of the area, the aims of my research, a basic examination of the research methods and a brief overview of the research questions. The study will look at new and shifting patterns of cross-border interaction and cultural exchange in the town of Braniewo (Warmia-Mazury Wojowod-Poland) and Mamonovo (Kaliningrad Oblast-Russian Federation).

The field work will begin in June of 2012. Firstly, the study will sample individuals who travel across both borders on a frequent basis or somehow facilitate border movement (administrators, border police, etc.). Secondly, the study will seek out NGOs/Cultural Institutes that are involved in some form of cross border interaction.

Session Introduction

The recent phase of global change has a tremendous impact on socio-ecological environment. Borders, which were once set according to geo-political inclinations are also under the influence of this substantial change. Major implications can be seen at various levels of environment-related international border conflicts, shifting regional spheres of environmental circulations along their boundaries and consequential impact on human security within environmental boundaries of this transition. This panel aims to bring leading researchers on the issue of “global environmental change” and its impact on the evolving concept of boundaries, not only in our natural environment but also in socio-ecological environment, and human security with specific focus on East Asia. In order to delineate this concept of “change”, there will be critical papers on the changing concept of human security from traditional to environment-focused one and specific case presentations where changing notion of environment and its impact on our borders in both conjectural and material senses will be argued by focusing on water boundaries, circulation, material cycle and energy issues in East Asia.

Changing Concept of Human Security from Traditional to Environmental Direction along Borderlands

Müge Kınacıoğlu (Hacettepe University, Turkey) &
Aysun Uyar (Research Institute for Humanity Nature, Japan)

Global and regional environmental change has been taking place at various levels across our geophysical and psychological borders of each individual as well as communities and societies. The concept of security has also been changing with more emphasis on societal impacts of this change on our individual, local and regional environmental boundaries along borderlands. Hence, there is a need to recapture the boundaries of the already changing concept of human security. For this reason, “human security” should also be redefined by extending its limits to integrate environmental change approaches and its changing boundaries. This paper rather bears the position of placing the conceptual argument of the panel on changing environment, boundaries and human security. For this reason, the paper first argues the classical understanding of human security in connection with environmental security. Then it focuses on the concept environmental human security with specific issues on regional mechanisms of water and energy security frameworks that are around the borderlands and primarily established on protection and improvement of human security along shifting regional boundaries.

Changing Concept of Water Boundaries and Security in East Asia

Makoto Taniguchi (Research Institute for Humanity Nature, Japan)

Natural water boundaries are defined as basins or watersheds as well as a land surface- boundary between surface water and groundwater, and a coast between freshwater and seawater. Human-made boundaries such as national/local governance borders are usually used for water managements, however the water moves seamlessly beyond those boundaries. Transboundary issues of surface and ground water beyond the human-made-boundaries and natural boundaries cannot be solved without new concept of water boundaries. The concept of water security is also changing. The concept of water security was used for political issues; however the recent concept of water security includes environmental issues such as risk managements as negative impacts and social/ecological services as positive impacts. The balance of risks and services is important for water security. In this paper, some case studies on water boundaries and security in East Asia will be shown, and the changing concept of water boundaries and security will be discussed.

Changing Concept of Material Cycle and its Boundaries

Seiya Nagao (Kanazawa University, Japan)

Dispersion and deposition of radionuclides from atmosphere to ground surface and coastal environment is one of boundary issues for material cycle and is important for human security. Nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) occurred just after the disastrous earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011. About 480 PBq of radionuclide was released from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP to the atmosphere due to vent operation and hydrogen explosion. Total surface deposition of ^{134}Cs and ^{137}Cs inside 80 km zone of Fukushima Daiichi NPP reveal significance external radioactivity in a northwest zone from the NPP, about 20 km in wide and 50 to 70 km in length. The radionuclides are also directly discharged to the coastal marine environment. This paper shows the monitoring results of radiocesium released from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP and discuss the environmental boundary problem caused by the radionuclide dispersion from Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident as a case study of the changing material cycle and its boundaries.

Emerging Investment Portfolios in Geothermal Energy with its Impacts on the Concept of Boundaries and Human Security

Udibowo Ciptomulyono (PT PLN Geothermal, Indonesia)

The utilization of renewable energy reduces GHG emission and climate change mitigation, UNFCCC, a legal framework of UN mandates the Parties to start process of stabilizing green house gases in the atmosphere.

With 450 Scenario (UN-Climate goal) demanded that in 2035 stabilizing green house gases at 450 ppm (CO₂ equivalents under 20C), therefore all fuel subsidy should be abolished, and USD 312 billions should be spent on carbon extensive development.

While New Policy Scenario (NPS) 2010 (G20 agreements), between 2008-2035 world energy demand will rise by 36%, however based on 2011 scenario, Post – Fukushima, nuclear is facing uncertainty, and MENA turmoil raised questions about regions investment plans. Natural Gas & Renewable become increasingly important.

ASEAN is one of the fastest growing economic regions in the world and has a fast rising energy demand driver by economic and demographic growth.

To continuous and reliably meet the growing demand for electric energy, ASEAN needs to connect all national grid become regional grid. Countries with high power demand can meet their electricity shortfall with power import from neighboring countries at reasonable prices and countries with abundant natural resources can generate income from their surplus energy.

Indonesia, with its abundant energy resources of environmentally benign of geothermal plays important role as energy supplier, however with respect to the cross – border issues relating to the human security, the idea of constructing a nuclear power in Bangka Island, Bangka Belitung Province should be carefully reconsidered accordingly.

National and Regime Borders in Ecosystem Management: The Case of the Amur-Okhotsk Ecosystem

Yasunori Hanamatsu (Hokkaido University, Japan)

Ecological systems based on natural processes, such as water circulation, fundamentally recognize no boundaries, but from the earliest time of the human history, human beings have always recognized each other within socio-political borders of communities, territories, and cultures. Due to these borders, the conservation of the ecological system has also become a difficult task. The focus of this paper, being the Amur-Okhotsk ecosystem, is a typical example of this defined and bordered region of ecological system. A recent scientific research has found that the high productivity of marine resources in the Sea of Okhotsk was dependent on the “dissolved iron” transport from the Amur River basin. In the Amur River basin, dissolved iron originates mainly from wetlands and forests located in the Russian Far East and Northeast China. It is also reported that water pollution in the Amur River basin might cause severe damage to the ecological condition in the Sea of Okhotsk as well as the downstream areas. In order to conserve the marine resources in the Sea of Okhotsk, it is also necessary to protect the inland environment in the Amur River basin.

This huge ecosystem has two different kinds of borders inside itself: national borders (transnational ecosystem spanning borders of China, Russia, Mongolia and Japan) and regime borders (fragmentation of environmental governance systems). The conservation of this ecosystem has been disrupted as a result of these human-made borders. Hence, this paper aims to discuss these border issues from the legal, political and policy-science perspectives, and also introduce the recent attempt of an academic-research network to overcome these border-related issues in relation to political perspectives towards environmental change and its impact on regional human security.

Shaping New Spaces at the Coasts: The Impacts and Implications of Maritime Joint Development in the Gulf of Thailand

Shaun Lin (University of Wollongong, Australia)

Thailand has overlapping maritime claims with Cambodia and Malaysia in the Gulf of Thailand. Thailand and Malaysia agreed to establish a jointly administered zone, encompassing the overlapping claims area, specifically with a view to the joint development of seabed hydrocarbons – something that, despite disputes and long delays, is now under way. As for Cambodia, a Memorandum of Understanding on the “Area of their Overlapping Maritime Claims to the Continental Shelf” was signed in 2001. This ‘agreement-to-agree’ projected the application of both maritime boundary delimitation and joint development to Thai-Cambodian overlapping claims areas, although a formal agreement has yet to be achieved. While maritime joint development areas shape new spaces out at sea, they also result in potential environmental pollution, and social and cultural impacts along the coasts of land borders. Despite the apparent success of the Thai-Malaysian joint arrangement, fieldwork undertaken in the south of Thailand arrangement unveils detrimental downstream impacts for the coastal communities. In this relational aspect, the other projected joint development agreement with Cambodia demands an anticipatory scrutiny on border experiences. By emphasizing on the need to understand actual concerns of the Thai coastal communities in light of current and projected joint development with Malaysia and Cambodia respectively, we stress the need to engage maritime joint development areas not just out at sea, but also at the coasts of land border regions for a land-sea connection in border studies.

Keywords: Gulf of Thailand, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Joint development, Border experiences

Eco-scapes and Borderscapes: Transforming and Re-thinking the Commons of the Mekong Region

Ming Li Yong (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) established by the Asian Development Bank has driven the process of regionalisation in the Mekong region, facilitating and creating transboundary processes of investment and development across national borders. These transboundary processes are embedded within the ecological and border landscapes (or eco-scapes and borderscapes) of the Mekong River, leading to much contestation over its natural resources. Through examining the spaces in which the Mekong River constitutes part of the Thai-Lao border, we bring to the forefront how social and ecological processes are intertwined in (re)producing borderscapes and (re)negotiating borders. In Chiang Khong, riparian communities on both sides of the river have historically shared the river in terms of its natural resources, and their evolving relationship has been closely tied to wider transboundary processes working through the region. The demarcation of the border between Thailand and Laos, along with China's role in carrying out dam construction and rapids blasting in the Upper Mekong have thus shaped the ways in which social and ecological systems dialectically relate to one another. By highlighting these relationships, we think about the implications for how the Mekong River has been transformed and rethought as a common pool resource.

Keywords: Greater Mekong Subregion, Chiang Khong, Eco-scapes, Borderscapes, Commons

Geopolitical History and Contemporary Contested Geo-body Frontiers at Mae Hong Son Province: A Tale of Two Foreign Ethnic Groups

Carl Grundy-Warr & Wei Jun Chin (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

Geopolitics has been a significant historical force helping to create highly differentiated borderlands. The Thai border at Mae Hong Son Province shares an international boundary with the Shan and Kayah states of Myanmar/Burma. Over the last few decades, Shan and Karenni (Kayah) migrants and refugees have crossed the border and settled down in and on the margins of the Thai 'geo-body'. Their presence and activities (re)configure the socio-political formation of the Thai-Myanmar/Burma borderlands. In particular, the everyday geographies and lifestyle of these two groups are different. Karennis are found in designated refugee camps or scattered among villages in the province. Their 'temporary' and 'irregular' status is distinct from the more easily assimilated Shans. To account these different examples, an explanation is given in the context of contextualised geopolitical history surrounding the so-called 'Golden Triangle' region and its diverse borderlands. The (re)configuration of the border is analysed in relation to geopolitical history and contemporary state-society dynamics. Whilst the creation of the national geo-body led to some erasure of indigenous geographies and various attempts to remove sovereign ambiguities (Winichakul, 1994), the geo-body has also generated challenges, and indigenous polities. There is plenty to suggest the contemporary de facto politicised identities and claims to space for the Shans and Karenni regularly disrupt, contradict and transcend the notion of national geo-body.

Keywords: Shan, Karenni, Mae Hong Son, Geo-body, Geopolitical history

The 4th Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge: “Pattanaa”4 GMS or “Pattanaa” Chiang Khong?

Shaun Lin (University of Wollongong, Australia)

The proposed 4th Thai-Lao friendship bridge between Chiang Khong and Houay Xay will form the remaining crucial link of the Asian Highway 3, connecting Bangkok to Kunming, a project highly anticipated in the Greater Mekong Subregion’s (GMS) development. Unlike the previous bridges between Thailand and Laos, this bridge not only serves two towns but incorporates three countries, with China coming into the picture by funding half the cost of the bridge. The bridge represents a mixture of globalisation and regionalisation occurring together, promising capital gains for investors and increased economic opportunities for the border town of Chiang Khong. In addition, Chiang Khong is marketed as the ‘Gateway to Indochina’, leveraging on the proposed bridge to elevate its status as a crucial economic borderland in GMS. This article investigates the local perceptions of the bridge in relation to Chiang Khong’s rapid development and GMS’s economic outreach. Three angles are explored through China’s involvement, the Thai central government’s aspirations and Houay Xay’s (Laos) competition. In raising awareness of ‘voices’ from Chiang Khong, we uncover domestic concerns that could risk future cross-border trading and political ties.

Keywords: 4th Thai-Lao friendship bridge, Chiang Khong, Greater Mekong Subregion, China, Houay Xay, Local perceptions

Producing Precarious Borders

Gabriel Popescu (Indiana University, US)

During the last decade there has been an unprecedented process of integration between state borders and digital technologies such as biometrics, RFID, UAVs, remote control robots, radars, and others. The main rationale for this convergence is provided by the desire to eliminate uncertainty about security threats in a world defined by constant mobility and unimpeded spatial accessibility that requires reliable safety at any time and any location in space in order to function properly. Risk management strategies that operate with an understanding of borders as filters of mobility are deployed to govern the implementation of this global border regime. At the core of this process of integration is the belief that automation will enhance border control capabilities as well as decrease enforcement costs, by eliminating human error and increasing reaction speed.

