

Asia-Latin America Forum on Migration and Citizenship

September 24, 2025 Auditorio R-01, Universidad de Los Andres, Santiago Chile

Welcoming Address

Lee, Jin Kyu. Professor Jin Kyu Lee is Emeritus Professor of Korea University Business School and currently serves as Chair of the Center for Future Human Resource Studies. He has served for almost 10 years as a Board member of Bethlehem University, established by the Vatican and the La Salle Brothers. During his academic career for 30 years at Korea University, he served as Dean of the Business School and the Graduate School of Business. Professor Lee has made contributions to his original birthplace of Hamgyeongnam-do by serving in many important leading positions, including the Governor and Commissioner for the 5 northern Provinces of the Korean Government. jin@korea.ac.kr

Iacobelli, Pedro (See Session 1)

Keynote Speech

Lim, Hyun-Chin. Dr. Hyun-Chin Lim is Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Founding Director of the Asia Center at Seoul National University. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Korea. He served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Academy of Korean Studies. Currently, he works for the Steering Committee, International Network of Government Science Advice, Asia.

Dr. Lim is highly recognized as a scholar and activist in Korea. He served as Dean of Liberal Education and Dean of the College of Social Sciences, Seoul National University. He received numerous awards and recognitions, including the National Distinguished Scholar Award, Grand Publication Award for Free Economy, *Sudang* Prize in Social Sciences, *Kyungam* Award in Humanity and Social Sciences, and DMZ Peace Prize. Besides his academic achievements, Dr.

Lim led various civil society organizations as a representative, such as Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice, Sustainable Development Solution Network, and Citizens. He also chaired the Prime Ministerial Commission on Civil Society Development.

He received his B.A. and M.A. from Seoul National University and his Ph.D. in Sociology from Harvard University. His publications include more than 70 books and over 250 scholarly articles on globalization, civil society, democracy, populism, and comparative development of East Asia and Latin America. hclim@snu.ac.kr, hclim49@gmail.com

“Asia Meets South America: International Migration and Global Citizenship”

Session 1 Migration and Belongings

Chung, Hark-Serp. Professor Chung Hark-Serp studied undergraduate and graduate master's doctorate programs in sociology at Seoul National University. From 1985 to 2021, he served as a professor of sociology at Jeonbuk National University. From 2011 to 2017, he served as the president of the Association of East Asian Social Thought. He served as the central director of the Green Consumer Solidarity Council(綠色消費者連帶全國聯合) and the representative of the Jeonju Federation of Economic Justice(全州經濟正義實踐聯合). He is currently an Emeritus professor at Jeonbuk National University and director of the Center for Human Resource Studies/Jingbi Forum. He is the vice president of the International T'oegyehak Society. Many of the books include <The Oriental Thoughts Horizon of Sociological Concern>, <Crisis and Oriental Social Thoughts of Modern Society>, <Oriental Thoughts and Modern Values>, and <Today, Meet T'oegye>. hark@jbnu.ac.kr

Zulueta, Johanna O. Johanna O. Zulueta is Professor of Sociology at the Faculty of Sociology, and currently serves as the Director of the Center for Global Innovation Studies of Toyo University. She does research on migrations in East Asia, looking at issues related to ethnicities, military basing, gender and families, citizenship, multiculturalism, and aging. In addition to peer-reviewed articles in both English and Japanese, she also edited and wrote books. Her most recent publication is the edited volume, *Disrupted Mobilities: Filipinos in Japan and Japanese in the Philippines*

(Palgrave Macmillan, 2025). She is currently working on a book on ageing and transnational families. zulueta@toyo.jp

“Exploring the Social Well-Being of Older Japanese Brazilians in Japan”

Japan is one of the fastest aging societies in the world. In this regard, the Japanese government has implemented various institutional measures to address this social phenomenon. Along with the aging of Japan’s population is the aging of its long-term foreign residents, many of which have families of their own, and see themselves staying longer in their adopted country. This exploratory study examines the experiences of older Japanese Brazilian migrants in Japan as they reach their older years. Most of these Japanese Brazilians entered Japan in the 1990s upon the amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act in 1990, which allowed for people of Japanese descent to live and work in Japan indefinitely. Based on qualitative data, this study investigates these migrants’ perceptions of aging outside their countries of birth, as it relates to their own perceptions on social well-being—particularly its social and cultural aspects—as long-term migrants in Japan. It is argued here that the aging experience of migration is gendered and intertwined with one’s own cultural and social capital. In addition, language and communication, one’s status of residence, spirituality and religion, and the presence or absence of family are also deemed significant. This study aims to shed light on the challenges that older migrants in Japan are facing as they navigate the aging process with their lived realities as migrants.

