

“Authoritarian Governance: Institutions and Strategies”

December 8–10, 2021

Venue: Online with Zoom (Hosted by the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center [SRC], Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan)

Day 1 (December 8) Opening Remarks

Speakers:

UYAMA Tomohiko is Professor at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. He specializes in Central Eurasian history and politics, and currently heads a project on comparative study of the rise of authoritarianism and populism. His research interest ranges from the Russian Empire as a particularist state, modern Kazakh intellectuals, Orientalism, to contemporary authoritarian regimes and international politics. In the field of comparative politics, he has written on authoritarianism in Kazakhstan, the Tulip Revolution in Kyrgyzstan, the civil war and the peace process in Tajikistan, the evolution of authoritarianism, and other topics. He is the editor and author of *Comparing Modern Empires: Imperial Rule and Decolonization in the Changing World Order* (Sapporo: SRC, 2018), *Asiatic Russia: Imperial Power in Regional and International Contexts* (London: Routledge, 2012), *Japan’s Silk Road Diplomacy: Paving the Road Ahead* (Washington, D.C.: CACI & SRSP, 2008), and other books.

HIGASHIJIMA Masaaki is Associate Professor of Political Science at Tohoku University, Japan. His research interests include comparative political economy, autocratic politics, and Central Asia. His articles appeared in journals including *British Journal of Political Science*, *Government and Opposition*, *Journal of Politics*, and *World Development*. His first book, *The Dictator’s Dilemma at the Ballot Box*, explores the causes and consequences of authoritarian elections and is forthcoming at the University of Michigan Press (Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Series). He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Michigan State University.

Session 1

“Informal Politics and Governability in Authoritarian Regimes: Russia”

Speakers:

SZAKONYI, David is Assistant Professor of Political Science at George Washington University and Co-Founder of the Anti-Corruption Data Collective. His research focuses on corruption, clientelism, and political economy in Russia, Western Europe, and the United States. His book—*Politics for Profit: Business, Elections, and Policymaking in Russia* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics, 2020)—examines why businesspeople run for elected political office worldwide and whether they make better political leaders. Other research looks at the effectiveness of anti-corruption campaigns, employers mobilizing their employees to vote, and nepotism under authoritarian rule. His investigative work has been published in the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Daily Beast*, and the *Miami Herald*, among other outlets. In addition, he is a Research Fellow at the International Center for the Study of Institutions and Development at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow.

TORIKAI Masatomo is Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Faculty of Law, Keio University (Tokyo, Japan). In 2021, he defended the dissertation about the evolution of the triadic relationship between the federal, regional, and municipal administrations in Post-Soviet Russia. His research interests relate to the center-periphery relationship, political parties, and electoral mobilization in authoritarian regimes, with a particular focus on Russia and Ukraine. His articles on governor rotations in Ukraine and party localization in Ukraine were published in *Post-Soviet Affairs* and *Eurasian Geography and Economics*. Also, he is working on a book project based on his dissertation.

OLIMPIEVA, Evgenia is Doctoral Candidate at the University of Chicago. Her research interests revolve around politics of democratic backsliding and authoritarian consolidation with a focus on the institutions of law and order. In her dissertation she shows how strategic appointment of prosecutors in Russia’s regions contributed to consolidation of Putin’s regime. Her work has been published in *Slavic Review*, *Nationalities Papers*, and *Russian Analytical Digest*.

Discussant:

FORRAT, Natalia is Visiting Associate at the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, University of Michigan. She studies state-society relations under authoritarianism, the work of grassroots organizations, state capacity and the state apparatus, and resistance to authoritarian regimes. Her current book manuscript, *The Social Roots of Authoritarian Power*, develops a theory of authoritarianism in statist and anti-statist societies based on the comparison of political machines in four Russian regions. Her earlier work has appeared in *Comparative Politics* and *Post-Soviet Affairs*. Currently, she works on two comparative projects, one of which studies civic mobilization in authoritarian regimes and another one—the organizational practices and culture of state bureaucracies.

Chair:

SENGOKU Manabu is Professor at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. He specializes in comparative politics, political economy, and welfare policies of Central and East European countries. He is currently working on the comparative welfare and social security policy of these countries, mainly focusing on Visegrád and Baltic states. His recent publications include Sengoku, M. 2018 (ed.) *The great dispersion: the many fates of Post-Communist society* (Sapporo: Slavic-Eurasian Research Center) and Sengoku M. 2018, “2015 parliamentary election in Poland: does the migrant/refugee issue matter?” *Journal of the Graduate School of Letters (Hokkaido University)*, Vol. 13. He has also published a monograph titled *Political change and party politics in Central Eastern Europe* (Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press, 2021, in Japanese) recently.

