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### Abstracts

Lau Blaxekjær (Copenhagen)

#### *Wicked Crises and Post-Normal Governance: Lessons from the Fukushima Triple Disaster*

How can we understand the science-policy relationship in a time of wicked crises? The 11 March 2011 Fukushima triple disaster is the latest example of what I call a wicked crisis: A crisis that involves several wicked problems, is global in scale, and does not have a fixed end point. In 1973, Rittel and Webber explained the idea of *wicked problems*, which has since influenced the governance and science literature both dealing with the science-policy relationship. Wicked problems are also central to risk society, and are increasingly becoming global in scale. The science-policy relationship has become increasingly intermeshed resulting in higher uncertainty about roles and responsibilities. I therefore term the Fukushima triple disaster *wicked crises* in order to connect it both theoretically and empirically with wicked problems, questions of the science-policy relationship, and limits of global governance. Empirically, we can observe that traditional boundaries within science and between science and policy have become blurry; science has become deeply involved in policy-making and governing crises; and science should increasingly be understood as multi-disciplinary. Today's science-policy relationship, and especially when facing global risks and crises is one of interaction and co-production of both policy goals and means to achieve those goals.

Theoretically, we can observe that the governance literature and science literature each has a debate on the science-policy relationship, and that they have more or less separately followed the same kind of theoretical development. Applying the methodology of a metaphor of building a bridge across a river, I examine these two perspectives from each riverbank; post-normal science and third generation governance respectively before examining the bridge itself. This is then used to analyse Fukushima from a post-normal governance perspective.

Andrea Revelant (Venice)

#### *Abenomics in progress: an institutional analysis*

After the inglorious retreat of Abe Shinzō from premiership in 2007, few would have bet on his return to a prominent role in Japanese politics. Yet Abe not only managed to regain the post of LDP president last September, but even led his party to a landslide victory at the recent general election, reinstating it in power after a three-year eclipse. Politicians rarely get a second chance of this kind, and Abe is now wary not to repeat past mistakes. Leaving in the background some of the premier's long-cherished plans, such as constitutional revision, the new cabinet has focused its action on the issue of broadest public interest, that is economic recovery.

Displaying effective communication skills, the government has articulated its programme into "three arrows": a "bold monetary policy", "flexible fiscal policy", and a "growth strategy that stimulates private investment". To coordinate these initiatives, Abe has revived the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy and established the Headquarters for Japan's Economic Revitalization under the Cabinet Secretariat. So far, monetary easing measures have received the largest share of press coverage and aroused comments worldwide because of the immediate impact of yen depreciation on other currencies and trade. The planned increase in spending for large-scale public works projects has also been widely debated, due to concerns about its consequences on the already strained conditions of public finance.

However, it may be argued that in the long term the decisive factor for recovery will be the government's ability to restructure the economy by making strategic decisions on market regulations, the promotion of investment in key sectors, and trade agreements. In this perspective, the role of the newly established Industrial Competitiveness Council deserves careful consideration. Although it is still early to

evaluate policy recommendations (the first comprehensive report being scheduled for June), from the proceedings of the first meetings it is possible to extract important indications on the Council's approach to pivotal issues, as participation in multi-lateral negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

My talk will focus on the institutional frame set up by the Abe cabinet to unfold its basic policies, addressing the question of leadership in terms of coordination between cabinet, advisory councils and majority party. On the basis of recent trends in the organization of the LDP and its social base, I will attempt to predict the possible outcomes of strategic policy debates.

Sean Golden (Barcelona)

### *From Deng Xiaoping's "low profile" to Xi Jinping's "China dream"*

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s both Deng Xiaoping and Jiang Zemin advocated a foreign policy based on keeping a low profile while making a contribution. During the 2000s Hu Jintao advocated a "harmonious world" as well as a "harmonious society". Now Xi Jinping has announced he shares "the China dream" with the Chinese people, and wants to consolidate China's (re)emergence as a "preeminent" power. The "second generation of Reds" that is now coming into power is changing their fathers' discourse. Xi Jinping seems to use one discourse in public and another behind closed doors, as well as carefully cultivating his relationship with military figures. Is there a growing tendency toward a more aggressive nationalism with hints of militarism? Is the need to solve China's urgent domestic problems enough to postpone the development of a more activist foreign policy? How will the new leadership in the PRC affect the balance of powers and trends toward regionalisation in East Asia?

