

Conducting Research on Asia in Challenging Times

August 22, 2023

Co-organizers:

The Political Analysis Lab, City University of Hong Kong
The Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong

Venue: LI 5405, Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Academic Building

A theoretical-informed and evidence-based study of East and Southeast Asian politics and society appears to be at a crossroads. Academic interests in and institutional capacity of the region continue to grow. Yet, increased data regulations, rising geopolitical tensions and reduced international exchanges have severely disrupted scholars' access to their field sites and data sources, along with their cross-institutional and inter-disciplinary collaboration in and beyond the region. This roundtable brings together experts with extensive fieldwork experience in Northeast and Southeast Asia to evaluate the opportunities and challenges facing scholarship in and about the region.

This invitation-only roundtable addresses a set of what, where, how, with whom and why questions that have shaped the field's evolution: How have recent socio-political changes in the region impacted the possibilities of fieldwork and data collection? What were the changing nature and extent of collaboration networks? Who are the producers and consumers of this body of knowledge? What have been key changes in trending and under-studied topics? From which geographic areas and through what methodological approaches have the knowledge of the region been primarily produced and widely consumed? How do we measure the research impact of the study of Northeast and Southeast Asia per se and across the various social science disciplines? Above all, how could social scientists mitigate these challenges without compromising the quality of their work?

Schedule

| August 22 (Tuesday) | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 09:30 - 10:45 | Roundtable: <i>East Asia</i> |
| 10:45 - 11:00 | Coffee Break |
| 11:00 - 12:15 | Roundtable: <i>Southeast Asia</i> |
| 12:30 - | Lunch @ Moon Palace (Festival Walk) |

List of Panellists

| East Asia | Southeast Asia |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Edmund Cheng, CityU | Renaud Egreteau, CityU |
| Pierre Landry, CUHK | Diego Fossati, CityU |
| Dongshu Liu, CityU | Stephan Ortmann, HKMU |
| Linda Tjia, CityU | Surachanee Sriyai, ChiangMaiU |
| Kyoko Tominaga, RitsumeikanU | Mark Thompson, CityU |
| Samson Yuen, HKBU | Meredith Weiss, SUNY |