Day 2 (December 9)

Session 2

“Between State and Society in the Developing World: The Middle East and Caucasus”

Speakers:

LUST, Ellen is Founding Director of the Program on Governance and Local Development (GLD) at Yale University (est. 2013), at the University of Gothenburg (est. 2015), and is also a professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. Ellen has conducted fieldwork and implemented surveys in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Zambia, centered around individual interactions with elections and local governance. She has authored numerous books, textbooks, and articles including, most recently, *Safer Research in the Social Sciences: A Systematic Handbook for Human and Digital Security*, (SAGE Publishing, 2020) in collaboration with Jannis Grimm, Kevin Koehler, Ilyas Saliba, and Isabell Schierenbeck, and *The Middle East*, 16th ed, (SAGE Publishing, 2022). Her current research examines the role of social institutions in governance; she is also leading GLD’s work on the development of a tool to systematically gauge sub-national variations in governance.

TACHIBANA Yu is Assistant Professor at the Center for Teaching and Learning, Hokkaido University. He specializes in politics and conflicts in Post-Soviet Caucasus. His publications include Tachibana Yu (2021) “The Second Nagorno Karabakh War: Flare up again of a Frozen Conflict,” *Russia & NIS Business Monthly*, Vol. 66 No.1, pp. 26-32 (in Japanese). He also wrote some chapters on politics of Azerbaijan in Hirose Yoko (ed.), *67 Chapters for Understanding Azerbaijan* (Tokyo: Akashi Shoten, 2018) (in Japanese).

Discussant:

RADNITZ, Scott is Herbert J. Ellison Associate Professor of Russian and Eurasian Studies in the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. He does research on post-Soviet politics with an emphasis on Central Asia and the Caucasus, specializing in topics such as authoritarianism, identity, and informal politics. His recent book is *Revealing Schemes: The Politics of Conspiracy in Russia and the Post-Soviet Region* (Oxford University Press, 2021). He is co-editor of the forthcoming volume, *Enemies Within: The Global Politics of Fifth Columns* (Oxford, 2022). His articles have appeared in journals including *Comparative Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Democracy*, *Political Geography*, *Political Communication*, and *Post-Soviet Affairs*. He is an associate editor of *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* and a member of the Program on New Approaches to Research and Security (PONARS) in Eurasia.

Chair:

HIGASHIJIMA Masaaki (See the part of Opening Remarks).

Day 3 (December 10), Session 3

“Regime Strengths and Autocrats’ Reactions to Crises: Southeast and East Asia”

Speakers:

SLATER, Dan is Weiser Professor of Emerging Democracies in the Department of Political Science and Director of the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies (WCED) at the University of Michigan. He specializes in the politics and history of democracy and authoritarianism, with a regional focus on Southeast Asia. He is the author of *Ordering Power: Contentious Politics and Authoritarian Leviathans in Southeast Asia* and coauthor (with Michael Albertus and Sofia Fenner) of *Coercive Distribution*, both with Cambridge University Press. His most recent articles can be found in the *Annual Review of Political Science*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Politics*, *Democratization*, *Government and Opposition*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Social Science History*, and *Studies in Comparative International Development*. He has recently served as a consultant with Freedom House and as a nonresidential fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and held visiting positions at Monash University in Malaysia, Tsinghua University in Beijing, and the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore.

SUZUKI Ayame is Professor at the Faculty of Law Department of Political Science, Doshisha University. She majored political science in Keio University (2000), and obtained Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Tokyo (2008). She taught at the University of Malaya (2010-2011), Fukuoka Women’s University (2011-2014) before assuming the current position. Her substantive research on politics and law in Malaysia was published as *Freedom and Order in “Democracies”: Reconsidering Malaysia’s Political Regime* (Kyoto University Press, 2010, in Japanese), for which she was awarded the Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Award in 2011.

Discussant:

MORGENBESSER, Lee is Senior Lecturer with the School of Government and International Relations at Griffith University and a former recipient of an Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award (2018-2020). His latest book is *The Rise of Sophisticated Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020) and his research has appeared in the likes of *Comparative Political Studies*, *Democratization*, *Electoral Studies*, *Journal of Democracy*, *Political Studies* and *The Pacific Review*. A regular contributor to international media outlets, he has been invited to present his research at the Council on Foreign Relations, European Parliament, National Endowment for Democracy, United States Department of State as well as the United States Agency for International Development. His research areas are authoritarian politics, dictators, democratization, election observation and Southeast Asian politics.

Chair:

KASUYA Yuko is Professor at the Department of Political Science, the Faculty of Law, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan. Her research interests include regime transition, political institutions, Southeast Asia (especially the Philippines), and East Asia (especially Japan). She is the author of *Comparative Politics* (Minerva Publishing, in Japanese, 2014) and *Presidential Bandwagon: Parties and Party Systems in the Philippines* (Anvil, 2008). Her articles can be found in journals such as *Electoral Studies*, *The Pacific Affairs*, and *Party Politics*, among others. She holds a Ph.D. in International Affairs from the University of California, San Diego, an M.A. in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies (Netherlands), and a B.A. in Law from Keio University. She is vice president of the International Political Science Association from 2018 to 2021, and V-Dem East Asia Regional Center's founding director since 2019. Her current projects concern democratic backsliding in Asia.