A closer examination reveals that such logic of spatial control tends to imagine border automation as panacea for reconciling unfettered mobility and territorial security. Technology is understood as a tool that would allow predicting future threats and threatening behavior. Contrary to claims that digital border technologies simply aid human decision-making, the manner in which they are implemented suggests that border automation aims to assume self decision-making capabilities that diminish human involvement in the act of bordering. In this context, it is important to understand precisely what kind of decision-making automatic borders are capable of and what are the potential outcomes of this bordering logic. Can automatic borders reduce uncertainty to make life more secure or are they creating more uncertainty to make life more precarious.

From Work Permits Trafficking to Graphic Design: Re-mapping Informal Networks between the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Israel (2005-2012)

Cedric Parizot (CNRS, IREMAM, France)

This paper reflects on a double border crossing: first, because it studies informal networks trafficking work permits for West Bank Palestinian employed in Israel during the post Intifada period (2005- 2011); second because the analysis of these networks is performed at the cross road between ethnography, sociology of complex networks, and graphic design. It describes the experiment carried out by an anthropologist, a quantitative economic sociologist and a graphic designer, in order to re-map these networks, originally surveyed during and ethnographic fieldwork, through the approach of complex networks and graphic design.

The aim of this paper is to assess the potential of this cross disciplinary approach and this graphic mapping to deepen the understanding of mechanisms shaping informal networks studied by anthropologists, their consequences, and the way network contribute to new bordering processes.

Session Introduction

This panel will portray certain forms of political enactments by peoples who have been bordered to live on the “borderlines.” Many of them were forced to leave Burma/Myanmar and have mainly lived their lives either on the Thai side of the Thai-Burmese border zones or in third countries. They are peoples of various ethnicities, e.g., the Burmans, Karens, Shans, Mons, Kachins, Chins. Their religions also vary: Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and Animism. Their quotidian existence has evinced: how they have attempted to border the past tense of their lives by lighting the present of their struggles, hoping that their future generations’ tomorrows will be better than theirs, especially in the processes of reconciliation and rebuilding of Burma/Myanmar. Thus, their enactments from the border, knowing or not, are also “ordering” the future of East Asian community in the process. The papers presented on this panel address four key issues: political enactments; religious practices; educating the young; and voicing for the future. These papers are parts of an umbrella research projects entitled “Streams of Knowledge along the Thai-Burmese Border Zones: Multiple Dimensions of People, Capital and Culture,” which involves researchers from five countries.

Light in the Dark: “The Political” of the Exception along the Spaces of Exception

Decha Tangseefa (Thammasat University, Thailand)

Since October 2011, there have been positive signs both within and without Burma/Myanmar. Its location in the international political matrix has improved tremendously. The global public space has gradually become more convinced that such “lights of hope” could be sustained in the long term. Within this context, this paper’s focus is the livelihood of displaced peoples from Burma who have been situated along the Thai-Burmese border zones. Many of them have been there for almost three decades – if one begins in 1984 when the Thai state officially established “temporary shelter areas” along its territory. The article will narrate their lives by foregrounding the peoples and backgrounding the state. Particularly, it examines “the political” of the peoples. They are “the exception” who have been situated in “spaces of exception”: the Thai-Burmese borderland itself or “the temporary shelter areas.” The paper aims to articulate these peoples’ human conditions through the intertwining relations of three life’s modalities: fear, death and hope. It locates their emotional equations within the nexus of the nation-state and discourse of humanitarianism. Ultimately, the article intends to evince how these displaced have, for a few decades, attempted to “light” their own “lights” amidst darkness of violence.

Buddhist Movements along the Thai-Myanmar Frontier: Religious Space and Thai Nation-State's Sovereignty

Kwanchewan Buadaeng (Chiang Mai University, Thailand)

This paper attempts to understand relations between religious space and the Thai nation-state's sovereignty, by looking at Buddhist movements along the Thai-Myanmar frontier. Normally, the Thai state has tried to control movements of peoples and commodities across the border. However, due to specific context of these borderlands, before 1980s, Karens' movements, including those of Buddhist monks, were possible with less restriction from Thai authorities. However, after 1980s, when the Karen nationalist movement lost most of its military bases to the Burmese army, more monks crossed the border to live more permanently in Thailand. These monks together with lay leaders have played important roles in providing migrants with material, socio-cultural and spiritual security. Local Thai officials have then increased restriction on 'illegal' border crossing of migrants, including monks. However, a paradox occurs when the state officials have to deal with the Buddhist monks. As religious space is usually recognized as existing beyond secular sphere, being meritorious and sacred, it is often viewed as transcending state's sovereign power. This is specifically pertinent in the cases of charismatic and popular monks who are not only exempted from state inspection and restriction but also fully supported by high-ranking officials. However, ordinary immigrating monks have faced more restriction and discrimination from state officials. So, it seems that the sacred power and state sovereign power complicatedly co-exists. Sometimes, the former transcends the latter, as in the case of charismatic monks, while sometimes the latter transcends the former.

Nourishing Multiculturalism? Educational and Cultural Roles of Migrant Learning Centers along the Thai-Burmese Borderland

Narumon Arunotai (Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)

During the last few decades, situations regarding migrants in Thailand have become more complex, especially along the country's borderlands. In Mae Sot District and its vicinity, there are more than 70 migrant learning centers run by peoples from Burma/Myanmar or foreigners. These centers provide: educational opportunities for migrant children; shelter and protection to those who are homeless or without parents. Some of these children followed their parent(s) from Burma, some came by themselves or with friends, and others were born from migrant parents while in Thailand. These children belong to various ethnic and language groups – Burman, Shan, Mon, Karens, Chin, Kachin, and those from border areas between Burma, India and Bangladesh. The children also have diverse religious backgrounds –Buddhism, Islam, Christian and Animism. These migrant learning centers thus exert educational as well as cultural roles in shaping children's identities and empower them to negotiate their vulnerabilities. This paper reflects on findings of a research on education and learning in the context of the migrant learning centers along the Mae Sot's borderland. The paper addresses challenges of nourishing multiculturalism and explores how migrant learning centers, despite their "illegal status" in Thailand, can cope with and meet such immediate needs and various expectations of different stakeholders while striving to attain their own aspirations as educational institutions.

Glocal Influence of Karen Identity on the Thai-Burma Border: A Tool for Reconciliation and Rebuilding of a Nation

Shirley Worland (Thammasat University, Thailand)

The more than sixty year conflict between Burma's successive governing powers and the Karen ethnic nationality has resulted in hundreds of thousands of Karens being displaced from their homeland, living precarious existences in refugee and migrant communities along the Thai-Burma borderline. However, far from developing a victim dependence over the decades of displacement, the Karens' strong sense of national and cultural identity has resulted in the development of strong local, national and transnational relationships. These relationships have facilitated effective infrastructures within refugee camps and border communities and organizational networks that disseminate information translocally through to transnationally. Today, Burma potentially is poised for a time of change. As a nation comprised of several ethnic nationalities with differing religions and ideologies, the challenge now is for the varying stakeholders to negotiate a path for effective dialogue that will facilitate reconciliation and rebuilding of a conflict-ridden nation. As one of the largest ethnic nationalities, the displaced Karens along the borderline are keys in this process. This paper will explore how their non-state voices can influence the potential reconciliation and rebuilding of their nation from the viewpoint of intersectionality identity theory with a specific focus on Taylorian (1992) perspective of the politics of identity recognition.

Session Introduction

Global war on terror and Muslim borderlands in Southeast Asia Global war on terror after 9.11 and subsequent discrimination against Islam transformed political environments surrounding disputed Muslim borderlands in Southeast Asia. State security policies for war against terror, have arguably complicated the conflicts, especially in borderlands in countries with Muslim minority populations such as Mindanao and Southern Thailand. Furthermore, it is pointed out that Islam is increasingly used by several militant groups as resource to mobilize their movements after September 11th. In this panel, after careful examination of transformation of Islam in Southeast Asia after September 11th, the concrete cases of conflict areas will be analyzed, with central question of how and to what degree global war against terror transformed religions and conflict dynamics in disputed Muslim borderlands in Southeast Asia.

Re-making “Inside-Outside” at the Margins of the New Europe: the Case of Bulgaria-Turkey

Corey Johnson (University of North Carolina, US)

Since its 2007 entry into the European Union, Bulgaria has assumed an unaccustomed role at the frontline of the new geopolitics of hardening sovereign borders, which entails the increasing surveillance, sorting and sieving of human categories and material goods. While much attention has been paid in recent years to the de-centering of border security away from the borderline itself, the rescaling of border enforcement in the EU has clearly focused on the external margins, those sites where the state can arguably most efficiently and effectively define the terms of entry onto European territory. The border zone around Kapitan Andreevo, Bulgaria, which is the busiest land crossing into the EU, is one such place at which the re-scaling of state authority is evident. With the border agency Frontex as the primary instrument of state re-scaling at the external margins of the EU, this paper examines the messy bureaucratic and geopolitical negotiations between core and periphery. The paper situates the material and human capital investments by the EU in this particular borderspace into dialogue with broader conceptual realignments in understandings of territory, borders and sovereignty; governmentality and security; and local- and state scale practices of securitization in border spaces.

Frontex in Greece: Immigration Control at the External: Boundaries of the EU

Andrew Burridge (Durham University, UK)

On 24 October 2010, the government of Greece requested assistance in controlling its common land boundary with Turkey against a rise in irregular migration. Frontex, the agency responsible for the management of the external borders of the European Union, responded to this request, and on the 2 November 2010 the first ever deployment of Rapid Border Intervention Teams (RABITs) was sent to the border between Greece and Turkey. While this was a unique moment that drew significant attention to the role of Frontex within Greece, and the situation of migration in this region, within this presentation I explore both the longer history and relationship of the agency (which was formed in 2004) with Greece, as well as its ongoing and future operations. In particular I consider the events of the Arab Spring, the suspension of the Dublin II accord by several Member States, as well as the current financial crisis and its direct impacts upon migrants and asylum seekers. This research then is concerned with the role of Frontex as a supposed solution to the concerns of Member States regarding migration to the EU through Greece.

Borderland Voices: Reframing the Border Discourse between India and Bangladesh

Jayita Ray (Independent International Affairs Researcher, India)

India and Bangladesh share one of the most complex and fluid boundaries in the world – a legacy of their history, geography and colonial past. In recent years, India’s decision to fence off their common border has added an extra dimension to the state centric and security oriented aspects of their border discourse. In the border regions, however, a different dynamic operates as borderland communities are caught up in the dichotomy between hard and soft borders, or the process of re-bordering and de-bordering.

This paper addresses some of the questions raised by these borderland voices which are often sharply divergent from the dominant discourse. It focuses on the border crossing at Petrapole-Benapole, the main gateway between India and Bangladesh and Asia’s largest land port. Here, where the global and the local intersect, life revolves around the business of the border and a flourishing informal regime has emerged despite the state and central authority. My presentation examines how the border crossing and the border business have transformed the lives of the people in this rural backwater, the problems they face living alongside a fenced up border, and the various strategies they have adopted for negotiating their daily dilemmas.

Bodies beyond the Borders: The Study on Organ Trafficking in CIS Countries

Sylwia Maria Olejarz (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, Poland)

The problem of borderlands and conflict between neighbors originates from the mental and cognitive level. The rigid thinking way leads to distortion of the reality and deepening of ethnic stereotypes. These factors ultimately pave the way for the manifestation of violence. One of the examples of violence is exploitation of the poor people from developing countries by their relatively rich neighbors. It might not only be material exploitation, but also biological one. The current need for organ transplants created a well-prospering “space beyond the borders” for human tissues and organs trade. Human organs are rarely subject to altruistic donation. They are rather a new kind of “commodity” exchanged for money or other material benefits in the black market.

This research aims to unmask main stereotypes based on organ trafficking in developing European states (especially, from CIS countries toward EU member states). Focused on the legal acts protecting from human organ trafficking (Declaration of Istanbul) and ethical principles, this paper seeks for the psychological, social and cultural factors of organ selling (not only economical reasons). Moreover, this study provides the possible methods of empowerment of vulnerable populations.

