

The 17th Annual Conference of the East Asian Social Policy Research Network &
The 27th Annual Conference of the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security

MITIGATING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE RESPONSES IN EAST AND WEST

2-4 July 2021

Lingnan University, Hong Kong



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How to Read This Booklet

Time zone

This conference programme is scheduled according to **Local HK Time**. You can check times according to your time zone here: <https://savvytime.com/converter/australia-sydney-to-hkt-cet-united-kingdom-london-ny-new-york-city-ca-los-angeles/jul-2-2021/4pm>

Zoom passcodes

This booklet does not contain any passcodes for entering online Zoom sessions. Please refer to the e-mail sent to all registered conference delegates prior to the conference (30 June, 2021 – Subject Heading: **EASP/FISS2021 Zoom Passcodes**). For any problems or questions on how to join online sessions, please contact: stefankuehner@LN.edu.hk

Spread the Word

We will be using **Twitter** throughout the conference to help us connect and share important news and updates in real-time. To join the conversation please watch out for the hashtag **#EASPFISS2021**

Online Conference Lounge

Two online lounges and three smaller breakout rooms are available to all delegates for the duration of the conference using a new online service called *SpatialChat*. There is no need to install any software and once you entered the virtual space you can simply approach any person you would like to talk to. You will be able to hear the voices of those who are close to you but will gradually lose them as you move further away from them.

Please use the following link to enter the conference lounge:

<https://spatial.chat/s/easpfiss2021>

You will be prompted to enter your name and affiliation.

- Click "Continue".
- Select your camera and microphone and click "Join Space".
- The password will be provided together with all other passcodes for the conference.
- You can now enter the main hall.

We hope you will explore the different rooms and enjoy the social interaction.

Concept Note

Since the first coronavirus cluster was reported in December 2019, few have managed to avoid the direct impacts of economic lockdowns, travel restrictions, school closures, and other public health measures on their everyday lives. Rather than a 'great leveller' or 'equaliser', however, it has become increasingly evident that incidence, hospitalisation, and mortality rates due to Covid-19 have varied considerably by individual and regional socio-economic characteristics. In comparison, less is still known about the indirect economic and social losses due to the global pandemic and to what extent they have disproportionately affected different groups of people in Eastern and Western societies.

During the prevailing COVID-19 crisis social security has provided protection of individuals and families whose livelihoods have been threatened by unemployment and loss of economic activity. It also ensured systemic security by stabilizing purchasing power and helping businesses to bridge the crisis. Some countries, more than others, were able to rely on existing social security systems. Other countries have strengthened their social security with new or more generous benefits, while others have set up instruments outside social security. What do we know about social security responses in various countries around the world? Which first lessons can be drawn about the effectiveness of various strategies? And what does scientific research learn about the role of social security in guiding societies through the major ongoing social and economic transformations: ageing, climate transitions and digitization?

Against this background, and almost exactly one year after the annual 2020 East Asian Social Policy Research Network (EASP) and Foundation for International Studies on Social Security (FISS) conferences had to be cancelled, we are joining together once more to examine the role of 'social security' and 'social welfare' responses to mitigate against new Covid-19-related economic and social risks. Besides the immediate crisis impacts and national responses, we particularly welcome theoretical or empirical contributions studying the consequences of Covid-19 for inclusive societies in East and West as well as those developing new approaches to re-imagine the role of private and collective income transfer and social investment programmes amidst the 'New Normal' post-Covid-19 environment. We also encourage contributions with a comparative and global perspective, particularly those including both East Asian and Western cases. It is a long tradition of EASP and FISS to invite papers by postgraduate students and early-career researchers as well as established scholars working in the field of social welfare, social security, and social policy analysis.

