



Phase 3 第1回アフラシア国際シンポジウム  
The 1st Afrasian International Symposium



# BEYOND 'WEST' AND 'REST'?

## A Critical Inquiry Into the Dichotomized Ontology of International Relations

### Outline of the Symposium

Asia's rise in the late 20th and early 21st century has been rapid, as China, India and other Asian nations' regional and global influence has dramatically increased. Established IR theory, however, is based on traditions from the West and has often been treated as a general explanatory framework that has spatial applicability across regions. Among the many implications of the rise of Asia, however, is the need to understand and explain an emergent international system that does not necessarily follow the pattern established by this existing IR framework. There has been much debate about the merits of attempting to theorize a non-Western-centric IR and what such a framework would look like.

There have been some attempts made by non-Western scholars, notably by such national schools as Chinese, Korean, and Indian. However, they have been criticized by critical scholars for their unquestioned acceptance of traditional IR premises including geopolitical divisions, nation-states as the central subjectivity, and total neglect of unconventional actors. This symposium aims to illuminate and develop this debate, and strives to open up new spaces for the studies of IR theories, which transcend the West/the Rest dichotomy.

In this symposium, we will specifically concentrate on post-Western theories. These have been expanding in the past few years, involving interventions from the disciplines that were previously regarded as remote to IR and introducing such philosophical concepts into IR as temporality, spatiality, imagination, and the present in relation to epistemology and ontology in world affairs. This symposium, which will be held at Afrasian Research Centre of Ryukoku University Kyoto in February 2016, does not only critically investigate the prevailing discourses of IR, realism, liberalism and constructivism in particular, for their gender specific Western-centrism. The symposium also seeks to assess the non-Western IR discourses in relation to their subjectivity, assumed political framework, and unquestioned premises of value-neutrality of language. Most importantly, the symposium is concerned with the current state of post-Western IR theories as well as their potential as feasible alternative approaches to contemporary IR.

This symposium also celebrates the inauguration of a newly launched Routledge book series, titled 'IR Theory and Practice in Asia' (<https://www.routledge.com/series/IRTPA>). An edited volume is envisaged as an outcome of the symposium.

龍谷大学アフラシア

検索

詳しくは、龍谷大学 アフラシア多文化社会研究センター Web サイトまで

For further information about the program of this symposium,  
you can check the website < <http://afrasia.ryukoku.ac.jp/> >.