Controlled, Managed, and Crossed: Ambivalent Everyday Borders of the Securitized Fergana Valley

Joni Virkkunen (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

Still 20 years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Central Asian borders reflect the basic challenges and dilemmas of Soviet policy. Based on the artificial Soviet bordering, the Central Asian borders are still utterly confusing and contested, with exclaves and enclaves as well as complicated water, energy and other challenges especially in the highly contested Fergana Valley. Due to the Soviet legacy, the post-Soviet state-building and nation creation in Central Asia as well as the troubled inter-state relations, large sections of internal and external borders of the region are neither delimited nor demarcated. In the matter of one decade, the political meaning of borders in Central Asia has grown to material representations of difference and national self-determination. Borders have become very concrete lines of separation not only delimiting national territories but, also, restricting traditional cross-border interaction and trade. The paper examines these practices and everyday impacts of post-Soviet bordering. It aims to challenge the widespread security paradigm restricting its perspective to border related threats such as international terrorism, cross-border trafficking and illegal migration. It is those threats that create flammable inter-state relations and aspirations for well 'controlled' (or efficiently 'managed') borders. It is those everyday interactions, building upon ancient inter-ethnic connections, which are key elements for development that may, if failed, contribute to the current inter-state conflicts between fragile states that the Central Asian states such as Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and, even, Uzbekistan are.

Carpathian Euroregion from the Perspective of Economic Cooperation in Peripheral Regions

Maciej Smetkowski & Tymoteusz Wronka (University of Warsaw, Poland)

Euroregion creates the institutional framework for co-operation focused on intensification of crossborder relations. The main objective of the Euroregion's activity is to manage and assist economic, environmental, social, cultural and institutional cooperation in border areas. The economic cooperation should be considered as a crucial factor that may lead to strengthening cohesion of frontier regions allowing them to overcome underdevelopment related to peripheral location within respective countries.

The aim of the paper is to evaluate the significance of cross-border economic interactions in the Carpathian Euroregion. Namely the analysis covers foreign trade relations as well as foreign direct investment in border regions of Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine. The first empirical part of the paper is focused on these flows based on the country level that provides us an insight on the potential importance of economic cross-border cooperation. The second part presents the selection of empirical findings related to the intensity and direction of economic cooperation based on the Polish case study. The last part is devoted to assess the impact of Euroregion's activities aimed at strengthening economic cooperation between the partners located in different countries. Finally, the recommendations regarding future activities in this field including reconfiguration of cooperation networks were formulated.

Novoileksk Line as the Boundary of Asia and Europe in the Context of Historical Time

Gulmira Sultangalieva (Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan)

The appearance of new frontiers in the former Soviet Union has brought profound changes to former united socio-economic, cultural and geographical space. The new situation has become one of the reasons for the resumption of cross-border research areas which are centers both crisis and peaceful interaction. In this regard, interest is Novoileksk boundary line, built in the first decade of the XVIII century. This line pushed the nomad's boundaries of Bashkirs and Kazakhs and broke the routes of the nomadic ways, in particular the migrations of the Bashkirs in the priileksk steppes so and Kazakh tribe Tabyn and Tama lost their pastures in the area of 700 000 acres.

Two centuries later, the former "Novoileksk boundary line" located in two parts of the world: the left bank of the Urals in Asia, and the right bank - in Europe, has again become the state border between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. This is one of cross-border ethno-cultural regions, located at the intersection of different cultural worlds. Therefore, investigation of the unique features of the cross-border areas with ethnic culture, ethnic relations, ways and forms of regulation has particular interest.

Weight of Borders in West-African Economic Space

Anani Lazare Sossou-Agbo (Université de Grenoble, France)

La sous-région ouest-africaine est un marché de 261,13 millions de consommateurs estimés en 2006. Elle brasse environ 60% du PIB de l'Afrique; venus des trois principales activités économiques de la région qui sont l'agriculture dans le secteur primaire (24,2%), les mines et les carrières dans le secteur secondaire (19,3%) et le commerce dans le secteur tertiaire (15,7%). La mobilité des biens et des personnes est d'autant plus primordiale pour chaque État dans l'intérêt de chaque économie nationale. Les obstacles de tout genre rendent difficile voir quasi nul la circulation des produits avec une accessibilité inexistante pour certaine partie du continent. Les frontières des pays de l'Afrique de l'Ouest ont une grande part de responsabilité dans ce freinage de l'intégration économique. L'objet se focalise sur les frontières ouest-africaines: portes d'entrées et de sorties de chaque pays dans leur rôle intégrateur. L'analyse des résultats se focalise sur l'espace économique sous-régional, la place des portes dans une économie locale ou internationale, le signal de la mondialisation que constitue l'intégration économique pour des économies qui peinent à se relever ; les différents obstacles actuels dans les mobilités.

Mots clé : frontières, mobilité, intégration, économie sous-régionale, obstacles.

The West-African sub-region is a market of 261.13 million consumers estimated in 2006. It brews approximately 60 % of the GDP (GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT) of Africa; come from three main economic activities of the region which are the agriculture in the primary sector (24,2 %), appearances and careers in the secondary sector (19,3 %) and the business in the tertiary sector (15,7 %). The mobility of the properties and the persons is all the more essential for every State in interest of every state economy. The obstacles of any kind make difficult to see almost nobody the traffic of products with a non-existent accessibility for certain part of the continent. The western Africa countries borders' have a large share of responsibility in this braking of the economic integration. The object focuses on the West-African borders: doors of entrances and exits of every country to their role integrator. The analysis of the results focuses on the sub-regional economic space, the place of doors in a local or international economy, the signal of the globalization which establishes the economic integration for savings which have difficulty in getting up; the various current obstacles in the mobility's.

Keywords: Borders, mobility, integration, sub-region economy, obstacles

Transboundary Intergovernmental Relations. Proposal of an Analytical Tool to Understand the Interactions in the Mexico-US Border

Sheila Delhumeau Rivera (Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Mexico)

The borders between countries construct in their shared daily dynamics new and common issues that require governance mechanisms to resolve them quick and efficiently but, in the practice, are confronted with legal and practical constraints. Such artificially constructed binational regions, product of the dynamics of everyday interactions, are privileged spaces to observe the exchanges and reorganization of the institutional relationships among the various government agencies that operate on them.

In Mexico, these transboundary relations have undergone transformations through time and, over the past two decades, have been affected by the processes of decentralization, municipal strengthening and economic liberalization that have changed the public functions and responsibilities of governmental actors, with effects on the organization of their practices and their relationship with society.

The Intergovernmental Relations approach provides a framework to analyze transboundary relations taking place between Baja California in Mexico and California in the US. In this paper, the proposal of the Intergovernmental Relations within the Theory of Organization is revised to analyze the potential and scope of the model to study cross-border relations in this context.

Regional Cooperation for Cross-Border Commuting. Challenge of Tri-national Region: Oberrhein

Yasuhiro Doi (Nagoya University, Japan)

This research shows a case study of cross-border commuting which is liberalized labor mobility across borders by the European economic integration. We try to clarify the causes and barriers of transboundary movements of the labor forces. Especially, we focus on the labors which enforce daily commuting across border without migrations. We employ a region, Oberrhein, as the case study object. Oberrhein region consists of Alsace (France), part of the Baden Wurtemberg and the Rheinland Palatinate (Germany), and three northwest Swiss cantons (Switzerland). This region is one of the selected regions for the cross border partnerships by European Employment Services (EURES), aiming to meet the need for information and coordination connected with labor mobility in the border regions. This research is based on macroeconomic data from Eurostat, interviews and official reports by EURES-Transfrontalier Oberrhein.

Resource Communities in Mobile, Fluid and Semi-permeable Borderlands

Jarmo Kortelainen (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

The paper focuses on recent changes in resource-based borderlands. Empirically, the study focuses on Russian forestry communities in the Finnish-Russian border region, where the export of round wood has dominated the development of socio-economic and technological landscapes. Conceptually, the approach is inspired by a terminology of science, technology and society studies and especially by its discussions on complex spatialities reconsidering boundaries as tortuous and fluid entities.

In this study, boundaries are seen as mobile, fluid and semi-permeable phenomena. The border between Finland and Russia has been under frequent changes after the collapse of Soviet Union in early 1990s due to altering export regulations. Shifts in the permeability of the border have provided economic actors with varying opportunities to carry out wood trade and technology transfers. As our case study shows, the economic and technological boundary between two systems of forest industry has become mobile and blurred which has had dramatic consequences in the resource communities. The case study allows us to draw more general conclusions on border communities as a specific kind of resource communities.

Paradiplomacy and Borderwork: Scope, Opportunities and Challenges of Non-state Dialogue across the Finnish-Russian Border

Jussi Laine (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

The increased inclusion of non-state actors in world politics has brought up the need for a wider understanding of power and agency. In a new Europe of post-national borders, the state sovereignty and authority have been weakened not just upwards and downwards, but also sideways by social movements and civil society organizations. The re-scaling of state, multileveled governance, and various cross-border initiatives fuelled by them, have initiated a transition from international (border confirming) to transnational (border eroding) relations. Thus more attention needs to be paid on those actors and processes that respond to globalizing forces by propelling border-spanning activities and foster cross-border relations. Reflecting this shift from debordering to rebordering, the role of borderlands has changed from integrators to buzzer zones. Building on empirical material collected from the Finnish-Russian border, this paper goes beyond the border and investigates the previously unseen premium placed on the role of transnational non-state cooperation in the increasingly securitized and exclusionary environment. It depicts the role of non-state actors as crucial in bridging the gaps created by borders and bordering, in so doing extending the security perimeters beyond the European Union's external borders.

The Effect of the Border on the Flows of Foreign Direct Investments: Evidence from Russian and Chinese Border Regions

Alina Novopasina (Amur State University, Russia)

Cross-border cooperation has the great impact on economic development of Russian regions bordering with China. Cross-border trade of these regions with China increases. Furthermore cross-border trade is characterized by using informal schemes. In contrast to trade, the inflow of Chinese foreign direct investments (FDI) in Russian border regions is very small. Such investments have no effect on the economic development of these regions. Has the border an impact on the flows of FDI between Russian and Chinese border region? Is it possible that the flows of FDI are underestimated?

A significant role of cross-border trade in Russian and Chinese border regions and interest of authorities to develop it result in taking measures on the state level to liberalize cross-border trade. These measures affect not only trade flows but also flows of FDI between these regions. The main result of this research is that development of cross-border trade may leads to formation of informal schemes of investment cooperation. In Russia such investments go to the sectors associated with trade: forestry (the production primary exports to China), construction of shopping centers, wholesale and retail. The estimation results suggest that the flows of «informal» investments significantly exceed the volume of «formal» investments.

A Case for Pursuing Spatial Agglomeration Economies at the India-China Border

Joe Thomas Karackattu (Independent Researcher, India)

The study of borders is fascinating for they not only act as division between political spaces – but are points of contact between peoples and nation states. The paper aggregates the quality of ‘bordering’ obtained in the India-China border regions, specifically examining the development of the geographic space under the BCIM informal regionalism initiative (India, China, Bangladesh and Myanmar border regions). The paper traces the evolution of historical interaction and connectivity in these regions and discusses each of the dyadic relationships with a focus on current economic activity at the borders over the years. It identifies key challenges that inhibit realization of spatial agglomeration economies and lays out the initiatives that aim at redressing some of the major issues relating to infrastructure and connectivity that afflict this region (arguably, the poorest areas within the concerned nation states). The focus is on conceptualizing the region through a genuine “de-bordering” paradigm by identifying avenues for future cooperation between BCIM members and how the role of borders could be shifted from barrier to bridge, supplementing formal or top-down regionalism already inherent in the region.

Cooperation vs. Competition: The Logics Underlying the Construction of Cross-border Metropolitan Regions in Europe

Frédéric Durand & Christophe Sohn (CEPS/INSTEAD, Luxembourg)

The objective of this paper is to empirically assess the urban potential of European border regions following a functional approach. The research, conducted in the framework of an ESPON project (GEOSPECS), covers all the border regions of the EU enlarged to Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein and mobilizes data collected at municipality level. First, the paper highlights the concepts and methods used in order to delineate the border regions according to a functional perspective based on travel distance and to assess their urban potential. Second, the implementation of a supervised classification allows defining a typology characterizing the urban potential of border regions in relation to the metropolitan functions of the urban centers and their location vis-a-vis land borders. Third, the analysis of population change (2001--2006) applied to the different categories of urban border regions suggests some final remarks with theoretical implications: if the border context is not incompatible with the development of competitive urban regions as suggested by (neo)classic location theories, the strong contrast between West European countries and East and Central European countries highlights the determining role of open borders in the urbanization of border regions.

