

Seoul National University Asia Center

Research



SNUAC
Seoul National University Asia Center
서울대학교 아시아연구소

SNUAC carries out the Asia Basic Research Program, which integrates domestic research on different areas within the Asian region and thematic research on issues of strategic importance at the national level. Under this Program, SNUAC provides academic, economic, and business circles and other groups of intellectuals with primary resources and fosters Asia specialists who can analyze and suggest solutions to major problems affecting the development of Korean society.

Northeast Asia Center

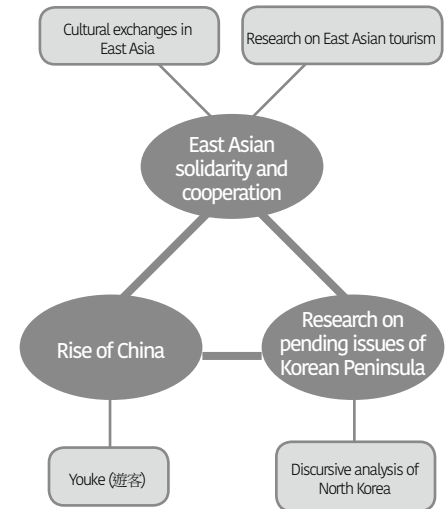
The Northeast Asia Center seeks out possibilities for solidarity and diverse forms of cooperation in East Asia for the purpose of studying Korea in Asia and Asia through Korea. With particular focus on the effects of recent rapid changes in the situation in Northeast Asia—characterized by the rise of China—on societies in the region and relations between them, the Center investigates the dimensions of relationship and linkage in those transformations.

<Research Topics>

- Focus on transformations in East Asian societies and their relations with each other due to rise of China
- Comparative research on East Asian tourist culture (*youke*, 遊客) / Pending issues of the Korean Peninsula in a global context (discursive analysis of North Korea)

<Leading Researchers>

- Jeonghoon Lee (Dept. of Chinese Language and Literature, Director) | modern Chinese literature, East Asian discourses, Chinese intellectuals | luxun@snu.ac.kr
- Eunyong Nam (Research fellow) | middle class, consumer culture, tourism, quality of life | ney1009@snu.ac.kr



Southeast Asia Center

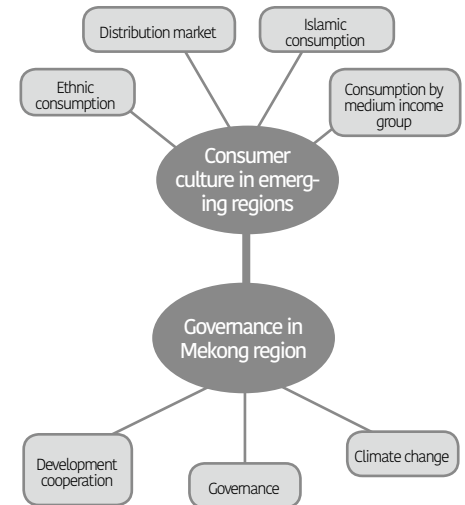
The Southeast Asia Center aims to discover new research topics combining regional and thematic approaches, nurture the next generation of researchers, and share knowledge with the general public. The Center identifies concrete topics for studying the consumer culture of Indonesia and Malaysia, governance in the Mekong region, Islamic economy, etc., conducts research, publishes its findings, and carries out seminars.