Final Programme

DAY ONE – Friday 2 July 2021

DAY ONE – Friday 2 July 2021					
1.00-2.00pm: Registration					
2.00-2.30pm: Opening Ceremony and Official Welcomes From Lingnan University, FISS, and EASP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ka Ho Mok, Vice President, Lingnan University, Hong Kong Peter Saunders, FISS President Shih-Jiunn Shi, Chair of EASP Chen Hon-Fai, Head of Sociology & Social Policy Department, Lingnan University, Hong Kong <i>Moderator: Stefan Kühner, Secretary EASP/ Lingnan University, Hong Kong</i> Meeting ID: 924 5965 7863 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92459657863?pwd=ODNuaHhSM2JuMFhzWThjNHUzd3lqUT09 Rm: LBYG02					
2.30-3.20pm: Plenary 1: Hong Kong Social Policy at a Crossroads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yip Paul Siu Fai, Department of Social Work & Social Administration, University of Hong Kong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ka Ho Mok, School of Graduate Studies, Lingnan University, Hong Kong Chen Juan, Department of Applied Social Sciences, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wong Hung, Department of Social Work, Chinese University of Hong Kong Moderator: Bea Cantillon, University of Antwerp, Belgium Meeting ID: 924 5965 7863 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92459657863?pwd=ODNuaHhSM2JuMFhzWThjNHUzd3lqUT09 Rm: LBYG02					
3.30-4.45pm: Parallel stream sessions (1)					Panel session 1
Session 1 Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis <i>Chair: Bea Cantillon</i>	Session 2 Welfare States & Welfare Regimes <i>Chair: Ijin Hong</i>	Session 3 Social Security & Social Justice <i>Chair: Wim Van Lancker</i>	Session 4 Education & Youth Transitions <i>Chair: Misa Izuhara</i>	Session 5 Measurement of Income & Poverty <i>Chair: Hung Wong</i>	Aspects of Poverty in East Asia <i>Chair: Aya Abe</i>
Meeting ID: 933 8122 9314 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/99617652828?pwd=OUNoRDdsZEFfUG9tSEhJTC9zK3BHdz09 Rm: WYL103	Meeting ID: 926 3865 4828 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92638654828?pwd=NHVpWUNwZUdqczQzcmxKOWVDTldkdz09 Rm: WYL107	Meeting ID: 989 1418 7682 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98914187682?pwd=a3pkU1pVQU5XMSStucjE3aW5QY2U1Zz09 Rm: WYL109	Meeting ID: 926 3588 3967 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92635883967?pwd=QXZOeGlHczRtdXVtRXlKcWpRQzZudz09 Rm: WYL111	Meeting ID: 919 2370 7233 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91923707233?pwd=WlIaanVleWlOanpha2FpTzdnbnRBUT09 Rm: WYL113	Meeting ID: 942 0669 4811 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94206694811?pwd=UUgzUldBK0xkeHBMZXFZL2NtLythUT09 Rm: WYL115
Ye-ji Jeon, Mihyang Choi, Yichi Zhang & Rina Iwai Family policy responses to COVID-19 in East Asian countries: explaining policy variations and causes	Karl Johnson Rediscovering Social Investment in Welfare State Policies: Back to the Future with Development-alism	Rita Griffiths Universal Credit and the conundrum of the Covid-19 £20 uplift	David Ho Protection and Disparities among Hong Kong Undergraduates, Risk Society Theory, Curriculum Design and Stress	Seung-ju Lee & Jong-sung You Progress and challenges in measuring income inequality in South Korea, focusing on the problems of survey data	Yu-Ling Chang, Xiang Gao, JiYoung Kang, Aya Abe, Jennifer Romich & Julia Shu-Huah Wang Low-Paid Work, Poverty, and Policy in East Asian Countries

DAY ONE – Friday 2 July 2021, Cont.

<p>Jesse Lastunen “To the rescue?” The mitigating role of tax and benefit rescue packages for poverty and inequality in Africa amid the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Shih-Jiunn Shi & Stefan Kühner Social Policy in East Asia: Between Productivism and Social investment</p>	<p>Fran Bennett & Jane Millar Universal Credit: how integration and automation limit reform options</p>	<p>Chan Wing Kit & Ngok Kinglun Education policy as Labor Market instrument. Chinese way for mass Higher Education and its Implications for Chinese Welfare Regime</p>	<p>Kitae Yoo Setting the deprivation threshold in Australia: a Poisson-based framework</p>	<p>Li Shi & Zhu Mengbing Changes in Old-Age Poverty in Rural China in the New Century</p>
<p>Xue Li & Changquan Jiao Decentralization or Recentralization: The role of central Fiscal Transfers in the Expansion of Social Security System in China</p>	<p>Chak-Meng Lei & Yeun-wen Ku What is the Implication of Social Investment in Macao’s Social Policy? Evidence from Expenditure on Education and Elderly Welfare</p>	<p>Sarah Jiyeon Kwon The effects of universal child allowance on maternal health: Evidence from South Korea</p>	<p>Jin Jiang & Dong Zhang “Golden Opportunity” of the Greater Bay Area for Hong Kong Youth? Evidence from Big Data</p>	<p>Chan Siu Ming The role of housing cost and housing tenure in poverty and inequality analysis: The case of Hong Kong</p>	<p>Inhoe Ku, Wonjin Lee, Li Shi, Aya Abe, Chungyang Yeh & Zhu Mengbing What Makes Old-Age Poverty in East Asian Countries So High?</p>
4.45-5.05pm: Tea break					
5.05-6.20pm: Parallel stream sessions (2)					Panel session 2
<p>Session 6 Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis <i>Chair:</i> <i>Bingqin Li</i></p>	<p>Session 7 Health & Human Well-being <i>Chair:</i> <i>Misa Izuhara</i></p>	<p>Session 8 Social Security & Social Justice <i>Chair:</i> <i>Koen Caminada</i></p>	<p>Session 9 Poverty & Minority Groups <i>Chair:</i> <i>Ijin Hong</i></p>	<p>Session 10 Politics of Social Welfare <i>Chair:</i> <i>Jingwei Alex He</i></p>	<p>Child and Youth Poverty in Selected East Asian Countries <i>Chair:</i> <i>Peter Saunders</i></p>
<p>Meeting ID: 933 8122 9314 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/99617652828?pwd=OUNoRDdsZFFUG9tSEhJC9zK3BHdz09 Rm: WYL103</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 926 3865 4828 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92638654828?pwd=NHVpWUNwZUdqczQzcmxKOWVDTldkdz09 Rm: WYL107</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 989 1418 7682 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98914187682?pwd=a3pkU1pVQU5XMStucjE3aW5QY2U1Zz09 Rm: WYL109</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 926 3588 3967 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92635883967?pwd=QXZOeGIHczRtdXVtRXlKcWpRQzZudz09 Rm: WYL111</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 919 2370 7233 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91923707233?pwd=WlIaanVleWlOanpha2FpTzdnbnRBUT09 Rm: WYL113</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 942 0669 4811 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94206694811?pwd=UUgzUldBK0xkeHBMZXFZL2NtLythUT09 Rm: WYL115</p>
<p>Bo-Yung Kim, Seon-Hoe Han, Seonwoo Yoon & Young Jun Choi More essential but more marginalised: Different care work experiences during COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Aungsumalee Pholpark Is the subsidiarity principle inevitable for public long-term care?: A case of Thailand</p>	<p>Ilan Katz When welfare conditionality meets evidence-based policy: Income Management/Cas hless Welfare in Australia</p>	<p>Vincent Lee & Henry Ling Inequalities and Deprivations in An Affluent Community: A Case Study of the Livelihood of the Grassroots in Central and Western District</p>	<p>Yuen Wing Han Vera Expert advice, citizen compliance, and political trust amid the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Aya Abe Childless and Social Support in 'Familial Welfare States' of Asia</p>

DAY ONE – Friday 2 July 2021, Cont.