Keywords: border regions, urban potential, metropolitan functions, functional approach, typology, Europe

The Suchiate River as a Mobile Boundary. Mexico Facing the Loss of National Territory

Jonathan Gómora Alarcón (National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico)

The Suchiate River is part of a large number of international rivers around the world. However it is characterized as a river that divides two nations with a huge economical difference. In one hand the regional hegemony Mexican and the other hand the territorial resentment Guatemalan. This river, in its deepest channel (thalweg), has divided the interests of two nations that sought independence from an early delimitation, and marked the confines of their sovereignty. Despite being a division between Nation-States, the weather conditions have caused the hostilities rebirth over the Suchiate River, where the Mexican population has pointed the embezzlement from Guatemala.

In its lower course, this river has meandering shapes caused by the predominantly flat relief and declining base level of the river due to hurricanes and torrential rains erosion. These meandering deformations have originated that the thalweg, during the rainy season, cannot define the boundary between Mexico and Guatemala. The water load has been stronger that it has moved from its original channel, causing the current localization of Mexican ejido lands on the Guatemalan side.

The Mexican riparian population has sought to haunt the participation of national organization for the river flow restoration, not only to prevent this situation from continuing, but to prevent also from total flooding of the River Suchiate riverside towns in other circumstances such as weather hurricane Stan in 2005.

The paper deals first with a brief explanation about the mobile boundary since hurricane Stan in 2005 and the developed tensions in the lower land suchiatense. To finish whit a deep analyze over the generated tension and the contrasting relation between the riparian Mexican populations after the Mexican lost lands and his new landowner Guatemalan.

Natural Environment and Shifting Borders of Nepal

Buddhi Shrestha (Bhumichitra Mapping, Nepal)

Nepal is bordered to the north by China and to the south, east and west by India. Nepal shares 1,808 kilometer border with India, which is open and spongy.

There is no natural obstruction between the southern border of Nepal with India. But it is an extension of Indo-Gangetic flood plain.

Due to non-existence of natural barrier, some of the spots on the southern border of Nepal have been shifted and encroached by the neighbour, where boundary markers are missing and No-man's land is obscured.

It has affected the social relationship between the inhabitants of two frontiers. The voices have been raised time and often. Sometimes there are conflicts and violences against neighbour; and make slogans and demonstrations. In course of time, they realize and negotiate to keep mutual understanding to maintain peace and tranquil by embracing and exchanging the rose flowers each others. Time and again the story repeats along the frontier.

In such a situation, it is necessary to maintain international boundary intact with the vigil from both sides. A joint mechanism should be established, so that there should not have any border shifting activities and violences from either side of the border.

Borderlands and Shifting Sovereignty Regimes in the South and East China Sea

Paul Richardson (Far Eastern Federal University, Russia)

This paper explores the issue of sovereignty and how it operates in various categories or sovereignty regimes. The theoretical aspect of the paper draws heavily on the work of the geographer John Agnew and his emphasis on how sovereignty is socially constructed; how it is deployed in territorial and non-territorial forms; and the relative power of states in the global system. From these assumptions this paper will briefly outline the nature of four prevailing sovereignty regimes.

The empirical section of this paper highlights the ways in which border disputes in the South and East China Sea are related to the opposing sovereignty regimes represented by China and the United States. Today, China and its surrounding waters are being framed by many in the American elite as the geostrategic centre of the world and this rhetorical struggle is being matched by shifts in U.S. policy as it seeks to preserve its globalist agenda. By developing a more sophisticated, nuanced and critical conceptualisation of how borders are constituted and transcended by systems of effective sovereignty, this paper reveals new insights into bordering practices and the dynamics of a shifting world order.

Border Walls: Security and the War on Terror in the US, India, and Israel

Reece Jones (University of Hawai'i, US)

Despite predictions of an increasingly borderless world through globalization, the countries that are often described as the oldest democracy in the world, the largest democracy in the world, and the most stable democracy in the Middle East built a combined total of 5,700 kilometers of security barriers on their political borders over the past decade. Drawing on ethnographic field research in the United States, India, and Israel, this presentation analyzes the discourses of security that justified the construction of these barriers and argues they were based on similar representations of ungoverned territory and uncivilized people on the other side. In all three cases, the border walls legitimate and intensify internal exclusionary practices. The walls legitimate exclusion by providing a material manifestation of the abstract idea of sovereignty, which brings the claim of territorial difference into being. It intensifies exclusionary practices because the continued presence of “the other”—whether immigrants or potential terrorists—inside the state’s territory after the construction of the barrier suggests that even more forceful measures will be deployed in the future.

Will the Improved Cross-Strait Relations Lead to the Legitimation of ‘One China Policy’?

Eiki Berg (University of Tartu, Estonia)

Over the past four years, ROC/Taiwan has improved the cross-Strait relations with mainland China. The two sides have resumed “three direct links” of cross-Strait mail, trade, air and shipping services, which have also pushed forward the cross-Strait economic cooperation into a brand-new stage. The peaceful development of the cross-Strait ties has won a widespread support among the Taiwan people and it is also appreciated by the international community. Moreover, it has enabled to continue the second term of presidency by Ma Ying-jeou and Pan-Blue coalition. However, the situation in the island is still complicated and the “Taiwan independence” stance will continue to haunt the cross-Strait relations development in future with a Pan-Green coalition warning that conciliatory approach toward mainland China may erode the island’s sovereignty.

Since 1987, the Pan-Green coalition in ROC/Taiwan has been engaged in the construction of Taiwan as a sovereign state, thus distancing from the ‘one China policy’. The PRC, on the other hand, is most fervently posturing against anything that may refer to Taiwan’s sovereignty, state-to-state relationship and international recognition. The international community treats the PRC as the ‘parent’ and Taiwan as the putative offspring whose independence declaration could be interpreted as secession attempt from China. Although external legitimacy is certainly important, regime legitimacy and concomitant sovereignty entitlements should rely also on ‘insider’ claims to be legitimate. Hence, ‘one China policy’ means more than simply narrowly defined governmental policy because it seeks to respond two fundamental questions – “What makes up China?”, and “Who is the rightful authority to govern China?” The aim of this paper is to study the legitimation of ‘one China policy’ through the improved cross-Strait relations, advocated most strongly by Beijing and Pan-Blue coalition in Taiwan.

Cross-border Interaction as a Place-based Development Strategy: The Case of the EU-Russia Borderland

Heikki Eskelinen (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

As part of a territorial turn in European Union policy-making, territorial cohesion is now one of the main goals of the Community. In comparison to the goal of social and economic cohesion, its interpretations emphasize strengthening and utilizing specific territorial capital, and integrated development strategies. This notion is also closely related the concept of place-based policy advocated by the EU and the OECD. Here, “[...] a place is endogenous to the policy process, it is a contiguous area within whose boundaries a set of conditions conducive to development apply more than they do across boundaries” (Barca 2009).

This paper investigates the potential of and constraints to place-based territorial development strategies in the context of the EU’s eastern border, focusing on the zone linking the St. Petersburg metropolitan region in Russia and southeastern Finland. The main research issues concern the interpretations of territorial cohesion, and the scope and contributions of different (market, public policy, civil-society based) forms of cross-border interaction to place-based development strategies. The empirical investigation utilizes the data collected for the FP7 project EUBORDERREGIONS (2011-2015). The conclusions focus on the territoriality principles of development policy at various spatial scales.

Border Communities of Kargil & Iskardu in India & Pakistan: Issues & Alternatives

Mushtaq Kaw (University of Kashmir, India)

Peace is central to human security and development. It is unequivocally underscored in all religious scriptures. However, it depends upon the nation states to have it or not.

India and Pakistan, being two such nation states, emerged in sequence of the Partition of Indian sub-continent in 1947. Heartening though, their emergence proved a misfortune to the thitherto-independent political identity of “Greater Kashmi,” which stretched over a vast geographical space and embodied a number of trans-surface trade routes connecting Kashmir with Central Asia and China. One of them was the Srinagar-Kargil-Iskardu-Baltistan trade route. Soft as these routes were for free trade, traffic and cross-cultural and ideological fertilization, its people had unquestionable access to the world at large.

However, the creation of India and Pakistan soon triggered the division of “Greater Kashmir” into India Administered Kashmir [Jammu & Kashmir or J&K] and Pakistan Administered Kashmir [PAK] including the Ladakh and Baltistan regions respectively. Several wars followed between them on J&K in 1960s and 1970s, which sequentially freezed borders through a long artificial borderline, Line of Actual Control [LoC], and which resultantly cut across traditional connections, corridors and communities.

Consequently, Kargil in Ladakh (J&K) and Iskardu in Baltistan (Pakistan), were distanced and so were its people from each other. From “main,” they were pushed to the “margins” with inestimable trials, tribulations and humanitarian problems. From ‘multilateral’ options, they were subjected to “limited” economic avenues for sustenance. Their indicators of socio-economic development arguably suffered due to the presence of a “hyper or “rigid” borderline in the wake of supra-nationalism.

Currently, however, both countries perceive reconciliation as a key to conflict resolution on J&K; hence, devise strategies to build trust and confidence, and one being the restoration of the Kargil-Iskardu-Baltistan traditional road link for trade, traffic and humanitarian pursuits.

What was the profile of the Kargil-Iskardu-Baltistan road before Partition? What impact the Partition left upon the communities inhabiting it? What if the said road is again revived? How would it reconcile divergent ideologies and interests? What would be its costs and benefits to India, Pakistan and the people of concerned region? My presentation in the forthcoming BRIT Conference in November 2012 shall revolve round similar such issues.

Does National Border Matter For Russian-Chinese Trade?

Natalia Ryzhova & Olga Vasilieva (Economic Research Institute FEB RAS, Russia)

While Russia and China are biggest developing economies which have one of the longest mutual borders, trade flows between them are more than modest. Only 7% of Russian export comes to China, and only 2% Chinese export goes to Russia. Why don't these two nearby economies trade? To what extent this modest mutual trade might be explained by red tape and unfriendly customs formalities which prevent the trade development?

In this research we assess border effect for the case of Russian-Chinese trade by testing law of one price. In order to do so, we use panel data from 23 Russian regions and 23 Chinese provinces for 9 kinds of consumption goods. We apply an identification strategy suggested by Gorodnichenko and Tesar (2005).

We find that the border effect is quite small. Crossing the Russian-Chinese border is equivalent extra 200-300 km of distance. Thus border effect cannot explain modest trade flows between these countries. Taking into account well-documented red tape, complicated custom procedures and their high cost, we conclude that this small border effect might mean that custom officials bribing and informal shadow trade could make crossing border easier, thus it could help trade between two countries.

Baltic – Adriatic Corridor – from Spatial Vision to Political Competition

Magdalena Belof (Wrocław University of Technology, Poland)

On the one hand, smooth and efficient connection between Baltic Sea on the North and Adriatic Sea on the South of Europe is a non questionable structural element enhancing the development of the EU space as a whole and as such it is advocated by many European experts and politicians. On the other hand, the Baltic – Adriatic transport corridor is about better positioning of particular regions, cities and even whole countries that will be located along its trajectory, because the idea is generally supported by the European Commission and the financial support for infrastructural investment can be envisaged. So far there is no one ‘certified’ Baltic – Adriatic corridor but on the contrary: several different concepts compete with each other for the EU recognition and expected benefits. The paper will present the emerging concepts of the “best” Baltic-Adriatic corridor and will investigate the national and regional interests behind them. Some methods of political lobbying for the ideas and gathering political support will be also discussed.

Wagah Border Region: Bridging Indo-Pak Partition

Dhananjay Tripathi (South Asian University, India)

Borders indicate the end of a territory and the beginning of another nation. Sometimes the other nation is a friend and sometimes it is not. Porous and easy border movement symbolizes peace between neighbours and heavily guarded ones give a sense of tension, and hostility between two nations. In this paper an attempt is made to study and analyse the Wagah border region between India and Pakistan. It is a noteworthy fact that during the partition of united India, Wagah border was the main transit route for refugees that were fleeing either from India and Pakistan. This border had witnessed the misery and human destitution that were related with the partition. Number of stories, articles and even movies are made on Wagah border presenting the painful picture of partition. Interestingly, half a decade after partition the same border is now one of the most porous border regions between India and Pakistan. This paper will focus on the changes, which make Wagah border a symbol of peace and harmony and how it aspires hope for future cordial relations between India and Pakistan.

Keywords: Wagah Border Region, Indo-Pak Relation, Peace

Recent Changes in the Border Areas in the Western Part of Japan: Comparing Tsushima Island and Ishigaki Island

Akihiko Takagi (Kyushu University, Japan)

Recent Japan has been experiencing the rapid growth of foreign tourists both in the northwestern and the southwestern edges of the country. More than sixty thousand Korean tourists visited Tsushima Island in the former area in 2010. And more than sixty thousand Chinese (Taiwanese) also visited Ishigaki Island in the latter area in 2010. The annual number of foreign tourists is in excess of the number of residents in both islands.