<Research Topics>

- Culturally sensitive marketing strategies and sustainable economic cooperation: consumer culture of Indonesia and Malaysia
- Consumer culture: Islamic consumption, consumption by medium income group, ethnic consumption, and distribution market
- The dilemma and governance of development and environmental cooperation in the Mekong River Basin
- Climate change, hydropower, connectivity, legal issues in development, and strategies, governance, and pending tasks by country

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Myung-Seok Oh (Dept. of Anthropology, Director of Emerging Nations Research Team) | economic anthropology | mysoh@snu.ac.kr
- Sunjin Yun (Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Director of Mekong Research Team) | climate change policies, environmental energy policies, sustainable development of Mekong region | ecodemo@snu.ac.kr
- Indonesian politics and culture
 - Kyunghee Choi (Research fellow) | kallikyung@hanmail.net
 - Bubmo Jung (Research fellow) | sao0526@hotmail.com
 - Jihyouk Lee (Research fellow) | tankm@daum.net
- Mekong River Basin environmental cooperation
 - Eunhui Eom (Research fellow) | likemoon@snu.ac.kr



Center for Eurasian and Central Asian Studies

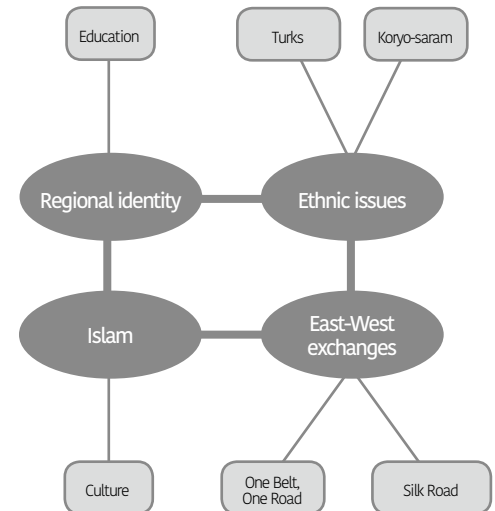
The Center for Eurasian and Central Asian Studies examines topics related to politics, economics, society, culture, and history of the Central Asian and Eurasian regions. As an extension of its research activities, the Center organizes academic conferences, cultural events, lecture series, and field trips to raise awareness of the region at home and overseas. It also strives to widely disseminate the collected data and research findings.

<Research Topics>

- Central Asia as a region
- Characteristics of Central Asian Islam
- Situation of Eurasian diasporas
- East-West exchanges in Eurasia

<Leading Researchers>

- Beomshik Shin (Dept. of Political Science and Int'l Relations, Director) | sbsrus@snu.ac.kr
- Kayoung Ko (Research fellow) | kkynow@snu.ac.kr
- Ayoung Choi (Research fellow) | cool3039@snu.ac.kr



KOSSDA

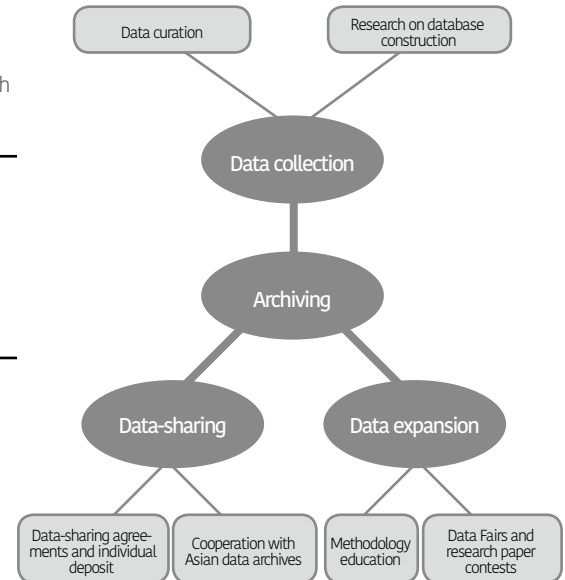
The Korea Social Science Data Archive (KOSSDA) is Korea's representative data archive, leading in the acquisition, dissemination, and promotion of research data through various academic events and methodology education programs. The vision of KOSSDA is to develop into an international archive with a profound research capacity by building a consortium of Asian social science data archives.

<Research Topics>

- Korea's representative data archive leading in the acquisition and dissemination of social science research data
- Development, sharing, and dissemination of research data; education; development into a representative data hub of Asia-related research.