<p>Sezgi Akbaş Social Security of the Self- Employed in Turkey: A Field Study on Effects of the COVID- 19 Period</p>	<p>Jinbao Zhang & Kai Liu Privatization in Healthcare Systems and Healthy Aging</p>	<p>Tim Goedemé Can a carbon tax and dividend scheme be an effective eco-social policy? Five propositions and a simulation for Belgium</p>	<p>Laure-lise Robben Unravelling the homeless conundrum: to get help, you need an address</p>	<p>Eunyoung Ha Social Welfare and Elite-Mass Communication in South Korea</p>	<p>Peter Saunders, Wong Hung & Vera Tang Sibling Deprivation</p>
<p>Chae Jeong Lee & Ellie Suh Targeted or universal social assistance as a policy response to Covid-19?- a comparison between the UK and Korea</p>	<p>Guohuang Cao & Ijin Hong The changing roles of stakeholders in driving Chinese healthcare policy reform: A case study on public hospitals in Guangdong</p>	<p>Tijs Laenen, Sarah Marchal & Wim Van Lancker To target, or not to target? How targeting preferences relate to targeting policies in European welfare states</p>	<p>Wim Van Lancker, Jan Van Bavel & David de Smalen How much does immigration contribute to national poverty rates? A decomposition analysis for Western European welfare states</p>	<p>Eunyoung HA Globalisation and Partisan Polarization in South Korea</p>	<p>Geumsun Byun, Mihee Park & Heyjin Ko Poverty among Young Adults in South Korea</p>

6.20-8.00pm: Dinner

8.00-8.50pm: Plenary 2: Inequality in East & West from Multiple Angles: Income, Wealth, & Employment

Janet Gornick, City University New York, United States

Moderator: Young Jun Choi, Yonsei University, South Korea

Meeting ID: 923 2897 4082

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92328974082?pwd=bktGK1dGQzg3SctXaTZWUHBKaU1GUT09>

Rm: LBYG02

DAY TWO – Saturday 3 July 2021

DAY TWO – Saturday 3 July 2021				
2.00-2.50pm: Plenary 3: Healthy Aging and Community Based Old-age Care Services in China Bingqin Li, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia <i>Sponsored by the MSocSc in Comparative Social Policy (International), Lingnan University</i> <i>Moderator: Ijin Hong, Sun Yat-sen University, China</i> Meeting ID: 955 3182 8765 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/95531828765?pwd=VjdtanVod2doSjE5cHM4d1lDQmRNQT09 Rm: LBYG02				
3.10-4.25pm: Parallel stream sessions (3)				Panel Session 3
Session 11 Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis Chair: Bea Cantillon	Session 12 Education & Vocational Training Chair: Chan Wing Kit	Session 13 Gender Inequality & Work-Family Reconciliation Chair: Agnieszka Nelson	Session 14 Labour Markets & Employment Chair: Yasuhiro Kamimura	Social Policy Responses to the COVID-19 in East Asian Welfare Regimes Chair: Zhuoyi Wen
Meeting ID: 996 1765 2828 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/99617652828?pwd=OUNoRDdsZEFFUG9tSEhJTzZK3BHdz09 Rm: WYL103	Meeting ID: 931 2026 1749 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/93120261749?pwd=cUtXM2tZRMwwM2dRdnpTdGNMeGZhQT09 Rm: WYL107	Meeting ID: 943 3107 2147 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94331072147?pwd=VmlaSTFhcUJtQ1Raa0RqaMnN5UENLQT09 Rm: WYL109	Meeting ID: 980 2685 9751 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98026859751?pwd=RVJRSlEveCt4UFF5WWpKN2FlbVVFYQT09 Rm: WYL111	Meeting ID: 955 3182 8765 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/95531828765?pwd=VjdtanVod2doSjE5cHM4d1lDQmRNQT09 Rm: WYL113
Aya ABE The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Poor Children in Japan	Jie wang, Bingqin Li & Ilan Katz Reducing or relocating the study load? Policy integration and shadow education in China	Shimeng Yin ‘Mind the gap’: Gender inequality in China’s urban pension system	Sung-won Yun & Jae-jin Yang Labor Market Reforms and Youth Unemployment in Korea and Japan	Zhuoyi Wen Active Citizenship and Community Governance: Hong Kong’s Successful Fight against COVID-19
Vitalija Gabnytė, Aušra Čižauskaitė & Jekaterina Navicke Nowcasting poverty and inequality in the context of economic growth and covid-19 pandemic in Lithuania	Zhou Xiaochen, Lucy P. Jordan, Chen Wanyue & Aree Jampaklay The longer-term impact of parental migration on youth educational outcomes: Examining the trade-off of physical proximity versus financial gains	Yunyan Li Women’s Everyday Experiences in Modernised China- One Country, Multiple Stories	Chieh-Wei Niu, Yawen Cheng & Chung-Yang Yeh A Brief Comparative Study of Attitudes Towards Unemployment Protection in Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan	Young Jun Choi, Stefan Kühner & Shih-Jiunn Shi From ‘New Social’ to ‘Covid Social Risks’? The Challenges for Inclusive Society in Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan Amidst the Global Pandemic
				Genghua Huang, Zhaiwen Peng & Zhen Tian Social policies respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in a productive welfare regime: The case of China

DAY TWO – Saturday 3 July 2021, Cont.