An increase of foreign tourists visiting such peripheral areas across the border has to be taken in the contexts of the economic growth in Asian countries around Japan. And the pattern of Asian tourists' behavior also changed. In other words, the most of Asian tourists visit Tokyo but its proportion is declining. Therefore, the proportion of Asian tourists visiting metropolitan areas is declining and the proportion of peripheral areas is increasing. Here is a sign that the tourism among Asian countries is entering a new phase. This paper examines the meaning of the movements of people crossing borders from a geographical perspective.

Creating New Borders in Israel/Palestine

David Newman (Ben Gurion University, Israel)

The past twenty years has witnessed a renaissance and exponential growth of border studies. This is reflected in the large number of Associations, conferences and international workshops, and related publications – academic journals, books and companion volumes. An analysis of the contents of the conferences and books suggests that the vast majority of research is focused on the detailed analysis and description of case studies, with relatively few contributions to an in depth analysis of theoretical and conceptual underpinnings of what border studies is or should be, and where it should be headed. A number of important questions have been raised concerning such questions as the closing and opening of borders; the differences between borders and transitional or frontier zones; the significance and functioning of borders in an age of globalization and the so called “borderless” era; the ethics of the bordering process and the management of borders; the relationship between borders and securitization discourses; and the different types of borders – geographic scale from the global to the local, virtual and perceived borders; vertical or spatial categorization and delimitation. These important questions have been backed up by a vast range of case studies, crossing many academic disciplines, and displaying cross-cultural contexts throughout the world – from Europe to Africa, and from Asia to the Americas. But the majority of these questions had been posited as early as the 1990’s, since when many of us have been treading water within this rich framework, without asking a new generation of challenging questions. Is this because we have delimited the comprehensive set of questions, which require further elaboration and evidence, or is it because we have difficulty pushing the agenda further forward and asking a new set of questions. How, indeed, does the meeting of border scholars from a vast range of academic disciplines and perspectives advance the study and understanding of the border concept over and beyond the “feel good” factor of having crossed the disciplinary border and creating our own transition spaces of discourse? What are the new challenges that we should be setting ourselves in positing the next generation of border studies?

Eco-borders Visible from Space, the Effects of National Borders on the Landscape

Alfred Colpaert (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

Borders between countries can be soft or hard. Hard borders restrict mobility of people and animals due to the use of fences. However, both types of border affect ecosystems and landscape. Finland has a long border with Russia, Norway and Sweden. The border with Sweden and Norway is mostly formed by waterways, however, when there is no river the border is marked clearly in the landscape. Additionally, there is a fence to restrict the movement of reindeer (semi-domesticated) and in forest areas a clear cut line. The border with the Scandinavian countries can be called soft, as movement of people is no longer restricted since Finland joined the EU. The border with Russia however can be called hard, with a restricted border zone on both sides of the borderline, a clear cut line and a fence.

The restriction of the movement of reindeer has had a profound and visible effect upon the fell ecosystem on both sides of the borderline. On the Finnish side with sedentary all year grazing the peculiar whitish ground lichens are depleted, while the Norwegian side of the fence has a lush vegetation of reindeer lichens. This border can be easily seen on satellite images like Landsat, SPOT or Aster.

In the southern part of Finland the difference of land use and management is clearly visible in the landscape, the fragmented forest landscape of Finland stands in stark contrast with the large scale and homogeneous forest of the Russian side.

Political Tourism in the Borderland between Finland and the Soviet Union in the 1920s and 1930s

Maria Lähteenmäki (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

The borderline between Russia and Finland about – 1200 km – has disputed from time to time during the past centuries. The first border treaty between Russia and Sweden(-Finland) was signed in 1323. After that many smaller border demarcations were made until the year 1809, when Finland was separated from the Swedish Kingdom and became part of the Russian Empire as an autonomous Grand Duchy. After the Russian Revolution (1917), Finland declared independence and fell into civil war (1918) which the right-wing Whites won. Due to these turbulences the border regions, especially the Karelian Isthmus, politized rapidly. On both sides of the borderline the leading politicians were worried about the unwanted political influences which agitators and smugglers relayed across the border.

During this ideologically loaded atmosphere the Finnish government strongly supported domestic tourism and harnessed it for Finland's political mission: make the borderlands ideologically more trustworthy. The political mission created a new model of travel, political tourism, in first time in Finland's history. The first destinations of that new political tourism were, interestingly, the places of memories connected to the Imperial Russia.

Keywords: political tourism, Finnish-Russian border region, political landscape, xenophobia

Sino-Russian Border Regions: Missing the Growth Train?

Chung-Tong Wu (University of Western Sydney, Australia)

China has fourteen economic cooperation zones at its borders with its neighbours, three are located at its borders with Russia's Far East region. None of the 14 zones has achieved significant economic development one might expect given the rapid and sustained economic development of China. This paper examines the reasons why Vladivostok and its border region have not benefitted from their proximity to China.

Vladivostok, the capital of Primorsky Krai, is the largest city in Russian Far East and a major port located near the borders with China and North Korea-all within easy driving distance. Across the sea, it faces the main island of Japan. Continuing a trend since the 1990s, over the last decade, Vladivostok lost a further 10% of its population due to a combination of factors including falling birth rate, out-migration, shortage of labour, lack of economic growth and the Eurocentric policies and cultural orientation of the regional government.

This paper examines the factors that are preventing Vladivostok from potential economic opportunities arising from China's economic growth. This paper posits that one of the key factors is the manner its border location is used by regional officials to emphasis its separateness rather than explore the potentials it presents.

North Korea's Border and Its Special Economic Zones: Focusing on Its SEZ Strategy and Location Relevance

Jongseok Park (Hokkaido University, Japan)

I will analyze North Korea's SEZs focusing on its strategy and location relevance. Firstly, I will analyze the process of establishing its four SEZs and its strategy. For a long time, North Korea maintained its negative position towards SEZs. But, witnessing the breakup of East European socialist countries, North Korea changed its policy line. Then, it established its first SEZ, namely Najin-Sunbong SEZ in 1991. After that, North Korea tested some evolved schemes of SEZs in three other SEZs (Sinuiju SEZ, Mt. Kumgang SEZ, Kaesong SEZ) in 2002. Secondly, I will analyze location relevance of each SEZ. In the case of Najin-Sunbong SEZ, its possibility to be an Export Processing Zone is low. But its possibility to be a Free Trade Zone is quite high. The situation of Sinuiju is quite similar to that of Najin-Sunbong. In the cases of Mt. Kumgang SEZ, the possibility to be a tourist area is high. And in the case of Kaesong SEZ, its possibility to be an Export Processing Zone is high. But, if North Korea wants to establish a General Connecting Point of International Trade, it should appoint Nampo as an autonomous city instead of Sinuiju.

Using and Leasing Farm Land in the Russian Border Regions: Policies, Discourses and Practices

Natalia Ryzhova (Economic Research Institute, FEB RAS, Russia)

Russian officials recently announced “Russia is willing to discuss leasing farm land in the Far East to APEC members”. This statement resulted in obvious discussions in central and local mass-media.

While officials adopt strategic decisions, practices of land use by Chinese farmers are developing in the Amur oblast. It is common for this border region, that land is used without official status and rights enforcement because Chinese cannot get formal rights to lease or buy land which results in developing informal schemes, like using “front man”. Therefore land with high soil fertility cannot be stated as a capital (de Soto 2000).

The available information about Chinese land acquisitions is limited. Scholars know little about the range of Chinese investors, the motives behind investments, and the actual impact of Chinese land acquisitions on the livelihoods. The last point is particularly important because Russian agricultural is more moral than market economy, while investment plays a crucial role in driving changes in everyday life. In paper, I intend to present both the theoretical and practical implications of empirical fieldwork of farm land use. I argue that there are two essential conflicts between moral economy and cross-border market relations; and between border communities and central power.

Shifts of Multiple Roles of Border Islands in the Kyusyu Chain Islands

Shunsuke Nagashima (Kagoshima University, Japan)

Small islands of border, as normally, have been owed multiple roles by historically, ecologically, economically and politically. Most of all they have to be changed suddenly and controversially, and make endeavors to meet rapid social changes, their new relations and roles. This time we consider the case of Kyusyu Chain Islands include Ryukyu.

For example North Kyusyu: Tsushima as introducing center of culture, trade and diplomacy, and sometimes as acceptance roles of official mission to Edo or immigration labors, tourism rushes and waste floats. Historically they were sometimes attacked by Mongolia or Korea, and also were set defense zone or pirates center. Her future role may be as tunnel pass toward continental. We introduce, Oki for prey, Kakara as the birth place of Korean King and etc.

West Kyusyu: Goto as shelter of hidden Christian and refugee center from Cheju, Amakusa as introducing place of European new print technology, and Dejima as trade or information center from East and West between Edo Era, after Hirado.

South Kyusyu: They have many political inner borders as historically, economically and culturally, for the case of Amami, Kikai, Tokunoshima Iou-torishima and Tokara, a case as diplomatic territorial trade trial between China: Sakisima.

Identity Politics and the Politics of Identity: The Norwegian-Russian Border

Aileen A. Espíritu (University of Tromsø, Norway)

Considered the most unproblematic and peaceful border in Europe, if not the world, the border region between Norway and Russia in the Arctic is also highly politicized. Sør Varanger, with Kirkenes town at its centre, has opportunistically used its border identity to promote itself as a destination and as a place for political and economic investment. Sør Varanger performs international relations as part of its day-to-day political activities and identity. Since the end of the USSR and the subsequent creation of the Barents Region, this local government on the border with Russia has strategically developed this identity, representing both local interests and national Norwegian interests at the frontiers of the state. Sør Varanger Municipality embraces and capitalizes on its “international relations” responsibility, re-identifying itself from a mining town to a border town. What are the benefits of this engagement for the local population and economy on the borderland?

Through a discourse analysis of media and interviews with local government, civil society, and business leaders, I explore this question by elaborating on the meaning of the enactment of cross-border foreign relations policy on the identity politics and the politics of identity of a remote local community on the Russian border in the Norwegian Arctic.

Post 9/11 Local and Regional Group Dialogues and Initiatives across the 42d Parallel - Is the Canada/US Border Hardening and Limiting Interdependent Regional Initiatives?

Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly & Helga Kristin Hallgrimsdottir (University of Victoria, Canada)

Canada and the United State form a highly integrated economic region as evidenced by the fact that, since the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, economic integration has progressed faster than economic growth. In the 1990s, scholarly arguments suggested that the primary characteristic of the Canadian-US border, borderlands and border urban regions was that it provided an environment facilitating the seamless flow of goods and capital; that it was a border increasingly transparent to trade. But since 9/11 it seems that the border has hardened, and some have argued that securitization has had a huge impact on trade and is now seeping through and influencing all policy arenas that are concerned with and establish borderland policies.

This paper is a review of these questions; it presents current evidence that challenge the perception that the Canada – US border in 2010-12 has hardened.

Indeed, following 9/11 not only did both Canada and the US engaged in discussions over their friendship and the nature of their relations; and economic integration and interdependence has been at the forefront of those debates. But as it is substantiated in this paper, a focused review of cross border initiatives and activities, and in particular local and regional interest groups, suggests a nuanced analysis of local regional discussions and initiatives. This paper asks whether those interactions indeed deepening pre-9/11 interdependent local and regional cross-border relations?

Turning Karafuto into Sakhalin, 1945-1949: A Case Study of a Border Region in Transition

Jonathan Bull (Hokkaido University, Japan)

In two chaotic weeks in August 1945 the Soviet Union entered the war against Japan and reclaimed the southern half of Sakhalin Island. Thus began the transformation from Japan's 'Karafuto' to Russia's 'Sakhalin'. Between 1945 and 1949, people remaining in this border region were caught between the fall of one empire and the rise of another: ultimately, this required learning to live under Stalin.

Today, there are few sources remaining that can provide more than a fleeting glimpse of what this life might have been like. One that does (and that has yet to be examined) is the Japanese-language newspaper (Shinseimei or 'New Life') published by the USSR's Military Government in Southern Sakhalin. For a long time, it was dismissed as little more than a propaganda sheet and unworthy of serious attention. This rich source will be examined for what it reveals about the kind of society the Soviet authorities sought to 'sell' to the Japanese, and the how they tried to undermine the competition (Occupation-era Japan). In doing so, this presentation will provide an in-depth case study of what it might mean to live in a border region at a time of transition.

