

Academic symposium: Imperfect War, Refugee Borderlands and Mobile Sovereignties: 50 Years After the Vietnam War

Convened by:

Yuk Wah Chan (City University of Hong Kong)

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On zoom

At the half-century turning point since the end of the Vietnam War, many legacies of the political, ideological and military struggles arisen from this unjust war remained untapped, leaving traces of memories, historical traumas, precarious lives, floating populations, and undocumented injustice in the untidy flows of history. The impacts of the Vietnam War have left scars on the life paths of many individuals and families in Asia, weaving together a history of escape, violence, geopolitical shifts, and disrupted sovereignties. This workshop demonstrates research efforts from different parts of the world to hold together diverse understandings of the lessons people can learn from such an imperfect war. It will discuss different issues related to the following themes: politicized mobilities, refugee borderlands, hidden histories, and mobile sovereignties



Papers:

- Jana Lipman (Tulane University): Chinese or Vietnamese Refugees? Illegal Immigrants from China to Hong Kong
- Shu-Fen Lin (National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University): Nanqiao, Refugees, and “Human Bombs”: Displaced Vietnamese and Taiwan’s Quasi-Refugee Regime (1975–1987)
- Asio Chihsung Liu (Chiangmei Refugee Archive Association): “Project Chiang-Mei”: A Proposal for a VR Museum of Taiwan’s Indochinese/Vietnamese Refugee Camps
- Thục Linh Nguyễn Vũ (University of Vienna): War Is Everywhere and Nowhere—Silences and Vietnamese Diasporas in Poland
- Andrew Le (Arizona State University): City Hustle: Migrants, Brokers, and the Moral Economy of Migration
- Yuk Wah Chan (City University of Hong Kong): Diaspora Affect, Ghastly Memory-scape and Emplacement of the Return Chinese Vietnamese Refugees in Vietnam