<p>Hye sang Noh, Seon Hoe Han & Young jun Choi Who spends more and why against social risks caused by Covid-19 among OECD countries?</p>	<p>Oleksandr Movshuk A machine learning approach on the relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement in Japan</p>		<p>Tat Chor Au-Yeung & Keith Ming Navigation without protection? Gig workers' views on employment relations and social security in Hong Kong</p>	<p>Xiaoyu Zhuang, Qin Li & Zhuoyi Wen Collective coping strategies and individual psychological distress: Evidence of Guangdong, China</p>
4.25-4.45pm: Tea break				
<p>4.45-6.00pm: FISS Board of Governors Meeting & EASP Executive Committee Meeting FISS: Meeting ID: 924 9456 5000 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92494565000?pwd=bWVuWkxQkRteVE1cWhlZDM5d2dqUT09</p> <p>EASP: Meeting ID: 943 8615 0029 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94386150029?pwd=OFZvd2lZb01zbUR6SG44ekFSRUUwQT09</p>				
6.20-8.00pm: Dinner				
8.00-9.15pm: Parallel stream sessions (4)				Panel session 4
<p>Session 15 Housing & Urbanisation <i>Chair:</i> <i>Kenneth Nelson</i></p>	<p>Session 16 Children & Childcare <i>Chair:</i> <i>Wim Van Lancker</i></p>	<p>Session 17 Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis <i>Chair:</i> <i>Bingqin Li</i></p>	<p>Session 18 Labour Markets & Employment <i>Chair:</i> <i>Yasuhiro Kamimura</i></p>	<p>Welfare Reform and social investment policy in Europe and East Asia <i>Chair:</i> <i>Young Jun Choi</i></p>
<p>Meeting ID: 985 9873 7287 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98598737287?pwd=MHh1OEVEQ1JmR0FFL05tYkZVM1B0UT09 Rm: WYL103</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 933 8717 9231 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/93387179231?pwd=Zm0yYzI4emVSZlFhahJd0MwTkV3dz09 Rm: WYL107</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 984 1838 5998 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98418385998?pwd=VXp4dU1VNTVqNGVKRlArQTthQUF1UT09 Rm: WYL109</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 960 3781 5432 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96037815432?pwd=dTEybZRSZS1doL3BVaUjXKzhMMWN6Zz09 Rm: WYL111</p>	<p>Meeting ID: 952 8776 5208 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/95287765208?pwd=K3ordzBLUUVKWE1NSlIXQ2RFa2JuUT09 Rm: WYL113</p>
<p>Chenhong Peng & Julia Shu-Huah Wang Accommodating China's floating population: Local variations and determinants of housing policies for rural migrant workers</p>	<p>Kitty Stewart, Ruth Patrick & Aaron Reeves A time of need: Exploring the changing poverty risk facing children in larger families in the UK</p>	<p>Qiaobing WU & SHIMIN ZHU Digital Poverty, Experiences of Online Learning and the Psychological Wellbeing of Secondary School Students in Hong Kong during the COVID-19 Pandemic</p>	<p>Jekaterina Navicke & Arūnas Juška Labor Law Liberalization and Labor Market Flexibility in Lithuania: Outcomes and Impacts on Gender Differences in Work Arrangements</p>	<p>Timo Fleckenstein & Soohyun Lee Welfare Reform and Social Investment Policy in Europe and East Asia</p>
<p>Nam Hoon KANG Explanation of the Korean government's failure to curb real estate speculation and an alternative policy proposal</p>	<p>Duoduo Xu, Lucy P. Jordan, Jiao Guo & Karen Ka Han Li Who can help? Childcare Providers and Women's Labor Force Participation in Hong Kong</p>	<p>Mutsuko Takahashi The issues on infant mental health in Japan under the Covid-19 crisis – risk and protective factors</p>	<p>Sophia Lee 'Melting Labour' and Limits of Social Protection Institutions in South Korea</p>	<p>Ijin Hong & Jieun Lee Family Policy and Gender Equality in East Asia and Europe: Ways Ahead</p>

DAY TWO – Saturday 3 July 2021, Cont.

Stefan Angel & Alexis Mundt Residualization of Social Housing in Austria since 1995	Yu-Chen CHANG Moving Towards a Just and Equal Society? A Critical Discourse Analysis of Taiwan's Childcare Policies from 2000-2017	Barry Colfer, Stefano Sacchi & Gianluca Scarano Ghost in the machine : The challenges and opportunities facing Digital Public Employment Services under COVID-19 in Europe.'	Genghua HUANG, Ka Ho MOK & Zhen TIAN One country, diverse employment systems: Measuring employment regulations in sub-national China based on Employment Protection Legislation Index (EPLI)	Exley, Sonia Education Spending as Social Investment – A Rather Limited Approach? Young Jun Choi Upgrading Social Investment Strategy in the Dualised Society
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DAY THREE – Sunday 4 July 2021