Ryburn, Megan (Professor, Universidad de Chile). megan.ryburn@uchile.cl

“Borderland threads: Migration and motherhood in low-income neighborhoods in Santiago and Antofagasta, Chile”

This project addresses how migrant women in low-income community’s experience pregnancy, birth, and early motherhood in Santiago and Antofagasta, Chile, with a focus on structural and direct violence. It examines experiences in the home, the workplace, in healthcare, and in education. For feminist scholars addressing violence and migration, arts-based methods can offer coherence with an epistemological stance that prioritises lived experience (O’Neill et al. 2019; McIlwaine & Ryburn, 2024). In line with this approach, “Borderland Threads: Migration and Motherhood” uses textile art and testimonio to work with migrant women to tell their migration and motherhood stories.

Iacobelli, Pedro (Ph.D., the Australian National University). Dr. Iacobelli teaches courses in 19th- and 20th-century history, postcolonial studies, and global history. His research examines transregional historical influences within the Asia-Pacific region. He is an associate professor and chair of the History Department at Universidad de Los Andes, Chile. He previously served as director of the Center for Asian Studies at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile. piacobel@gmail.com, iacobelli.pedro@gmail.com

Raimundo Salas (Professor, Georgetown University, USA)

“Naturalization and Integration: Perspectives from Chile”

Several studies focus on the initial stage of immigration, highlighting the challenges of arriving immigrants, such as access to basic social rights and processes of inclusion and exclusion. However, there remains a significant gap in the literature regarding migration trends in the Global South, particularly in exploring the trajectories of immigrants after the arrival stage. This research aims to examine the Chilean migration system from a structural perspective. Based on a review of the current state of research, this presentation will focus on a social phenomenon of growing importance in Chile: immigrant integration. We will show indicators of immigrants' sociodemographic conditions, well-being, and nationalization or naturalization of immigrants, understood as the legal culmination of a long-term integration process. To this end, we will present the literature on naturalization processes worldwide and then examine the Chilean case, including available data from the Census, CASEN, and EBS surveys. We will conclude with a methodological proposal for studying this phenomenon.

Session 2 Migration, Ethnography & Culture

Chan, Carol. Carol Chan is associate professor at the School of Anthropology at Universidad Diego Portales in Chile. She holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh, where she also earned a Master's degree in Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies. She is the author of the book *“In Sickness and Wealth: Migration, Gendered Morality and Central Java”* (Indiana University Press, 2018), co-author of *“Chineseness in Chile: Shifting*

Representations in the Twenty First Century” (Palgrave MacMillan, 2022), and co-editor of *“Migraciones, Etnicidades y Espacios. Aproximaciones críticas desde la etnografía”* (RIL, 2021). Some of her research topics include migration, racialization, gender, inter-ethnic conviviality, and forced labor. She has specialized in migration from Indonesia, the Philippines, and China—globally and specifically to Latin America. She is currently the lead researcher of a project on Chileans of Asian descent (Fondecyt 1240146) and is deputy director of the Millennium Nucleus on China’s Impacts in Latin America and the Caribbean (ICLAC). carolchanzilin@gmail.com

“Tracking Chilean Asianness through racialized affect: Methodological and analytical reflections on an ethnography of Chileans of East Asian descent”

This paper discusses methodological and analytical challenges faced in our ethnography of Chileans who are racialized as “chinos”: Chilean citizens of Chinese, Korean, and Japanese descent. Through the lens of racialized affect, we examined Chilean Asians’ sense of belonging and/or exclusions in Chile. A focus on racialized affective and emotional aspects of their experiences can address the limits of what is/can be spoken or articulated about their experiences of/with racialization. Critically attending to the historical silence, invisibility, and unsentimentality typically associated with (East) Asian population, we propose how to ethnographically track silences, absences, the unspoken/the unspeakable on the one hand, and on the other, track modes of disaffection or “minor feelings” that emerge from and refuse “dominating structures of feeling”.