<Leading Researchers and Responsibilities>

- Jaeyoul Yee (Dept. of Sociology, Director) | supervision of data archive | jyee@snu.ac.kr
- Inchol Shin (Research fellow) | research planning & coordination | sheldonshin@snu.ac.kr
- Yoona Chin (Research fellow) | methodology education programs | yoona03@snu.ac.kr
- Daehoon Kim (Manager) | data development | kdh3100@snu.ac.kr



Popular Culture Program

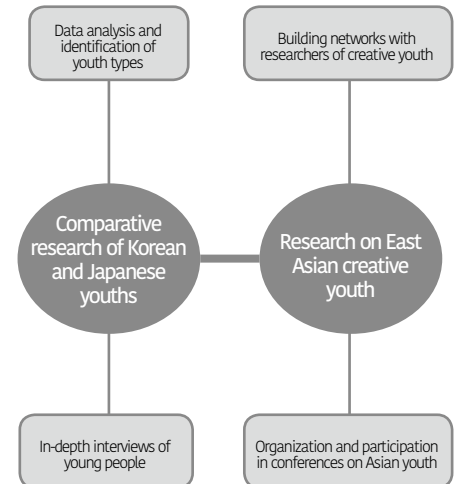
The Popular Culture Program explores the lifestyles, ambitions, perceptions of reality, and values of the younger generations in East Asia. It has established a wide network through cooperation with various scholars in the region. The Program conducts quantitative and qualitative research into the lives of young people by country-Korea, China, and Japan

<Research Topics>

- Focus on the lives, ambitions, perceptions of reality, and values of East Asian youth
- Research on perceptions of reality, ambitions and their realization among Korean and Japanese youths
- Comparative research of the creative generation in East Asia: focusing on Korea and China

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Hongjung Kim (Dept. of Sociology, Director) | creative generation | slimciga@snu.ac.kr
- Myungkoo Kang (Dept. of Communication) | national space, local politics, developmental urbanism | kangmk@snu.ac.kr
- Yeran Kim (Kwangwoon Univ.) | media and gender, media culture theory | yeran@kw.ac.kr
- Bosun Shim (Kyunghee Cyber Univ.) | culture and arts management, cultural changes, social developmen | bosobore@khcu.ac.kr



Program on US-China Relations

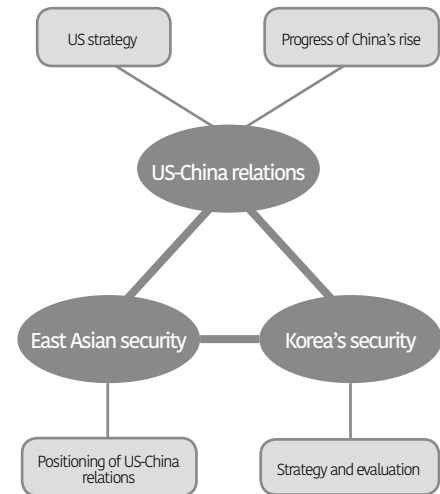
The Program on US-China relations is the only professional research institution in Korea examining the relations between the two great powers. Its research deals with the bilateral relationship, possibility of power transition, and the effect of transformations in US-China relations on East Asia and strategic options available to Korea. The program hosts monthly seminars, workshops, and policy roundtables and publishes books on related topics.

<Research Topics>

- Progress of US-China relations as the key variable of the 21st century
- Positioning of East Asian countries between the US and China
- Measures to overcome Korea's dilemma of Korea's position between the US and China

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Jae-Ho Chung (Dept. of Political Science and Int'l Relations, Director) | East Asian security, US-China relations, China's diplomacy | cjhir@snu.ac.kr
- Hunjoon Kim (Korea Univ.) | theory and methodology of international politics, international norms | hunjoon7@korea.ac.kr
- Myungsik Ham (Jilin Univ.) | international politics, China's diplomacy | myungsikh@jlu.edu.cn