Boundary Issues in Central Asia: Challenges and Perspectives

Mirzokhid Rakhimov (Institute of History AS Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan)

Modern Central Asia during many centuries had different names, definitions and boundaries, passed through complicated political and cultural transformation. Central Asian Soviet Republics – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan were founded by the Soviet power in the 1920s – 30s as a result of national and territorial state delimitation and the frontiers among them were of conditional character and did not take into account the peculiarities of historical and cultural location. After disintegration of the Soviet Union and obtaining political independence by those republics the process of creation of new national state formations had begun. Apart from anything else the republics became forming the system of inter-state relations covering also such sphere as boundary demarcation among the countries. Thus, that process was not easy and one of the main reasons was artificial formation of Central Asian socialist republics in the early years of the Soviet power and pursued during the following years.

Happy Days after the 'Happy End'?: The Modern History of the Kuril Islands (1875-1945)

Hiroshi Itani (Hokkaido University, Japan)

In 1875, Russia and Japan signed a treaty in St. Petersburg that both countries agreed that the Sakhalin Island was Russian territory while the Kuril Islands Japanese. This treaty was recognized as a 'happy ending' which marked an end to the territorial disputes between Russia and Japan in the nineteenth century. It was also acclaimed as peaceful extrication by the diplomatic negotiation in St. Petersburg. Therefore, most Japanese modern historians had affirmatively described this event and hadn't treated it as a problem. Moreover, the borderline between the Kamchatka Peninsula and the Shumshu Island had been a relatively 'stable' and 'military-free' area for the longest period (1875-1945), compared to other Russia/Japan borders. Such a historical evaluation had not generate enough curiosity about the Kuril Island in Japan until now. Therefore, if looked at the history of the Kuril Islands in more detail, listed below are several points worth mentioning:

1) The Kuril Islands were Japanese first foreign colony (new territory) after the Meiji Revolution as well as the first example of the Japanese expansion policy. 2) There was a less known tragedy regarding the compulsory emigration of indigenous people. 3) This border area suffered several economical conflicts despite its military-free status. 4) In 1940s, the Kuril Islands were suddenly changed into a strategical spot due to the worsening US/Japan relationship and became the last battlefield of the WWII (18 August, 1945).

This paper reviews several earlier studies and discusses the modern history of the Kuril Islands from the following five perspectives.

A) the compulsory emigration of indigenous people, B) the infestation of poachers and the fledging territorial identities, C) 'Hokogikai' (an ex-legionary) and the Russo- Japanese War, D) the backwash of the Russian Revolution: the Interference War and the fishery concession 'North Sea Fishery', E) the last battlefield of the World War II on the Shumshu Island.

The southern part of the Kuril Islands is known to be at the heart of the territorial disputes. It is needless to say that Russia and Japan have strived to resolve the dispute through diplomatic negotiations without resorting to any military actions. The author, however, suspects the danger of the Japanese catchphrase, "the day of returning (the islands) is the day of coming peace." It seems that, many Japanese may nearsightedly view that the resolution for negotiation equates a 'denouement' (a fairy-tale ending). But, a bloodless 'happy ending' does not always guarantee a permanent peace but rather another new conflict. This paper aims to emphasize the necessities for the 'denouement' by reconsidering the past peaceful resolution (in 1875).

**Russia-Korea-China Borderland and Korean Migrations: A Case Study of the XIX Century
“Map of Russia” 俄國輿地圖**

Sergey Vradiy

(Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnology of the Far-Eastern People, FEB RAS, Russia)

This paper analyzes a rare manuscript that is of considerable interest to those who study the XIX century history of border interactions between Russia, Korea and China, or the history of the Korean community in the Maritime province of Russia.

“Map of Russia” seems more than a map, rather a kind of geo-record written by the military interests. It also covers concerns with “our people,” namely Korean emigrants to the Maritime region. There are descriptions of life and customs of Koreans, who fled to Russia in the 1860s to escape from poverty, famine and mistreatment by officials, in hope for a new life. Besides geographical data, the map contains information about the plants, animals and other notable natural phenomena of Primorsky. The map could also have been used by the contemporaries to specify the characteristics of the border line, and to analyze cross-border problems. It shows military facilities, characteristics of guard troops, and fortifications along the border. The document itself became valuable written attempt of Korea to form an impression of the neighboring state, Russia, which persists substantially at the present time.

Bordering Sovereignty and Territory: Tracing the State Effect in Northern Japan

Edward Boyle (Hokkaido University, Japan)

The relations between or mutual dependency of the notions of sovereignty and territory remains an area of essential research. The mid-nineteenth century saw Japan renegotiate its terms of engagement with the Western Imperial powers, and consequently with the wider world. The period was also marked by the incorporation and recognition of its 'barbarian' northern regions as sovereign Japanese territory.

The tragedy befalling the indigenous Ainu people of the region under the impact of this 'bordering' process with Russia has been well-documented recently, but the manner in which this region was territorialized within the sovereign state body of Japan remains opaque. This was achieved through resituating the region as a border between Japanese and Western technologies of state and government, creating a bounded political space for the realization of Japanese sovereignty and the mobilization of territory.

Tracing through the means by which these technologies of rule actualized the notions of territory and sovereignty on the ground, this paper shall seek not only to provide an empirical example of how such notions were actualized in a non-European context, but to force us to critically reconsider how these notions continue to be utilized today.

Between an Imagined Border and a Reality: Ideas of the Finnish Eastern Border in the Context of Finnish-Russian Relations

Yuko Ishino (Tsuda College, Japan)

Finland runs adjacent to Russia with about a 1340-km border. Before the Treaty of Paris in 1947 determined the present border between Finland and Russia, Finnish intellectuals dreamed of an “ideal Finnish eastern border” that had cultural, ethnical and also political meanings during the middle of the 19th century when Finland was under the Russian Empire. Finnish intellectuals advocated ideas concerning the Finnish eastern border such as a “natural border” or a “natural-historical border.” Others projected images of Finland using the word “Fenno Skandia.” In these ideas, the Finnish eastern border was drawn further east than the real border.

These ideas were reinterpreted at the time of the Second World War and were used for Finnish military propaganda. How were ideas of the Finnish eastern border reinterpreted and how were such reinterpretations used for Finnish military propaganda? What are the differences between ideas during the 19th century and its reinterpretations?

This paper examines ideas of a Finnish imagined border from the 19th and 20th centuries and considers the meanings of these ideas in the context of Finnish-Russian relations.

Imagined Community Revisited: Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion and the Case Study Migrant Workers, Marriage Migrants, and ethnic Korean Gyopos in South Korea

Naomi Chi (Hokkaido University, Japan)

One of the main objectives of this paper is to look at the immigrant community in South Korea and how it exemplifies the politics of inclusion and exclusion and how these are intertwined with one another through interactions and negotiations among different interests and discourse that take place in multi-scale regulatory processes.

There are few key districts and cities that will be focused on in the paper, as districts like Yeongdeungpo and Dongdaemun in Seoul, or Namwon-dong near the main train station in Pusan, as well as cities like Ansan where large-scale industrial complexes are situated and are “home” to many foreign migrant workers (both legal and illegal) from various countries, including many from South Asia, China, Russia and ethnic Chosun people from China and returning overseas Koreans (especially from Russia). Cities like Ansan are now being coined as the poster child for Korea’s “multicultural society” but the practices of “forgetting” and “exclusion” have greatly influenced the growing immigrant local communities in Korea.

Since 2004, South Korea has implemented the Employment Permit System (EPS), in which foreign workers can enter Korea to work for a maximum of three years. As for the returning home policy for overseas Koreans that has been implemented under the current Lee Myung-bak administration, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs offers a F-4 Visa (Overseas Korean Visa) for applicants who had previously held Korean nationality but have since abandoned it for a foreign one who wish to return “home”. The EPS allows for foreign workers to come and work in Korea but does not encourage settlement (politics of exclusion) while the returning Koreans are subject to both the embrace and discrimination of the Korean gyopo or comrades (politics of inclusion and exclusion).

A Study of Public Institutions, Goods, and Space at the U.S.-Mexican Border

Kimberly Collins (California State University San Bernardino, US)

This project will analyze the public institutions, goods, and shared space at the U.S.-Mexican border. Using the Institutional Analysis and Development Framework from the Indiana University Workshop, the case of the redevelopment of the Calexico, California-Mexicali, Baja California border crossing will be reviewed. This central border crossing between these communities is and has been insufficient for traffic flows and under discussion by representatives from the United States and Mexico for many years. Redesigning crossing was to be built by 2013, and therefore, the Mexican government through its Instituto de Administración y Avalúos de Bienes Nacionales (INDAABIN) has begun to build their side of the project. The U.S. government through the General Services Agency (GSA) has been working on the project, but unfortunately, with the current U.S. budget crisis, the project was deleted from the president's budget, thereby, removing all funding support. The hope now is for the U.S. to find a private developer and the government will lease the space. This is a disjointed process with a real lack of cooperation because of the separate domestic realities in both countries. The findings from this project will provide a better understanding how the U.S. and Mexican government view the border crossing as public space and how the institutions function in the provision of public goods.

Vladivostok and Engaging with the Asia-Pacific

Sergey Sevastyanov (Far Eastern Federal University, Russia)

Hosting the 2012 APEC summit in Vladivostok is a great opportunity to realize a Moscow vision for regional integration that would help to improve the socio-economic development of the Russian Far East, and to secure a more visible Russian role in economics and security in the Asia-Pacific.

This presentation analyzes the cooperation models proposed by the Russian Government in Vladivostok in September 2012. In economics they include multilateral cooperation projects in traditional spheres (natural resources exporter, transportation) as well as in postindustrial formats (communications, nanotechnologies, etc.). APEC 2012 also presents an excellent chance for Russia to lay out a comprehensive vision of the Asia-Pacific security architecture.

However, not having enough influence and experience may hinder Moscow's role in the region. This paper will elaborate on what type of cooperation models – both in economics and security - Russia will try to support and emulate. It examines whether a traditional model for the APR, based on Asian values and implemented by ASEAN countries and China, will emerge? Or will it be based on regional cooperation initiatives proposed by Washington and “universal Values”? Or does Moscow have its own realistic plans and ideas for the region?

Non-state Actors and Local Interest Groups in the Estonian-Russian Border Region, Transboundary Lake Peipsi Area

Margit Säre (Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation, Estonia)

The process of political change in Europe in last decades poses new challenges to cross border cooperation in general and to local development and everyday living of border area inhabitants, in particular. Estonia and Russia are states, standing on two different sides of the EU border, but having quite different political, socio-economic, administrative etc. characteristics. The 461 km long borderline goes mainly through the river and Lake Peipsi/Chudskoe, being the largest transboundary lake in Europe.

The paper is addressing, how the border communities have been affected by the “bordering” processes, what are the most influential non-state actors and their ways to make themselves heard. Although Estonia has been re-independent already for two decades, there are still several unsolved interstate issues with Russia (absent state border treaty, visa regime, problems with border crossing or minorities), which strongly affect the cooperation also in local level. Still, we can find several local positive initiatives: establishment of the Council of CBC, joint actions of cultural/ educational institutions, work of water- and fisheries management commissions. Some NGOs, like Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation, initiate projects, which bring together teachers or ecotourism developers from two sides of the border, helping to form new kinds of local, not-centralized connections.

The Cultural Policy at the Franco-Belgian Border. How Local Initiatives and Europe are Mutually Inter-connected?

Florine Meunier & Fabienne Leloup (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium)

By 1998, Structural funds and Community initiatives have provided a specific redistributive policy to internal and external European borders. The so-called INTERREG initiatives have intended to fund borderlands in order to restore their economic and social development; some parts are based on cultural policy. However, the cultural policy, in countries such as France or Belgium, is currently defined as a central field.

The paper is based on two sets of empirical surveys describing cross-border cultural practices at the Northern Franco-Belgian border: interviews (2010, 2012) have been concerned with local public authorities, from each side of the border, and the operational coordinators. All the practices under study have been selected by INTERREG programs.

The paper combines an analysis of two levels. The first one is the European level and, through discourses and practices, analyzes the impact of European ideological involvements on local practices: whether and, if ever, how European beliefs and ideologies are reflected in the cross border cultural initiatives (Surel and others).

The second level is the cross borderland. At that local level, actors are not passive agents: they devise “bricolage” and innovations, including a degree of autonomy from central actors (Koff, Pasquier and others). According to different variables (such as identity, belonging, territory, capacity or performance), this level determines whether and, if ever, how local actors develop their specific way of policy making, which may change central state or even European views.

In conclusion, the paper studies how these levels are interdependent and interact to create new dynamic policy making (Kolossoff and others).