Paul O'Shea (Lund)

### *Implications of Changing Leadership in Northeast Asia on Regional Territorial Disputes*

Territorial disputes in Northeast Asia continue to plague regional relations. 2012 saw the Sino-Japanese dispute over the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands escalate dangerously, while the dispute between South Korea and Japan over Dokdo/Takeshima resulted in a bizarre diplomatic spat between Prime Minister Noda Yukihiko and President Lee Myung Bak. Meanwhile, the long-standing dispute over the Northern Territories/Kurile Islands between Russia and Japan seems as intractable as ever. However, 2012 also saw leadership change in every state involved except Russia. This paper assesses the prospects for each dispute in light of these leadership changes. Prime Minister Abe Shinzō, despite his nationalist rhetoric, played an important role during his first administration (in 2006) in reducing Sino-Japanese tensions after several testy years under Prime Minister Koizumi Junichirō. China under Xi Jinping appears set to continue its previous approach, on the one hand seeking to improve bilateral ties while on the other pushing its plan to force Japan to recognize the existence of the dispute. The new President of South Korea, Park Geun-Hye, is the daughter of Park Chung-Hee, the man who normalized relations with Japan and cared little about the disputed rocks – he is said to have wished he could "bomb them out of existence". Today, such sentiment is unimaginable in Korea, however the record shows the Korean presidents tend to reach out to Japan early in their tenure, only to fall back on a tougher, nationalist line later on when their polls drop – as happened under President Lee. Again, much depends on whether Abe repeats the conciliatory tone of 2006 or implements more nationalist policies in line with his reputation. Finally, the Northern Territories/Kurile Islands dispute has been at a standstill for years. President Putin's position has been relatively constant throughout his (and Medvedev's) tenure: the return of two islands in exchange for a peace treaty. While the islands have perhaps lost the iconic status they once had, it is difficult to imagine Abe agreeing to compromise on an issue with such long-standing nationalist importance. Having said this, the literature on territorial disputes suggests that such intractable disputes can be resolved by a strong leader who has sufficient nationalist credentials to survive the domestic fallout from such a compromise.

Carmen Amado Mendes (Coimbra)

*China's South-South relations and how international institutions perceive their impact*

China's South-South relations reflect the Chinese perception of the international system, contesting the hierarchy of power. After introducing the regional dynamics of China's foreign policy towards the 'South', the paper will describe positive and negative views of this policy in Africa and Latin America: is China a partner towards development or a neocolonial power? Fieldwork findings suggest that contradictory views coexist, not only in elites but also amongst the population. Can the Chinese development model be an alternative for the developing world? Are China's relations with the South mutually beneficial? Is South-South cooperation different from the traditional North-South relationship? The 'Beijing consensus' will be analyzed in the second part of the paper. By ignoring the so-called international (Western) rules and imposing others 'with Chinese characteristics', framed by the Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, the Chinese presence challenges the European and transatlantic interests in these regions. Thus, the third section of the paper looks at its impact on the international system in general and on international institutions in particular. China's increasingly important role in the South is changing the rules of the game and reducing the Western ability to set and shape the agenda.

Ming Chee Ang (Lund)

*ASEAN and the New North East Asia*

This paper explores to what extent the rise of new leaders in the Northeast Asia has influenced the interregional relationship with Southeast Asia. I will analyze the collaboration and competition between Xi Jin Ping (China), Park Geun Hye (South Korea), and Shinzo Abe (Japan), and explain how such dynamics are influencing and changing the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation. Introduced since 1997, the APT cooperation covers a wide range of issues, including political security, finance and economics, as well as socio and cultural cooperation. APT has been one of the most important platforms that bridge and broker win-win collaboration between the Southeast and Northeast Asia region. Therefore, it is also a strategic platform for a new leader to enhance his/her political influence and international reputation through various APT's track one and track two mechanisms.