Center for Democracy and Economic Development

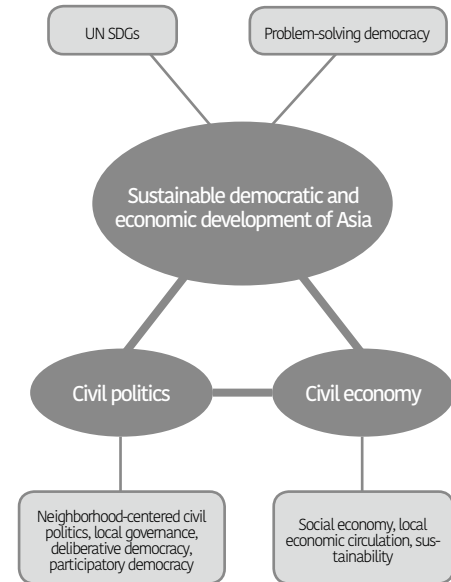
Since its inauguration in 2013, the Center for Democracy and Economic Development has been conducting comparative analysis of the trajectories of development models of Korea and other developing countries in Asia, striving to produce theoretical and practical studies on sustainable democratic and economic development of the region. The Center aims to build a framework of social democracy reflecting the unique characteristics of Korea and the rest of East Asia and offer an alternative perspective on contemporary Korean society with a focus on social economy.

<Research Topics>

- Theoretical and empirical research on sustainable democratic and economic development of the Asian region
- Analysis of civil politics with a focus on problem-solving democracy; development of alternatives to representative democracy
- Construction of a framework of social democracy, reflecting the unique characteristics of Korea and East Asia

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Euiyoung Kim (Dept. of Political Science and Int'l Relations, Director) | comparative political economy, governance, civil society | euiyoungkim@snu.ackr
- T.K. Ahn (Dept. of Political Science and Int'l Relations, co-researcher) | public choice theory, experimental social science, institutionalism | tkahn@snu.ackr
- Hiroki Miura (Institute for Korean Politics, co-researcher) | comparative politics, civil society, governance | sugeun@msn.com



Civil Society and NGOs Program

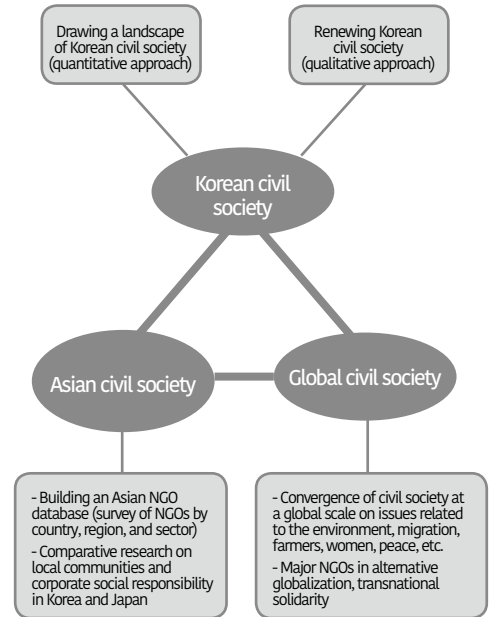
The objective of the Civil Society and NGOs Program is to carry out comparative research into how the civil society in each Asian country adapts and evolves in accordance with the progress of globalization. The Program conducts research on qualitative and quantitative changes in Korean civil society, develops an Asian NGO database, and creates networks linking researchers of East Asian civil society. Research is pursued thematically, with subject and scope of analysis differentiated into Korean civil society, Asian civil society, and global civil society.

