

East Asian Social Policy research network (EASP)
Second Conference

Pressure, Policy-Making and Policy Outcome **--Understanding East Asian Welfare Reforms**

(Thu) 30th June to (Sat) 2nd July, 2005
at the University of Kent, UK

Purpose

The second East Asian Social Policy (EASP) conference will take place at the University of Kent, UK, on the 30th June to 2nd July 2005. The conference seeks to enhance the knowledge and develop the research network in the field of East Asian social policies. The conference is open to academics and doctoral students from any discipline working or interested in East Asian social policies.

The theme

East Asian welfare regimes are now facing ever more severe challenges than at any time before. Economic recession and the crisis after 1990s coupled with economic globalization have imposed significant pressures on the strength of nation states across the region, which have also brought considerable changes in labour market. Also, it has been widely acknowledged that the highest rate of population ageing and lowest fertility rate in the world has undermined the capability of families to provide care for the elderly and children. In this context, welfare development and reforms have been implemented with consideration of managing current pressures to maintain national competitiveness and coping with new social demands.

The focus of the conference is to figure out the ways the East Asian welfare regimes respond to these pressures and analyse policy outputs and outcomes. It will provide a forum for discussing the specific pressures the various countries are facing, for analysing the different levels (systemic or programmatic) at which recent policy changes are taking place, for comparing policy-making frameworks, for dealing with the key challenges and debates in the process of welfare reform, and for exploring patterns of reforms and the likely future direction of changes.

Plenary Speakers

Professor Vic George, University of Kent, UK
Professor Michael Hill, University of Brighton, UK
Professor Catherine Jones Finer, University of Oxford, UK
Professor Yeon Myung Kim, Chung-Ang University, Korea
Professor Yeun-wen Ku, Chi-Nan University, Taiwan
Professor Shogo Takegawa, University of Tokyo, Japan
Professor Peter Taylor-Gooby, University of Kent, UK

Call for papers

Papers are invited which address the overall theme 'Pressures, Policy-making and Policy outcome -- understanding East Asian welfare reform' and the sub-themes as below. Papers may be comparative, or case studies which have broader implications for other East Asian countries or/and for the development of theory and of research methods. In particular, papers with gender and minority sensitive approach are encouraged.

- 1) Welfare Regime Theory and Typologies Debates
- 2) Policy-Making Framework
- 3) Pension Reform
- 4) Labour Market and (un)Employment Policy
- 5) Social Exclusion and Poverty
- 6) Health and Social Care
- 7) Education Policy
- 8) Family Policy
- 9) Urban and Housing Policy
- 10) Environmental Policy
- 11) Methodological Issues of Research
- 12) To be announced

Submission of abstract, full papers, and contributed papers

Those wishing to present in the conference should submit a 250-300 word abstract to Kikuka Kobatake (k.kobatake@lse.ac.uk) by 15th April 2005. Information enclosed with your abstract should include: title of paper, your name, institution and email address. The final papers and contributed papers should be submitted to the same address by 15th June 2005.

Main deadlines

Submission of paper abstract: 15th April 2005

Notification of applicants: 30th April 2005

Confirmation of registration: 20th May 2005

Submission of full paper and contributed papers: 15th June 2005

Further information

Details of the conference and all papers will be made available on the EASP website (www.welfareasia.org). For further information or comments, please contact Yu-ting Liu, SSPSSR, University of Kent (yL2@kent.ac.uk).

EASP Emailing Group Information

Sign up for our email list if you would like to receive regular update information from the EASP and share your ideas and work with us. Please go to the website (www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/easp.html) and click 'join the list', or contact Junko Yamashita ([jy108@york.ac.uk](mailto: jy108@york.ac.uk)) for further details.

Conference Organising Team