Min, Wonjung. Wonjung Min, Ph.D. is a visiting research fellow at the Seoul National University Asia Center and former professor at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Her research focuses on transpacific cultural exchanges, East Asian diasporas in Latin America, and the reception of Korean and Japanese popular culture in postcolonial societies. Through the lens of cultural studies, digital media, and diaspora theory, she explores how East Asian identities are racialized, consumed, and reimagined across the Global South. wjhelena@snu.ac.kr, wonjung.min@snu.ac.kr

“Glocalization of Food and Otherness: Exploring Latin American Restaurants in South Korea”

This presentation explores how Latin American migrant communities in South Korea express identity, navigate otherness, and negotiate cultural citizenship through food. Focusing on a Peruvian restaurant near the U.S. military base in Osan, the study investigates how food becomes a site of cultural glocalization, where Latin American culinary traditions are both preserved and adapted to Korean tastes and expectations. These restaurants serve not only Latin American expatriates and Korean patrons, but also U.S. military personnel, creating a layered transnational space where migration, militarism, and multiculturalism intersect. The Peruvian restaurant in Osan exemplifies the complex entanglement of diasporic identity and local belonging. It operates within a unique geopolitical context shaped by the U.S.–Korea alliance and the global circulation of labor and culture. While Latin American dishes are marketed as “authentic” or “exotic,” their presentation and adaptation reveal ongoing negotiations over visibility, legitimacy, and inclusion in Korean society. Drawing on fieldwork, interviews, and digital ethnography, this presentation argues that the glocalization of Latin American food in Korea offers critical insights into how migrant communities perform citizenship and reconfigure cultural boundaries in everyday spaces.

Kim, Allen J. Allen J. Kim is Senior Associate Professor of Sociology at International Christian University in Tokyo. His research focuses on men and migration, transnational families, and aging, alongside projects on Gen Z, work, and entrepreneurship. He is co-editor of *Navigating Ageing in Migrant and Transnational Families* (Palgrave, 2025). He integrates service learning and design thinking into his teaching, leading international programs that connect students with real-world social challenges. His work bridges scholarship and practice, exploring intergenerational ties, resilience, and the future of work in a rapidly changing global society. allen@icu.ac.jp

Olivares Flores, Elizabeth. Elizabeth Olivares Flores is a Master’s candidate in Social and Cultural Analysis at International Christian University in Japan. With a background in anthropology, her research explores Generation Z’s lived experiences and imagined futures of the Metaverse. Her work bridged personal reflections after VR experiences to its application in education, including a recent service-learning project in Thailand. g266010r@icu.ac.jp

“Immersive Worlds, Shared Futures: The Metaverse as a Platform for Tackling Global Issues with NGOs”

This study examines how Generation Z university students translated a five-week service-learning experience in Thailand into a Metaverse exhibition using FrameVR. Working with NGOs focused on organic farming, migration, community-led tourism, and homelessness, students applied design thinking to identify challenges and propose solutions. The exhibition became a space for cooperation, reflection, and intercultural dialogue that extended beyond traditional academic mobility. Three dimensions are highlighted: (1) the Metaverse exhibition as a new form of academic mobility; (2) the use of digital tools to translate fieldwork into immersive storytelling; and (3) the presentation in FrameVR as a site of intercultural cooperation. Interpreted through the mobilities paradigm and theories of transnationalism, the findings show how the Metaverse can be understood as an ethnographic field of mobility, in which transnational connections and solidarities are enacted. This suggests new possibilities for NGOs and students to collaborate in tackling global issues across Asia and Latin America.