<Research Topics>

- Research on Korean, Asian, and global civil society
- Research on quantitative and qualitative transformations of Korean civil society
- Survey of NGOs to construct an Asian civil society database; comparative research of corporate social responsibility in local communities in Korea and Japan
- Theory and practice of global civil society: research on transnational solidarity movements within the framework of global justice

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Hyun-Chin Lim (SNU Professor Emeritus, Director) | social development theory, global civil society, social economy | hclim@snu.ac.kr
- Suk-Ki Kong (research fellow) | political sociology, social economy, environment and human rights NGOs | skong@snu.ac.kr
- Taekyoon Kim (Graduate School of Int'l Studies) | international development and cooperation, governance, ODA | oxonian07@snu.ac.kr
- Youngchoon Kim (UNIST) | sociology of organizations, social renovation, social ventures | yckim@unist.ac.kr



Center for Asia and Global Economic Order

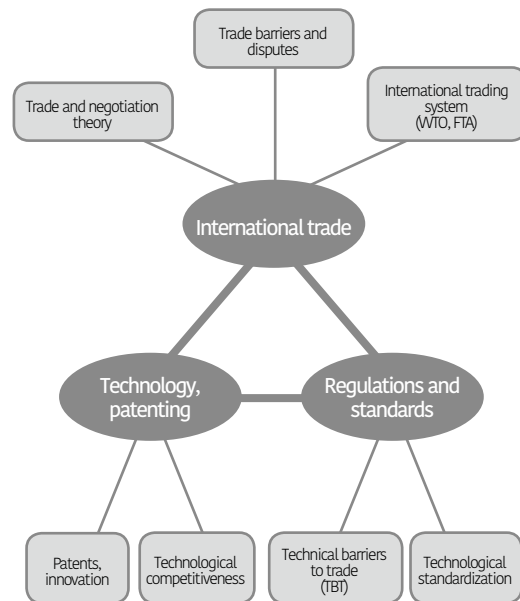
The Center for Asia and Global Economic Order conducts interdisciplinary and integrated research on reorganization of the international economic order in connection to the rise of developing nations in Asia. The Center performs pioneering research on the topic in cooperation with domestic and foreign experts in economics, jurisprudence, and international studies, and makes efforts to nurture the next generation of scholars. It is developing a database on world trade policies and disputes, technological innovations and standard barriers. The Center aims to grow into a leading international institution producing models of international economic order for the rapidly changing economies of Asia and around the globe based on theoretical and empirical research.

<Research Topics>

- Research on risk factors and proposal for Asia's role in the establishment and maintenance of a sustainable global economic order
- Theoretical, quantitative, and institutional research on technology and trade, focusing on technological standards, patenting and innovation, and non-tariff trade barriers

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Jeehyong Park (Dept. of Economics, Director) | international trade, trade disputes, patents and innovation | j-hpark@snu.ackr
- Dukgeun Ahn (Graduate School of Int'l Studies, co-researcher) | international trade system, trade disputes, trade policy | dahn@snu.ackr
- Jihong Lee (Dept. of Economics, co-researcher) | microeconomics, negotiation theory, patents and innovation | jihong33@gmail.com



Environment Cooperation Program

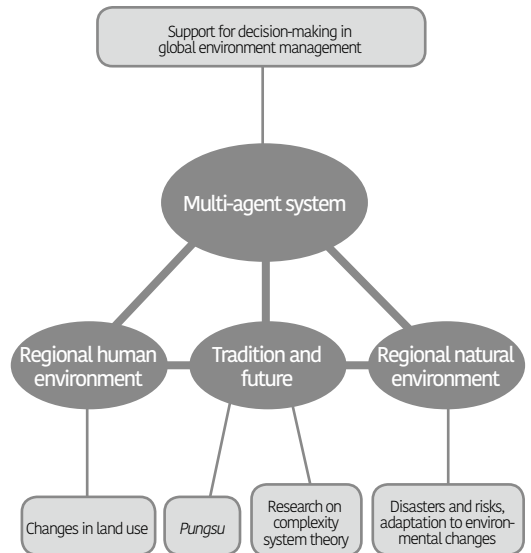
On the other side of the rapid economic growth of East Asia are increasing environmental pollution and natural disasters, and the threat to sustainability of local ecosystems is also growing. For Asia to achieve sustainable development, it is important to understand multiple dimensions of the interactions humans and nature engage in order to coexist with each other. For the past four years, the Program's research activities have focused on constructing a spatial database covering the entire Asian region, analyzing environmental changes in Asia, and developing a multi-agent land use decision-making system. The Program also took great pains to popularize the complexity system and traditional East Asian knowledge by establishing related organizations of researchers and hosting seminars and workshops.