DAY THREE – Sunday 4 July 2021

2.00-3.15pm: Parallel stream sessions (5)					Panel session 5 Forty Years of Welfare Reform in China: Challenges from Developmentalism to Covid19 <i>Chair:</i> Kinglun Ngok
Session 19 Housing & Urbanisation <i>Chair:</i> Kenneth Nelson	Session 20 Migration <i>Chair:</i> Koen Caminada	Session 21 Gender Inequality & Work-Family Reconciliation <i>Chair:</i> Yasuhiro Kamimura	Session 22 Pensions & Old-age <i>Chair:</i> Bo-Yung Kim		
Meeting ID: 915 9126 5717 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91591265717?pwd=cVMxbHA0N2NxFBbCkXk5enFVYWw5UT09 Rm: WYL103	Meeting ID: 967 5532 7185 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96755327185?pwd=ZUtiZ0NlUjUQTdOSTBFZS90a0RIQT09 Rm : WYL107	Meeting ID: 977 5618 9264 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97756189264?pwd=dU0vYk9PZnNieEZXWmxrbXlqZUF0QT09 Rm: WYL109	Meeting ID: 913 5635 6357 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91356356357?pwd=UmRMZUJzd3cxWkYyYjZVZExYQT09 Rm: WYL111	Meeting ID: 975 7251 5607 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97572515607?pwd=ckJ1dzdYNUZFSnh5dmRhb0x5Sk04dz09 Rm: WYL113	
Jiajia Zhou Material support to parents in reciprocity with parental support to adult children's marriage in China: will children's gender matter?	Gizem Arat & NARINE NORA KERELIAN "Born in Hong Kong or not?" Exploring educators' views on preferred acculturation strategies of ethnic minorities in Hong Kong	Ruby C M Chau & Sam W K Yu Economic Defamilisation and Women's Financial Independency: a comparative study of government strategies for supporting the adult-worker model in fourteen European countries	Jiaxin LIU Crowding out or crowding in? The interaction between public pensions and private transfers in China.	Ijin Hong & Kinglun Ngok The modernization thesis revisited: Social Policy Reform in the Emerging Welfare State in China (2000-2019)	
Maggie Lau & HENRY HIN YAN CHAN 'Active Families': Reconsidering the Family in Intergenerational Housing Welfare Provision amidst Intensifying Housing Affordability Crisis	Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Yiwen Zhu, Chenhong Peng & Jing You On the Formation and Nature of Internal Migration Policies: Patterns and Determinants of the Chinese Household Registration Reform in 2014	Lucy P. Jordan, Zhou Xiaochen, Chen Yu-Chih & Xu Duoduo The influence of earlier adulthood transitions to employment outcomes of women in later life	Edward Palmer, Xinmei Wang & Peng Zhan How the Parameters Underlying China's Present Public Pension System Are Creating a High Gini Coefficient among China's Present Retirees	Tao Liu Crisis-driven social policy in China with a special focus on pandemics Guo Yu Developmentalism and Decentralization: Understanding the Expansion of Chinese Social Pensions	

DAY THREE – Sunday 4 July 2021, Cont.

Rod Hick, Marco Pomati & Mark Stephens Housing affordability and poverty in Europe	Zihong DENG, Jianli Xing, Ilan Katz & Bingqin Li A systematic review of children’s agency within families in the context of migration	Sunwoo Ryu & Kun Lee Female labour market participation at a crossroads: what explains the different M-curve changes in South Korea and Japan?	Edward Palmer, Peng Zhan, Xinmei Wang & Guangzhou Wang Creating an Intergenerationally Fair and Financially Sustainable Universal Pension System for China	ALEX JINGWEI HE, AZAD SINGH BALI & M RAMESH Active Stewardship in Health Care: Lessons from China	
3.15-3.35pm: Tea break					
3.35-4.50pm: Parallel stream sessions (6)				Panel session 6 Forty Years of Welfare Reform in China: Challenges from Developmentalism to Covid19 Chair: Kinglun Ngok	Panel session 7 Work, Incomes and Poverty in East Asian Countries Chair: Inhoe Ku
Session 23 Health & Human Well-being Chair: Jingwei Alex He	Session 24 Basic Income Chair: Kenneth Nelson	Session 25 Welfare States & Welfare Regimes Chair: Yasuhiro Kamimura	Session 26 Pensions & Old Age Chair: Bo-Yung Kim		
Meeting ID: 915 9126 5717 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91591265717?pwd=cVMxbHA0N2NxFBCbXk5enFVYW5UT09Rm: WYL103	Meeting ID: 967 5532 7185 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96755327185?pwd=ZUtja0NieUJuQTdOSTBFZS90a0RIQT09Rm: WYL107	Meeting ID: 977 5618 9264 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97756189264?pwd=dU0vYk9PZnNieEZxWmxrbXlqZUFOQT09Rm: WYL109	Meeting ID: 913 5635 6357 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91356356357?pwd=UmRMZUIzd3cxWkYkYjZVZExYQT09Rm: WYL111		
Meeting ID: 975 7251 5607 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97572515607?pwd=ckJ1dzdYNlZFSnh5dmRhb0x5Sk04dz09Rm: WYL113	Meeting ID: 963 2251 7866 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96322517866?pwd=QXV0c2M1SEduRIQyZWU2Z0JMcDBOUT09Rm: WYL115				
Wanyue CHEN & Lucy P. JORDAN Choice of health care providers among migrants and local residents in China: the role of medical insurance participation	Çağacan Değer Unrequited Transfers and Labor Market Outcomes: Implications for a Universal Basic Income in Turkey	Tauchid Komara Yuda Revisiting welfare regimes in East Asia: A qualitative evidence from Indonesia	Young-hwan Byun Universalism in Context: Pension Reforms and Old-age Poverty in Korea	Wing-kit Chan & Shih-Jiunn Shi Coordination, competition and protectionism in long-term care reform: A social decentralization perspective	Ji Young Kang, Wonjin Lee, Julia Shu-Huah Wang & Sunyu Ham Decomposing the Motherhood Penalty in the East and the West: Cross-national Comparisons between Korea, Taiwan, USA, Germany, and Finland
Jung Youn Park, Yun Hwa Kim, Ji Eun Park, Hui Yeon Kim & Eun Jin Lee Factors affecting self-management of health for the socially vulnerable to the mitigation of health inequality	Jong-sung You Universal Basic Income and Universal Income Insurance: A New Proposal for Two-Tiered Income Security for All, with Application to Korea	Alexandre Berthe & Pascale Turquet Varieties of social and environmental protections in Southeast Asia	Chenhong PENG, Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Yiwen Zhu & Yue Zeng The effects of an old-age allowance programme on intergenerational interactions in Taiwan	Qian Fang, Bingqin Li and Xiaohui Zhong & Zihong Deng Family policy pre- and post COVID19 in China	Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Aya Abe, Ji Young Kang, Inhoe Ku, Irene Yue Hoong Ng, Chenhong Peng, Xi Zhao & Jiwan Lee Adequacy, coverage, redistribution, and work incentives in East Asian welfare system: A comparative analyses using model family approach