Session 3 Migration and International Order

Medeiros da Silva, Rodrigo Luis. Rodrigo Luiz Medeiros da Silva is an Economist, Master in Economics from Unicamp (State University of Campinas, Brazil) and PhD in Sociology from the University of Sao Paulo, with a balanced academic background in Economics, Development Sociology, and International Relations. He conducts research on comparative industrial policy in newly industrialized countries. He is currently Associate Professor of International Economics at the Latin American Institute of Economics, Society, and Politics at Unila, the Federal University for Latin American Integration. Former Coordinator of UNILA's undergraduate program in Economics (2013-2016), Provost of Institutional and International Relations (2019-2022), and currently Vice Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Applied Economics. medeiros da rodrigo.silva@unila.edu.br

Ichikawa, Akira (Researcher & Professor, Center for Global Innovation Studies, Toyo University) He previously served as Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration Researcher, Graduate School of Social and Engineering Sciences, Tokyo Institute of Technology; Associate Professor, Institute of Industrial Research, Kwansei Gakuin University. He is; the President, Political and Social Science Association; Advisor, Policy Information Society; Executive

Committee Member, Kansai Branch, Japan Society for Planning Administration. Former President, Policy Information Society; Former Director, Global Innovation Research Center, Toyo University. He specializes in EU politics, climate change, energy, and environmental governance. Since his time as Associate Professor at Kwansei Gakuin University's Institute of Industrial Research, he has collaborated with government agencies on issues related to differences in policy formulation between the EU and Japan, and innovation implementation. ichikawa004@toyo.jp

“Trump 2.0 and Polish Civil Society; Can Poles live together with Ukrainians?”

This presentation will focus on Polish domestic politics since the start of the Trump administration in the United States. In particular, it will analyse the degree of acceptance of refugees from the Ukraine war, which has been ongoing for three years since the start of the war.

As a research method, in addition to political process analysis, various public opinion polls in Poland will be analysed. Furthermore, field research will be conducted in Poland in September 2025 to understand the perceptions of local Ukrainian refugees. There will be a presidential election in Poland in May 2025. As a result of this election, a split is expected between the conservative and liberal parties to which the president and prime minister belong. The domestic political situation and the treatment of Ukrainian refugees will also be examined.

Kong, Suk-Ki. Suk-Ki Kong is Research Professor of Asia Center at Seoul National University. He studied sociology and received B.A., M.A. from the Department of Sociology at SNU and his Ph.D. from the Department of Sociology at Harvard University. He is also Adjunct Professor of Graduate School of Public Policy and Civic Engagement at Kyung Hee University. His major fields of research are social movements, human rights, civil society and social economy. His publications and research articles focus on social movements, civil society, democracy and citizenship, local community and care democracy in East Asia as a comparative context. E. skong@snu.ac.kr

“Global Justice and Transnational Solidarity: Encounters Between Korean and Latin American Civil Societies Through the World Social Forum”

This article analyzes the formation and development of transnational solidarity and exchanges between Korean and Latin American civil societies, focusing on the World Social Forum (WSF)

as a central platform. Since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, Korean civil society has expanded its engagement with global environmental and justice movements. In the early 2000s, through active participation in the WSF, Korean activists established direct connections with Latin American civil society actors. These interactions were framed around the master narrative of Global Justice, fostering intersections among various social movements including environmental, peasant, women's, labor movements, and contributing to the broader alter-globalization movement. Korean civil society, in particular, engaged with key Latin American networks such as La Vía Campesina, incorporating global justice discourses like food sovereignty and climate justice into their domestic activism. The WSF functioned as an experimental platform for learning, dialogue, and solidarity among diverse grassroots actors under the slogan "Another World Is Possible," with leadership from the Global South playing a prominent role. However, the WSF has faced challenges, including regional imbalances, organizational limitations, and waning influence at the global level. Korean civil society, despite initial enthusiasm, struggled to maintain sustained strategic engagement. Nonetheless, advances in digital technologies have opened new pathways for transnational solidarity. The shared framework of Global Justice continues to serve as a crucial basis for building a new global public sphere and deepening collaboration between Korean and Latin American civil societies. This chapter reflects on the historical trajectory of such interactions and underscores the need to pursue sustainable, horizontal strategies for international cooperation and civic solidarity.