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‘Desirable’ Globalization: Overcoming the ‘Curse’ of Borders

Sergey Lomov

(Permanent Committee for Council of Ministers of the Union State, Russia)

From the strategic standpoint, the most essential aspect of borders as a political and administrative institution is their ability to disappear and appear with time. This has been proved by the multiple examples from the history of ancient empires and the more recent transformations occurred in the XX century. As has been shown by the recent economic crisis, even the EU can shorten the list of its members under certain extreme conditions. This means that any person can face a border indifferently of its social, political or even economic background.

How to avoid the ‘curse’ of borders? A way out can be found if we manage to transform the present-day ‘spontaneous’ Globalization, based on the arbitrarily mixed tendencies, traditions, challenges and opportunities, into a well-organized process of development of a Desirable Global Future. It is conceivable that we need to construct a “thinking” membrane of the Earth that will positively integrate three structural levels of human civilization: the national/local cultures (I), the global culture, created by the globalization processes of the XIX and XX centuries (II), and the future practice of self-organized ongoing cognitive and mental development of individuals and societies.

Creating a Peaceful Place of War: Revisiting the Border of the Golan Heights

Moriel Ram (Ben-Gurion University, Israel)

Ever since its conquest from Syria in the 1967 war, the Golan Heights has held great importance within the Israeli national landscape. With its towering altitude and its attractive scenery, this border region holds special significance that relates to its various exploitative potential on the one hand, and a meta-historical claim as the boundary of a Jewish homeland on the other. My lecture will discuss the Zionist territorial discourse surrounding the assimilation process of the Golan Heights as a closing border and a widening frontier. I will analyze the various ways it was shaped and formulated: as a popular secular national resort, as a new frontier for post 1967 settlement aspirations, and as a militaristic lieu de memoir after the 1973 October war. By studying the merits of its inclusion into the Israeli territorial narrative one can locate an interesting dialectic: The Golan plays a quintessential role in the Zionist aspiration to become a part of a “normal” Europe, but also a major iconic landmark in the regional conflict between Israel and Syria. Thus, it juxtaposes two geopolitical discourses that epitomize Israel’s inherent paradox – European vision and a Middle Eastern reality.

First Image Inversed: WTO and the Politics of Russia-Georgia Border Crossings

Mikhail Alexseev (San Diego State University, US)

The disputes over the interpretation of the Russia-Georgia agreement on trade and border crossings over Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization offer an opportunity to develop the theory of International Relations regarding the interaction between states and international institutions. The specific case concerns border legitimacy of partially recognized states. The new theoretic perspective derives from well-developed "second image reverse" theory that explains how international trade affect the alignment of domestic political coalitions. An examination of Russia-Georgia disputes over border crossings on trade routes going through Abkhazia and South Ossetia offers an example of states reframing interstate treaties to change the interpretation and the policy implications of existing international rules. This study focuses on the dispute between Russian and Georgian diplomats over cross-border trade data reporting to WTO after Russia and Georgia signed the 2011 agreement on Russia's WTO membership. The case analysis shows that not only do states use international rules and norms to favor their strategic interests in bilateral negotiations (such as when states evoke territorial integrity and sovereignty norms), but that they may also estimate longer-term indirect effects of international rules and norms on these treaties in such a way that their subsequent implementation would give them one-sided advantages. In this sense, international-level ("first image") rules of interstate interactions on functional issues such as trade become "inversed" as they play an unintended role of legitimating unilateral claims of states in sovereignty disputes.

Denmark and the Dispute over Exploitation Rights in the Arctic

Minori Takahashi (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Japan)

In recent years the Arctic Ocean has turned into a place of international contention. At the root of this struggle for interests lie attempts to obtain exploitation rights over the arctic resources and sea lanes, which possess high commercial potential. The crucial question on which the dispute is based is to whom belongs the topographically complex continental shelf in this maritime area. The countries possessing geographical proximity to the Arctic Ocean: Russia, Canada, Norway, the USA and Denmark, which also comprises Greenland as a self-governing territory, differ in terms of what legal framework to apply and how to deal with the issue of jurisdiction over the continental shelf. Of special interest is the diplomatic initiative by Denmark. Denmark made a step towards solving this issue by exercising initiative in organizing the Arctic Ocean Conference, the first conference attended by all the five arctic coastal states in May 2008. This presentation poses the question of what strategies Denmark uses to address the dispute over exploitation rights in the Arctic. By answering this question, this presentation sheds light on the huge impact Denmark's commitment to the Arctic issue has on the structure of the confrontation over borders of the Arctic Ocean.

CBC in a Wider Europe and the Shaping of EU Common Policies of Foreign Affairs

Ilkka Liikanen (University of Eastern Finland, Finland)

My paper examines conceptual change in the definition of EU policies of CBC in the context of the shaping of common foreign policies of the Union. The focus of the analysis is on changing aims and rationales of CBC from first INTERREG programmes to present-day European Neighbourhood Policies. I will study conceptual shifts in EU documents and policy frames against the changing political agendas that range from economic and social cohesion to pre-integration and finally deepening integration and the constitution of the political Union. The paper aims at contributing to the discussion on the formation of EU policies of common foreign affairs by asking what kind of discursive legacies and maybe even institutional path dependencies earlier programmes of CBC have left to present-day policies of external relations. In the final part of my paper, I will discuss how definitions of CBC policy frames and policy instruments have shaped the role of the EU as a foreign political actor, how they relate to the normative or soft power policy approach that the EU is said to represent and what kind of room they have left for the strategies and initiatives that people in the borderlands have devised in order to seize opportunities and overcome the challenges.

The Eastern Frontier of the European Union: Challenges and Opportunities

Adam Eberhardt (Centre for Eastern Studies, Poland)

The European Union's key principle is a free movement of people. However, this principle is not reflected in the EU's policy towards its neighbours to the South and to the East. European Neighbourhood Policy is designed to bring the neighbouring nations closer to the EU, but a strong fear of an illegal migration predominates. Such fear has been fueled after the Arab spring which led to an increased illegal immigration. It should be however stressed that, unlike the North Africa and Middle East, the Eastern European neighbourhood of the EU poses a very limited migration threat. Prospects for a long-expected introduction of a visa-free movement with the Eastern Partnership countries are nevertheless vague. There is a strong resistance from many of EU member states, which reflects their public opinion fears. Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia are the most advanced countries in meeting the EU criteria like strengthening of the rule of law, combating of organised crime, combating corruption and illegal migration, improving of administrative capacity in border control, as well as improving security of documents. However, a political decision of the EU is needed. A more open Eastern frontier of the EU could positively impact on crossborder contacts, and mainly on export of EU values, thanks to people to people contacts.

Ethnic Identity of Sakhalin Korean Diaspora

Iuliia Din (Korea University, Korea)

The Sakhalin Korean Diaspora is an ethnic community with unique history of migration and social adaptation. The first generation of Sakhalin Koreans were migrants from the Korean peninsula, who arrived in Sakhalin when Karafuto (Southern Sakhalin) was under Japanese control (1905-45). Being originally from the southern part of Korea they couldn't go back home after World War II due to a combination of political, ideological and economic reasons. For them, even a short visit became possible only after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. They and their life experiences have had a great effect on the political and economic life of contemporary Sakhalin.

But the process of their adaptation to Soviet and Russian society was not easy. The many factors which hindered and influenced this adaptation need fuller in-depth study by historians and ethnologists. This paper deals with the issues of present identity of Sakhalin Koreans, and the effect their identity has on their role in present-day Russian society. The paper is based on the study of materials from the State Historical Archive of Sakhalin and field work conducted inside Korean Diaspora. During the field work the author collected interviews from representatives of three generations (including those repatriated to the Republic of Korea after 1990).

Nullified Borderline, Movable Hometown: Permission to Have the Restrictive Dual Nationality for Koreans Returning from Sakhalin and Their Changeable Identity

Hye-In Han (Konkuk University, Korea)

The Koreans who immigrated to Sakhalin during the period of World War II were able to return to Korea since the late 1990s, when the Korean government amended the law of nationality to permit dual nationality only for those who immigrated to Sakhalin before August 15, 1945. After this new regulation became effective, the number of returnees from Sakhalin to Korea dramatically increased simply because they did not have to give up their Russian citizenship.

For those returnees, to cross the border either of Korea or of Russia do not mean that they are disregarding their existing life or coming into conflict over their national identity, which may result in serious changes. Their habitation is close to Russia so they emotionally alienate themselves from Korean society and may suspend their return to the Korean ethnic society. It is an outstanding difference with other Koreans those who are not allowed to have dual nationality.

Of the two groups of Korean who had lived in Sakhalin, those who have permission to hold dual nationality and others who need to select or be forced to have either Korean or Russian nationality, this paper will examine their sense of boundary and try to determine the concept of borderline or their “virtual” sense of hometown.

Changing Mobility, Unchanging Border: Differentiation of Social Status and Perception of the Korean-Chinese Society in South Korea

Jeong Eun Lee (Sung Kong Hoe University, Korea)

After thirty years of returning migration of the Korean-Chinese to South Korea, there merges stratification in their community including that of gender, occupation, naturalization etc. On the one hand, we have seen a development of a group of intellectuals and elites who are educated in South Korea and big size corporate self-employees, while on the other hand small size-self employees have been repeatedly opening and closing their shops which resulted in the circular migration between Yanbian (and other part in Chinese Northeast) and Guro-Yeongdeungpo area (and other parts in South Korea). Still, most of the Korean-Chinese are working as construction workers, waiters/waitresses, domestic workers and medical caretakers. The differentiation of the social status in the Korean Chinese community in South Korea changes the way of communication and brings about the conflicts among the members of the community, which, in turn, engenders different perception of South Korean society by different Korean Chinese with different social status. Yet, the dominant perception of Korean Chinese by South Koreans is largely unchanged, although the former has tried to gain social membership in various fields of South Korean society. Rather, Korean-Chinese in South Korea is becoming eventful in the discursive space involving South Korean administrative bodies.

Identity Mobilizations in Middle Eastern Borderlands. A Comparison between South Lebanon, South Sudan and North of Iraq

Daniel Meier (Oxford University, UK)

Borderland communities are often under scrutiny by the central state. In return they can also challenge the State and its prerogatives in order to gain more power and resources. Political organizations are in such context the most powerful local actors to support and mobilize on local demands. For this purposes, they tend to use an identity narrative that underline the rights of local communities. And they also tend to use border questions in order to define a political space for their action, which is also a physical space with natural resources to value.

I would like to examine in a comparative perspective three different ways of using borderland spaces in mobilizing process that challenge the central State through the study of three political movements in South Sudan (SPLA), in Iraqi Kurdistan (PDK/UPK) and in South Lebanon (Hizbullah). These all may have different objectives in their mobilization history but as we will try to show, main goals are similar: they encompass their own political identity as a mean to define what is at stake, their will to be distinct from the central State in using borders resources (economic, war) and their strategy to take profit on natural resources (oil, water) located in borderlands for their own profit.

Borders and Networks: The Making of National Space in Post-soviet Central Asia

Julien Thorez (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France)

This paper deals with the territorial policy of Central Asian states after the collapse of the USSR. Since 1991, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, which are now land-locked, have used their new international borders as a tool to build their territorial independence.

1) Borders have been equipped, functionalized and partially closed so that they became key territorial structures in the regional space. In that way, they contribute, from the bottom, to marking out state territories and consolidating national identities and states.

2) Due to soviet territorial legacy and contemporary borders policy, post-soviet states have to compose with a territorial inadequacy between borders and networks (roads, railroads, canals), at national scale. Since the end of 1990's, internal deficit of accessibility has forced independent states to adapt networks to borders, in order to reduce internal division (pene-enclave).

3) At regional scale, the enforcement of the new borders has divided some regions, like Ferghana valley. In these regions, due to the difficulty to cross the borders, local populations suffer the new political and territorial organisation.

Based on local enquiries, this paper aims to present this unprecedented compartmentalization of Central Asia which raises questions about how nations and regions, and also states and populations, cohabit.

Conceptualizing Border Crossing Issues: Pragmatic-Dialogical Approach

Sergei Golunov (University of Tartu, Estonia)

Currently the mainstream Border Studies are dominated by post-positivist approaches: especially by post-modernism, constructivism, and Critical Studies. Their common typical vulnerability is the neglect to pressing practical problems faced by hugenumber of law-abiding border crossers and inability to generate efficient practical policy solutions.

The pragmatist-dialogical approach, proposed by the author, is designed to deal with these vulnerabilities. It is primarily about evaluation and improvement of dialogue between 'gatekeepers' and border crossers, that allows to take into account those problems that have the key importance both from 'above'/'strategic' and from 'horizontal'/'anthropological' perspectives. The approach is aimed towards achieving practical solutions based on consensus.