<Research Topics>

- Analysis of the progress and reasons of rapid transformations in the artificial and natural environment of the East Asian region; focus on predicting changes and suggesting appropriate management alternatives
- Establishment of an Asian spatial database and traditional knowledge center
- Assisting decision-making in regional environmental management through a multi-agent system

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Soojin Park (Dept. of Geography, Director) | soil geography, analysis and modeling of index systems, environmental problems in East Asia | catena@snu.ackr
- Dowon Lee (Dept. of Environmental Planning) | environmental management, landscape ecology and sustainability of ecosystem services | leedw@snu.ackr



Key Research Institute Program

In 2010, SNUAC was selected as a Key Research Institute by the National Research Foundation of Korea and is currently conducting research in its first year of the third phase. Under the comprehensive topic of “Cooperation and Integration of Economic and Social Community in East Asia,” researchers specializing in different fields engage in a variety of research activities related to the feasibility and sustainability of an East Asian community.

<Research Topics>

- Examining the progress in economic integration of East Asia and the possibility of continuous growth of the economic community
- Investigating cooperation and integration in an East Asian community from different angles including culture, society, politics, and environment

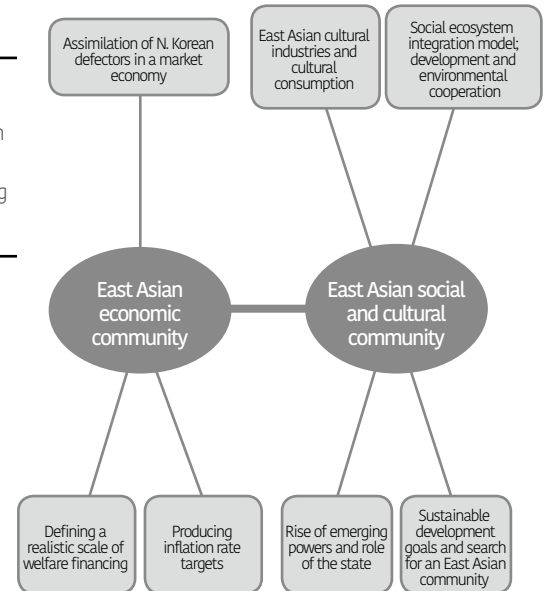
<Leading Researchers by Topic>

- Team 1: cooperation and integration of the economic community
Byungyeon Kim (Dept. of Economics) | kimby@snu.ackr
Soyoung Kim (Dept. of Economics) | soyoungkim@snu.ackr
Jaeyoung Kim (Dept. of Economics) | jykim017@snu.ackr
Chulin Lee (Dept. of Economics) | leeci@snu.ackr
- Team 2: Cooperation and integration of the social and cultural community
Myungkoo Kang (Dept. of Communication, Director) | kangmk@snu.ackr
Soojin Park (Dept. of Geography) | catena@snu.ackr
Haeran Lim (Dept. of Political Science and Int'l Relations) | hrlim@snu.ackr

Sunggyu Kim (research fellow) | industrial sociology, international development and cooperation | fuberlinkim@snu.ackr

Yoomi Kim (research fellow) | environmental economics and policy, international governance | kimyoomi@snu.ackr

Jongho Kim (research fellow) | history of enterprise in East Asia, government-business relations | kimjongho@snu.ackr