Yamazaki, Amane. Dr. YAMAZAKI Amane is Associate Professor at Department of Regional Development Studies at Faculty of Global and Regional Studies at Toyo University (Tokyo, Japan). He received B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in International Politics from Aoyama Gakuin University (Tokyo, Japan). Previously, he served as Research Fellow at The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA), Research Institute at Aoyama Gakuin University, and The Canon Institute for Global Studies (CIGS). His research interests include: International Relations, East Asia/the Indo-Pacific, and Chinese diplomacy and security issues. yamazaki076@toyo.jp

“China's Immigration Policy and the Liberal International Order: Gradual Changes in its Cautious Approach to Immigrants”

While China has traditionally been one of the largest sources of emigrants to other countries, in recent years the Asian power has gradually become a destination for foreign migrants. Despite its reputation for being closed to foreigners, the Chinese government has sought to project an image of openness and attractiveness to a global audience. This article argues that China is not immune to the structural forces generated by the post-Cold War Liberal International Order (LIO), and that Beijing's current immigration policies reflect the impact of these systemic factors. Because openness to immigration is seen as a key condition for soft power and economic development, China has gradually accommodated immigrants while maintaining a cautious stance. The LIO serves as a determinant of Beijing's broader strategy-including its immigration policy-and it also constitutes a global environment in which states tend to emulate the policies of the most successful actors. However, the People's Republic of China (PRC) remains cautious about expanding the number of foreign residents, framing immigration as a national security issue. It remains to be seen how the PRC will adjust its immigration policies, but the LIO is likely to act as a force majeure influencing China's approach to human mobility in an increasingly globalized world. This article outlines several potential scenarios for the future of Chinese immigration policy. The path Beijing ultimately chooses will depend on both international and domestic elements that shape the emerging power's trajectory.

Kang, Miongsei. Miongsei Kang is a Visiting Faculty at the Seoul National University Asia Center, participating in a comparative project with a focus on democratic backsliding and polarization. Since earning a Ph.D. in Political Science from UCLA in 1995, his research has examined how polarization undermines democratic institutions across advanced democracies. His influential book, “Unequal Democracy and Populism” (2019), provides critical insights into the relationship between political inequality and democratic erosion. His current work investigates the causal mechanisms connecting extreme polarization to institutional decay, contributing valuable frameworks for understanding contemporary democratic challenges in polarized societies.miongsei@gmail.com

Kim, Jong-Cheol. Jong-Cheol Kim is a research fellow at the Seoul National University Asia Center in South Korea. Since 2011, he has led the KF Global eSchool SNU Program, coordinating over 180 accredited courses across 25 universities in 16 countries throughout Asia and Europe. He

has also been the Secretary for the ICAS International Book Prize Korean Language Edition since 2016. Currently, his research focuses on political polarization and democratic backsliding, particularly through the lens of fandom politics in Northeast Asia and Latin America. He is also exploring the transformation of the global semiconductor industry amid rising geopolitical tensions. Jong-Cheol holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley. jkim27@gmail.com

“Partisan Polarization and the Resilience of Korean Democracy”

This study examines the democratic crisis and rapid restoration in South Korea from late 2024 to early 2025. It argues that deepening partisan polarization, rooted in longstanding regional and ideological divides, led to democratic backsliding. The crisis peaked on December 3, 2024, when the president attempted a self-coup. However, democracy was swiftly restored within six hours as the National Assembly voted to lift martial law. Two months later, the president was impeached and arrested; a new election followed, resulting in an opposition victory. The resilience of Korean democracy is attributed to citizens’ historical experience resisting authoritarianism. The polarization that fueled the crisis stems from the 2017 impeachment of President Park Geun-hye and subsequent ideological confrontations. Tensions escalated under President Yoon Suk Yeol’s libertarian agenda, clashing with an opposition-controlled parliament. Although constitutional order was restored through elections, partisan polarization remains a significant threat. The current administration now seeks a “conclusion of civil strife” to stabilize democracy.