The author will try to conceptualize typical problems that law-obedient travelers experience during the border crossing process and problems that induce 'gatekeepers' to maintain or even toughen border barriers. Finally, some measures aiming to improvement of the quality of dialogue between 'gatekeepers' and border crossers (such as creation of new channels for such a dialogue, fostering self-organisation of border crossers and active participation of intermediary institutions) will be proposed.

Governing Cross-border and Indigenous Territorialities. The Case of the Strategic Alliance Aymaras without Borders (Chile-Peru-Bolivia)

Laetitia Rouvière (Political Science Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Grenoble, France)

This paper deals about the question of transborder governmentalities in the Andean region of Altiplano. Based on the case of a transborder municipal alliance between Chile, Peru and Bolivia (the “Strategical Alliance Aymaras Without Borders”), it questions how indigenous rural mayors deal with politics of security on the border and with transnational recognition opportunities. The paper shows that the local Chilean initiative for rural development politics follows a multiscalar process of legitimation which outcome is a reinforced securization of borders and borderlands. Indeed, the intervention of international financial agencies (World Bank and IADB) and of the Chilean State in the elaboration of transborder development policies has two consequences. First, local appropriation of the “development with identity” paradigm tends to focus the construction of the “aymara territory” on a neoliberal type of management of that territory. Second, the elaboration of transborder development programs gradually inserts chilean norms of borderline administration within the goals of local development politics. Aymara people and mayors therefore assimilate security topics in their practice of transborder cooperation. Local production and culture are meant to access international markets in order to substitute informal activities; border posts controls are meant to be reinforced in order to facilitate such formal activities. After a critical analysis of those processes, the paper will conclude on local political resources and possible new uses of territorial and ethnic marginality in the local aymara context.

Two-Level Theories, Fuzzy Sets and Border Construction

Tony Payan (University of Texas at El Paso, US)

This paper proposes that the use of innovative methodologies beyond case studies can help explain border construction and deconstruction. It intends to theorize on the most important variables defining borders today by applying two level theories and fuzzy sets as a methodology to create a typology of borders around the world. In general, the paper examines ten borders in comparative perspective, eking out the most important variables that define the construction of borders today, including economic variables, cultural variables, historical variables, and political variables, based largely on the variables identified by the work of Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly but breaking them down into two level sets and assigning specific weights to the degree of their presence and the relationship they keep with border construction or deconstruction.

Central Europe for Small Nations: Milan Hodža and his Strategy between Germany and Russia

Hiroshi Fukuda (Kyoyo University, Japan)

After the demise of the Iron Curtain in 1989, the idea of Central Europe (CE) began to attract lots of attention. However, CE itself has no definite border, so it is remarkably difficult to get a big-picture view of it.

In this presentation, I'll focus on the idea of CE from Milan Hodža's (1878-1944) standpoint. The first reason for considering Slovak Hodža is that he had come through three periods: the Habsburg era, the period between two world wars, and the WWII period. In this respect, analyzing CE through the eyes of one statesman who had considered many regional order alternatives in various periods may be a good method. Hodža was a member of the Hungarian parliament in the Habsburg Monarchy and a collaborator with Archduke Franz Ferdinand. After attaining Czechoslovakia's independence, Hodža distinguished himself as a leader of the Agrarian Party and became prime minister of the state just before the Munich Pact of 1938. During the WWII, he constructed a postwar plan for a federation of CE, though he eventually lost the struggle for power.

At the end of the presentation, I'll discuss historical significance of Hodža's idea and its relevancy in today's EU.

Asian and European Borders of Russia: Typological Features

Anton A. Kireev (Far Eastern Federal University, Russia)

The development of cross-border relations in different parts of Russian border vary in pace and results. The most significant gap in the level of crossborder activity is between the borders with the EU and China. The lower intensity of cooperation at the Russian-Chinese border is due to typological features of Asian and European borders of Russia. These features are described by the author's typology that divides borders into three types – “broad”, “linear” and “transnational”.

The transformation of European border of Russia to the “linear” started in the late XVIII century, when the imperial expansion to the west was completed. In the XIX – XX centuries this border got the exact coordinates, border, custom and immigrational control. After 1991 European border was brought into line with the national – its military-political contour coincided with the contour of economic, social and cultural space of the Russian nation. Final formation of linear border with the EU contributed to enhancing cross-border cooperation and the gradual transition to a transnational type.

The expansion of Russia in Asia ended in the early XX century. Later, the Russian-Chinese border acquired a number of linear type features. However, the formation of a linear border in Asia isn't over, because it still doesn't rely on dense structures of the national space.

‘Helsinki Process’ for Northeast Asia and Asia Pacific?

Vladimir Petrovskiy (Russian National Peace Council, Russia)

While the advancement of the Comprehensive Security Treaty, which is to provide a legal framework for the common security principle, is the key Russia’s priority in the Euro-Atlantic region, creation of the multilateral cooperation and security consultation forum (‘Helsinki Process for Asia’) could become the Russian policy priority in the Asia Pacific.

Despite the European experience and tradition of multilateral cooperation, this process should be based on a specific dialogue culture, still emerging in Asia (e.g. ‘ASEAN dialogue culture’). To develop this dialogue culture, BRIT experts could elaborate on the draft Declaration of the principles for such type of multilateral cooperation and security dialogue.

The ‘strategic triangle’ of Russia, China and India has also good prospects as a factor of stabilizing the situation in the region, and as a policy coordination mechanism on a macro-regional level. However, none of the ‘angles’ is interested in making it a political and military alliance. A trilateral dialogue is desirable on nuclear security, nonproliferation and export control, transparency and confidence building measures, trade and economic cooperation, protection of environment, policy coordination in the UN and other international organizations and institutions, etc. issues.

The foreign policy course of Russia does not presume the priority of the West in providing for the Russian security and development. Moreover, the development of the Russian Siberia and the Far East need prior attention to cooperation with Asia Pacific countries, which will make the Russian foreign policy course a balanced one. To this extent, Russia may be very much interested in a dialogue partnership within the ‘Strategy 2020’ trilateral format (which brings together China, Japan and the Republic of Korea).

Arctic ‘Thaw’ and the Cold War Frontiers in East Asia in the 21st Century

Kimie Hara (University of Waterloo, Canada)

Global climate change is profoundly reshaping the Arctic region, not only physically but also in international politics, generating heated discussions among the Circumpolar states on such issues as border disputes, Arctic sovereignty, resource exploitation, and the security of new marine transportation routes. Yet Arctic development is of concern to more than the circumpolar states. East Asia is no exception. Japan, South Korea and China in particular are increasingly fixated on the Arctic, where they fund research activities, support resource exploration, and plan to secure sea lanes. The evolving situation of the Arctic region could also have significant impact to their political relations and the regional security architecture in East Asia, providing new opportunities for cooperation and/or additional sources of conflict. This paper will analyze emerging impacts of the Arctic “Thaw” to Japan’s maritime border issues with its neighbours (Russia, Korea and China), in the context of the regional international politics in East Asia, where the structure of the Cold War confrontation profoundly remains to this day.

Imagined Mobility and the Reconstruction of the Borders: Experience of South Korea by Chongryon Zainichi Koreans

Kyung Hee Cho (Sung Kong Hoe University, Korea)

This paper seeks to examine the cultural and emotional contexts of the background of the Zainichi Koreans' move to Korea. While most Zainichi Koreans trace their roots back to the southern part of the Korean peninsula, especially formally, for the Chongryon (North Korean) people who are restricted from moving and conducting exchanges with Korea, Korea is merely a longstanding "imaginary fatherland." Meanwhile, they are acquiring comparatively easy access to a linguistic and emotional base with a Korean society that aims for democratization. Through the research of Chongryon people, this paper will show that those who possess linguistic cultural capital allow for an active movement of imagination, in spite of remaining physically in one place. The Zainichi Koreans who are not moving or are restricted from movement are not excluded from the topic of Diaspora movement, but they prepared another important condition and foundation of movement for the process of cultural and emotional access.

Contested Maritime Boundaries in the 1880s: The Case of Port Hamilton (Komun-do)

Stephen A. Royle (Queen's University Belfast, UK)

Contested maritime boundaries are found throughout the world; even the USA and Canada have disputes. Islands, unto rocks, can be subject to conflicting claims, sometimes from more than two states. Japan itself disputes with Russia and Korea over maritime boundaries and the sovereignty of islands. 'Maritime border studies: conflict and cooperation' is a live issue; it is also historical, bound up with trade, colonialism, early as well as late globalisation. This paper considers this theme historically, not just to tell a story but to see what lessons might be learned, especially as the example comes from the conference's region. This was when the regional powers of Japan, China and Korea joined colonialist Germany and the UK in maritime contestation. The maritime border in question relates to Port Hamilton (Komun-do), a small archipelago off South Korea. This was annexed by the British in the 1880s, destined to become a strategic coaling station, depot and base for the navy until it was abandoned, largely on cost grounds. This analysis, based on original British documents, exemplifies the arrogance of late colonialism, also showing nuances, especially when earlier the British held off from taking the islands after finding the writ of Korea extended to them.

Three Border Regions that Surround the Korean Peninsula and Its Implications for Peace in Northeast Asia: Emphasis on the Border Region between North Korea and China

Hong Myeonki (Northeast Asian History Foundation, Korea)

Three border regions that surround the Korean Peninsula, which include the border region between North Korea and China, the demilitarized zone (DMZ), and Busan-Fukuoka maritime border, represent the diverse history of the Korean Peninsula's geopolitical importance.

In the global age, however, these border regions are facing subtle yet essential changes. In this context, some experts have paid special attention to them, approaching the subject from a new angle.

Yet, in the DMZ, severe military and ideological confrontations have persisted up to now. On the other hand, in the area that borders North Korea and China, the possibility of socio-political upheaval has increased as Pyongyang's hard line policy has been reinforced.

After Kim Jong-il's death last year, the international society has not been able to identify Kim Jong-un's policy shift. Rather, there are some unpleasant symptoms to press the situation to a critical point where all kinds of contradictions would explode at once.

Under these circumstances, this paper will examine the geopolitical condition, geoeconomical potential, recent development including the Changjitu (長吉圖) scheme, the Greater Tumen Initiative (GTI), and energy cooperation programs in these spaces.

Cross-Border-Cooperation at the Korean Demilitarized Zone? An Experimental Assessment of the North Korean Special Economic Zones Geumgagsan and Gaeseong

Bernhard Köppen

(Institut für Naturwissenschaften und Naturwissenschaftliche Bildung, Germany)

The demilitarized zone (DMZ) between the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is judged to be the last border of the "Cold War". Even after Kim Jong Il's death, the DPRK's regime announced that no significant changes shall be expected. The current chilled down and sometimes hostile inner-Korean diplomatic relations let sink major success of the last decade, initiated by South Korean "sunshine policy", into oblivion: As a tangible result, two Special Economic Zones, based on cross-border-interaction have been established nearby the DMZ. One of them dedicated to tourism and one to industrial production, the latter still operating, despite most serious diplomatic and military frictions between both nations. Summing up all knowledge on North-Korean SEZ policy and the general state-doctrine, it seems that real cross-border-cooperation could not be an option for the DPRK's current leadership; neither before nor after South-Korea's approach of Sunshine Policy. On the other hand, as a matter of fact, the Kaesong SEZ is still working although official relations between the two Koreas reached the rock bottom. Whilst the DPRK is perceived as a totally enigmatic state by the international community and especially the "West" a total closure of the complex seems to be feared as the loss of Geumgangsán tourist area is obviously problematic. As for the South Korean government as well as for private companies, the SEZ activities have created fundamental knowledge and experiences in cooperation with the North. This might become an asset for future negotiations concerning the Korean peninsula. So what is the appropriate interpretation of those diffident cross-border-activities, which lasted for almost a decade? Were these SEZ really first successful attempts of a feasible Korean cross-border-cooperation?

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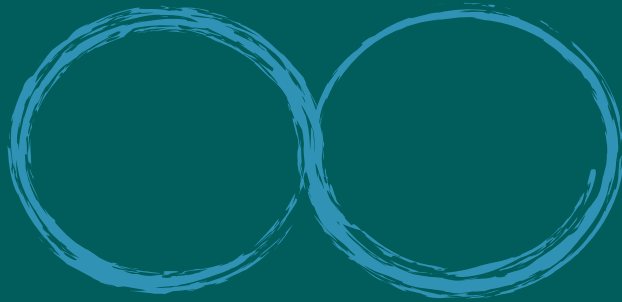
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