DAY THREE – Sunday 4 July 2021, Cont.

<p>Hamzah Nor Bin Aedy Rahman Unpacking the complexities of child well-being in Southeast Asia: Insights for social policy</p>	<p>Diego d'Andria Child support benefits revisited: a study of German reform proposals</p>		<p>Chung-Yang Yeh The Politics of the 2018 Pension Reform in Taiwan: Class, Generation, or Party?</p> <p>Zhen Tian & Suping Lou Changing Roles in Long-term Care Service for Elderly Population in Urban China —A case study of welfare mix in Qingdao</p>	<p>Ka Ho Mok & Zhuoyi Wen Managing Contracting out Social Services under the Socialist Market Context: A Study of Changing Welfare Governance in the Bohai Bay Economic Rim, North China</p>	<p>Bruce Bradbury Markus Jäntti, Aya Abe, Julia Shu-Huah Wang & Inhoe Ku The Family Incomes of Poor Children in East Asia</p>
<p>5.10-6.00pm: Plenary 4: Poverty in Rich Societies David Gordon, University of Bristol, United Kingdom <i>Moderator: Peter Saunders, University of New South Wales, Australia</i> Meeting ID: 962 5135 6488 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96251356488?pwd=eXdVVm1PMFRMeGJyREdEdmduYndRUT09 Rm: LBYG02</p>					
<p>6.00-6.15pm: Closing ceremony Meeting ID: 962 5135 6488 Link: https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96251356488?pwd=eXdVVm1PMFRMeGJyREdEdmduYndRUT09 Rm: LBYG02</p>					

Plenaries

Plenary 1: Hong Kong Social Policy at a Crossroads

DAY 1 - 2 July, 2.30-3.20pm

Meeting ID: 924 5965 7863

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92459657863?pwd=ODNuaHhSM2JuMFhzWThjNHUzd3lqUT09>

Rm: LBYG02

In the wake of the global Covid-19 pandemic, decreasing mental well-being, accelerating societal ageing, and a looming long-term care crisis, the productivist welfare settlement in the global city Hong Kong has increasingly come under pressure. In this first plenary, we invite four local experts to share their research and vision on the future of social policy in Hong Kong. Each panel member will be given around 5-8 minutes to present before the floor will be opened for questions and comments from the audience.



Expert panel members:

- Prof. Yip Paul Siu Fai, Department of Social Work & Social Administration, University of Hong Kong
- Prof. Ka Ho Mok, School of Graduate Studies, Lingnan University, Hong Kong
- Prof. Chen Juan, Department of Applied Social Sciences, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong
- Prof. Wong Hung, Department of Social Work, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Moderator: Prof. Bea Cantillon, University of Antwerp, Belgium

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Professor Nick Manning, University College London

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Plenary 2: Inequality in East & West from Multiple Angles: Income, Wealth, & Employment

DAY ONE - 2 July, 8.00-8.50pm

Meeting ID: 923 2897 4082

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92328974082?pwd=bktGK1dGQzg3SCtXaTZWUHBKaU1GUT09>

Rm: LBYG02

Prof. Janet Gornick, City University New York, United States



Janet Gornick is a professor of political science and sociology at The Graduate Center, CUNY. From September 2006 to August 2016, she served as director of LIS (formerly the Luxembourg Income Study), a cross-national data archive and research center located in Luxembourg, with a satellite office at The Graduate Center. Since September 2016, she has served as director of the new James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality, and as director of the US Office of LIS. Prof. Gornick's has published articles on gender inequality, employment, and social policy in many journals, including *American Sociological Review*, *Annual Review of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Journal of European Social Policy*, *European Sociological Review*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Monthly Labor Review*, and *Feminist Economics*. She served as guest editor for "Work-Family Reconciliation Policies in High-Employment Economies: Policy Designs and their Consequences," a special double issue of the *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis* (2006-2007). Her research has been supported by the Russell Sage Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), the Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS), the Social Security Administration (SSA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Governors' Association (NGA), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the World Bank. She serves on several advisory and editorial boards, including for the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ); the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security (FISS); *Pathways Magazine*; the Washington Center for Equitable Growth (WCEG); *The Russell Sage Foundation Journal*; the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR); and the *Journal of European Social Policy*.