SSK Research Project on East Asian Cities

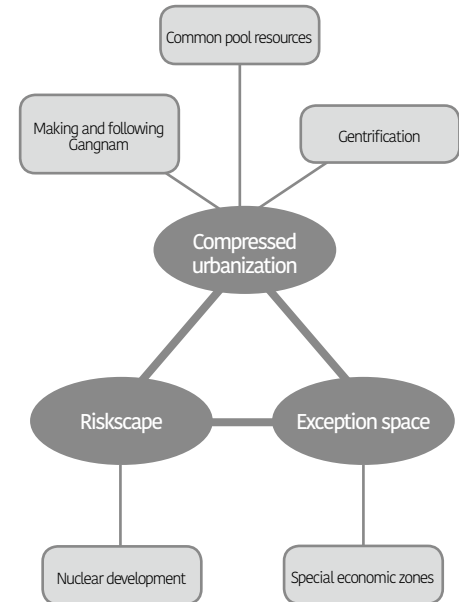
The SSK Research Project on East Asian Cities examines cities in the region within the framework of Cold War developmental urbanization and ultimately seeks to develop a new epistemology for urban research. To explain the challenges East Asian cities confront today, the project looks first at how urbanization in the region was affected by geopolitical and economic conditions of the Cold War since the 1950s and developmental state projects pursued by states across East Asia from the 1950s to the 1980s. Second, it analyzes the transformation of urbanization processes in the region in the contexts of post-Cold War geopolitical and economic conditions since the 1990s, neoliberal globalization, and legacies of developmental state projects.

<Research Topics>

- The compressed urbanization team analyzes the process of urbanization in Korea focusing on the concepts of “making Gangnam” and “following Gangnam”
- The riskscape team investigates interests, perceptions, and the socio-spatial dimension of differentiated practices in connection to risks of nuclear development policies in East Asia
- The exception space team analyzes special economic zones in East Asia as a common spatial strategy of East Asian states

<Leading Researchers and Areas of Expertise>

- Bae-Gyoon Park (Dept. of Geography Education, Director) | national space, local politics, developmental urbanism | geopbg@snu.ac.kr
- Jin-Tae Hwang (research fellow) | political ecology, developmental state theory, social movements | dchjt@snu.ac.kr
- Hanbyul Shim (research fellow) | cultural economy, inner city, industrial change | pinehill@snu.ac.kr



SNUAC Research Grants

As part of its efforts to build the foundation of knowledge production in the international sphere and unearth research topics of academic significance, SNUAC obtains grants to conduct diverse research projects.

- **Is East Asia moving toward post-developmental urbanism? A comparative study of community policies and their implementation in Seoul and Singapore**
Blaž Kržnik (Hanyang Univ.), Imsik Cho (Nat'l Univ. of Singapore), Tae-hui Lee (Seoul Institute)
- **A comparative study of “unstable labor” in Asia**
Kwangyeong Shin (Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), Arne L. Kalleberg (Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), Kevin Hewison (Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)
- **Convergence culture of East Asia**
Seokkyeong Hong (SNU), Shindong Kim (Hallym Univ.), Dalyong Jin (Simon Fraser Univ.)
- **Asian family: Has the family revolution started in Asia?**
Baegui Hong (SNU), Seok Eun (SNU), Seungie Ahn (SNU)
- **Global Cold War and East Asia**
Wookhee Shin (SNU), Heonik Kwon (Univ. of Cambridge), Seukryule Hong (Sungshin Women's Univ.)
- **Asian food culture**
Seejae Lee (Sungkonghoe Univ.), Eunyong Nam (SNU)
- **Diversity and common issues in Asian social economy**
T.K. Ahn (SNU), Gibin Hong (Global Political Economy Institute), Margie Mendell (Concordia Univ.)
- **A comparative study of expression of hatred in Korea, Japan, and France**
Jaejin Lee (Hanyang Univ.), Myungkoo Kang (SNU), Marie-Orange Rivé-Lasan (Université Paris Diderot)
- **SNUAC Translation Series**
Keunsik Jung (SNU), Woonkyung Yeo (SNU), Woo Park (Hansung Univ.)
- **Asian Capitalisms**
Hyun-Chin Lim (SNU), Sukman Hwang (Changwon National Univ.)



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