Christian Göbel (Vienna)

*Hunters and Gathers in the Land of Plenty – Does the information age need sinologists?*

In his last book "China Watcher - Confessions of a Peking Tom", the lately deceased Richard Baum described his entry into the profession of studying Chinese politics. In a nutshell, he tells the reader that the good fortune of stumbling over a selection of rare Mainland documents in a Taiwanese library was what made him professor.

Baum stands for a generation of scientists who built their academic career on obtaining and interpreting rare information - the subject matter shaped not only the questions that were asked, but also the method of analysis: inductive, hermeneutical analysis was clearly predominant. The greatest books of the profession were written by hunters and gatherers such as Baum.

Fast-forwarding 30 years, it is a quantitative political scientist who is authoring what is surely to become one of the most cited papers on Chinese politics in 2013. Gary King knows little about China and does not speak Chinese, but he is one of the most creative social science methodologists of our time. The language barrier that denied him access to the microblogs he studied was overcome by hired hands who coded those blogs for him.

As this example shows, traditional China studies are facing the challenge of a rapidly developing quantitative political science that not only calls into question the epistemological value of single-case studies, but now also hunts on the traditional territory of the sinologist. In my contribution, I argue that this challenge should be welcomed, and that China studies have much to gain from extending their methodological and thematic focus.

Among other things, this might help solve the paradox that "big picture" explanations of Chinese politics are much in demand by the general public, but are currently not offered in scholarship. As Kevin

O'Brien (2009) observes, the field has split into those who help building universal grand theories, and those who focus in on very narrow and specialized questions. While the one quantitative-qualitative methodological divide seems a likely explanation for this phenomenon, I argue that the problem rather lies in the sinologist's distaste for deductive theory building. Hence, opening ourselves up to alternative approaches to theory building seems even more pressing than understanding and embracing new methods of enquiry.

Sven Horak (Duisburg-Essen)

### *Cross-cultural experimental economics and indigenous management research – Issues and contributions*

Cross-Cultural Experimental Economics (CCEE) and Indigenous Management Research (IMR) are dynamic and flourishing disciplines today. Whereas the former lacks a deep understanding of the distinctive factors leading to behavioral differences so far, the latter gives priority to deep contextualization and cultural embeddedness of the research design. This paper argues that both disciplines can mutually benefit from each other. Based on a review of 23 articles, four general research fields are identified that CCEE is concerned with: fairness, cooperation, trust and norm enforcement. In these fields CCEE and IMR can meet and mutually advance knowledge: CCEE can benefit by applying increased contextualization in the future, i.e., by integrating indigenous context-specific variables explicitly into future research designs; IMR can benefit by applying a replicable quantitative research methodology enabling high-quality IMR (Tsui 2004). Both approaches will benefit from increased validity if research designs are systematically integrated in a mixed method design for future research.

Haiyan Wang & Daniele Brombal (Venice)

### *Environmental Governance in China: A Case Study on Decision-Making Processes on Soil Management*

This paper introduces the preliminary findings of an interdisciplinary study carried out by the authors in the framework of the EC funded project “Global Partners on Contaminated Land Management (GLOCOM)”. Environmental governance poses tremendous challenges to leaders worldwide. Finding a sustainable balance between environmental concerns and economic development requires the adoption of effective and coordinated efforts engaging diverse actors, including government-related institutions, industrial actors, and the general public. China makes no exception. Her leaders have acknowledged the price paid to achieve high rates of economic growth in terms of environmental degradation. Government efforts and raising public concern have brought about an environmental governance and management system characterized by an increasing degree of complexity, where different stakeholders can provide inputs into decision-making processes. Besides government ministries and departments at central and local level, these stakeholders include industry associations, private companies, the general public, and NGOs. While outcomes of the interplay among different stakeholders can greatly differ on the basis of diverse issues—and interests—at stake, current decision making processes in this sector are characterized by considerable dynamism in the interactions between the private sphere and the political system, as well as by a significant degree of openness of Chinese institutions towards exchange of relevant know-how and expertise with foreign partners.