Moderator: Prof. Young Jun Choi, Yonsei University, South Korea

Plenary 3: Healthy Aging & Community Based Old-age Care Services in China

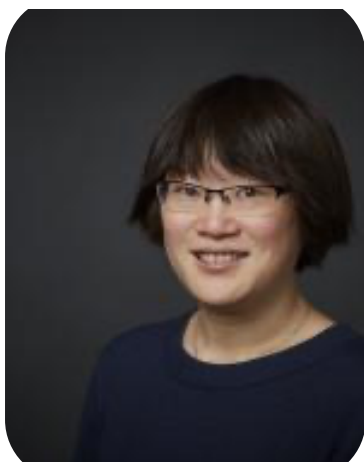
DAY TWO - 3 July, 2.00-2.50pm

Meeting ID: 955 3182 8765

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/95531828765?pwd=VjdtanVod2doSjE5cHM4d1lDQmRNQT09>

Rm: LBYG02

Prof. Bingqin Li, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia



Professor Bingqin Li is a SHARP Professor at the Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW directing the Chinese Social Policy Stream. Her research is on social inclusion, social policy analyses and community governance. Her current projects include aging and community initiatives, digital technology and disability employment in China and Australia, social integration and inclusion of Chinese immigrants in Australia. She has particular expertise on China, and on comparative studies of policies between China and the West. She has consulted international organisations, such as World Bank, EU, WHO, UNICEF, IIED and Save the Children. She is an associate editor of the journal of Urban Governance. She is an executive board member of East Asian Social Policy Research Network and the organiser of the Chinese Social Policy Stream of Australian Social Policy Conference.

Moderator: Prof. Ijin Hong, Sun Yat-sen University, China



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Plenary 4: Poverty in Rich Societies

DAY THREE - 4 July, 5.10-6.00pm

Meeting ID: 962 5135 6488

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96251356488?pwd=eXdVVm1PMFRMeGJyREdEdmduYndRUT09>

Rm: LBYG02

Prof. David Gordon, University of Bristol, United Kingdom



David Gordon is Professor of Social Justice and the Director of the Townsend Centre for International Poverty Research and the Bristol Poverty Institute at the University of Bristol, UK. He has written and edited over two hundred books, papers and reports on poverty, inequality and social exclusion, social justice and social policy. Professor Gordon was a member of the UN Expert Group on Poverty Statistics (Rio Group) and contributed to its 'Compendium of Best Practice in Poverty Measurement'. He has

acted as an external expert for the European Union Working Group on Income, Poverty and Social Exclusion and was a member of the EU Task Force on Material Deprivation. Prof. Gordon was appointed as a scientific advisor to the European Union/Latin American Network 10 - Fight against Urban Poverty. He advised the United Nations Department for Economic & Social Affairs (UNDESA) on poverty and hunger issues amongst young people (aged 15 to 24) and contributed to the 2005, 2007 and 2009 World Youth Reports. He also advised the World Health Organisation on measurement issues concerning water & sanitation access in low- and middle-income countries and worked with UNICEF on its first ever Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities, providing scientific advice and support to over 50 UNICEF country offices. Prof. Gordon was an international advisor for the development of the official multidimensional poverty measure in Mexico and has advised the New Zealand and UK Governments on poverty measurement and anti-poverty policies. From 2008 to 2011, he held a public appointment to the Child Poverty Expert Group, a Ministerial Advisory Group that provided the Minister for Children and the Welsh Assembly Government with expert, evidenced based advice on the actions needed to tackle child poverty in Wales. He recently led the Poverty and Social Exclusion in the United Kingdom project, which was the largest project of its kind in UK history. In 2006 and 2007, he was given the tremendous honour of addressing the General Assembly of the United Nations about child and youth poverty.

Moderator: Prof. Peter Saunders, University of New South Wales, Australia

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Panel Sessions

Panel 1: Aspects of Poverty in East Asia

DAY ONE - 2 July, 3.30-4.45pm (Panel session 1):

Aspects of Poverty in East Asia:

DAY ONE - 2 July, 5.05-6.20pm (Panel session 2):

Child and Youth Poverty in Selected East Asian Countries:

Meeting ID: 942 0669 4811

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94206694811?pwd=UUgzUldBK0xkeHBMZXFLZ2NtLythUT09>

Rm: WYL115

DAY THREE - 4 July, 3.35-4.50pm (Panel session 7):

Work, Incomes and Poverty in East Asian Countries:

Meeting ID: 963 2251 7866

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96322517866?pwd=QXV0c2M1SEduRIQyZWU2Z0JMcDBOUT09>

Rm: WYL115

Panel Organiser: Peter Saunders, University of New South Wales, Australia

While there has been a large number of studies focusing on the economic performance of East Asian ('tiger') economies, relatively little attention has been paid to how these countries have performed socially, specifically in relation to poverty and inequality. With growing evidence that poverty and inequality have been rising elsewhere, there is an urgent need to provide some robust evidence on recent trends and contributory factors in East Asian countries. In this panel session, based on data from international projects like the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) and improved national data, we monitor trends in poverty and inequality within and between countries, but also identify the factors that are driving them, both nationally and regionally. Important factors include labor market and demographic developments, changes in family and household structures, and roles and changes in policy settings. We investigate how these factors act independently and interactively to generate unique features of income distribution in the region.

The presented papers will appear in a forthcoming book edited by Peter Saunders and Inhoe Ku, to be published by Edward Elgar.

Contributed papers:

Panel session 1: Aspects of Poverty in East Asia

Yu-Ling Chang, Xiang Gao, JiYoung Kang, Aya Abe, Jennifer Romich & Julia Shu-Huah Wang
Low-Paid Work, Poverty, and Policy in East Asian Countries

Around the world, most poor people live in households in which one or more adults work in the marketplace. “Working poverty” or “in-work” poverty occurs when market labour does not pay enough to ensure a minimum standard of living. The goal of this paper is to survey the nature of low-paid work and its connection to poverty in five East Asian economies. We consider the ways in which labour market structures and practices create or prevent working poverty as well as the extent to which social policies protect or fail to protect workers and their families from poverty. A team of co-authors will contribute case studies for China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan. Three main questions structure our analysis. First, what proportion of the population is “working poor”? Country-level practices vary in defining both labour force participation (“working”) and poverty, so we will use both individual country and cross-country (OECD or Luxembourg Income Study) definitions. Second, what constitutes low-paid work? Again, where low paid work takes place and under what relations varies by country, but for each case we will look at the major sectors of the economy that have low-paid work, the employment relations that structure the work, characteristics of low-paid jobs (compensation, schedule, permanency, etc.), and demographics of workers who serve in low-paid roles (gender, age, nativity, legal status, educational level, etc.). Third, we will characterize how low-paid work interacts with policy in each country. Are low paid workers covered by social insurance? Eligible for means-tested supports or child care? How are low-paid workers treated by the income tax system? We will present each country as a case, and then discuss cross-national considerations for further research and policy evolution.

LI Shi & ZHU Mengbing

Changes in Old-Age Poverty in Rural China in the New Century

China has made significant progress in poverty reduction in rural areas in the last four decades. However, many studies indicate that the demographic structure of poverty has changed considerably with an increasing proportion of the rural poverty population being of old age. This is largely due to the accelerated aging process seen in rural China with young people moving to urban areas. Since 2003, China has increasingly provided more social security programs such as the New Pension Scheme and the Minimum Income Guarantee to rural Chinese, which should have impacted on the poverty reduction of the rural population as a whole as well as its old-age sub-group. This paper will investigate changes in old-age poverty in rural China using various poverty measurements such as absolute and relative income thresholds, and CHIP data for 2002, 2013 and 2018. The hypotheses to be tested in the paper are: (1) absolute poverty of those in old age declined in the income/consumption measure, but relative poverty increased in the period under review; (2) the elderly poor as a share of the rural poor increased using either an absolute income measure or a relative income measure. The paper then decomposes the poverty of the older population into regions and population groups by employing the Foster-Greer-Thorbecke poverty indices, to make comparisons of old-age poverty and its changes across regions and provinces, and between different types of households. To find out what the important causes are behind changes in old-age poverty since 2002, the paper will focus on the effects of rural migration and public policies. The impact of migration on old-age poverty will be analysed by looking into the effect of remittances provided by migrating adult children. Finally, the paper will attempt to draw some policy implications from the analysis and findings.

Inhoe Ku, Wonjin Lee, Li Shi, Aya Abe, Chungyang Yeh & Zhu Mengbing
What Makes Old-Age Poverty in East Asian Countries So High?

Many East Asian countries suffer from high levels of old-age poverty today despite decades of rapid economic development. This is in stark contrast to the dramatic decline in old-age poverty observed in Western industrialized countries for several decades. This study aims to explore factors contributing to these high levels of poverty among older adults in Japan, Taiwan and South Korea. In particular, we focus on the contributions of major income sources for older adults along with demographic characteristics. Market income as well as private transfer income remain significant sources of income for older adults to varying degrees in different countries. Meanwhile, public transfer income, which has long been a main income source for older adults in many Western countries, has recently been gaining greater significance in East Asia. The prevalence of multigenerational households in East Asia is also vital here. To assess the contribution of each factor, we use the 9th wave of data (circa 2013) from the Luxembourg Income Study. We construct a counterfactual income distribution that would occur if the distribution of a factor in country *t* was changed to resemble the situation in country *s* while everything else is kept intact. By comparing the counterfactual distribution with the actual distribution, we are able to evaluate the contribution of the given factor under examination.

Panel session 2: Child and Youth Poverty in Selected East Asian Countries

Aya Abe
Childless and Social Support in 'Familial Welfare States' of Asia

The fact that many Asian societies face low fertility rates is well known. One of the consequences of low fertility is the population aging which in itself poses challenges to welfare states. However, one of the scarcely talked about consequences of low fertility is its impact on family structure. For example, in Japan, which has been suffering from low fertility for decades, the share of the elderly (both married and unmarried) who do not have any (grown-up) children (living or not living in the same household) has increased twofold from 7.8% to 15.7% in just 10 years. At the same time, the percentage of never-married people at age 50 has increased from 1.4% in 1995 to 20.1% in 2015 for men, and 1.4% to 10.6% for women. Simply stated, it is no longer possible to assume that everyone in the society has a spouse or child(ren), or, in effect, "a family" besides parents, in his/her life course. These changes in "family" structure, more than population ageing, are making Japan's family-oriented welfare state dysfunctional. This paper will examine: 1) to what degree these changes are happening, and 2) how effective public safety net is in preventing poverty for those without a traditional family. The main focus of analysis will be on Japan, where the detailed data are available, and then, using the LIS database, it will present comparative data for other Asian countries, notably Korea, China, and Taiwan.

Peter Saunders, Wong Hung & Vera Tang
Sibling Deprivation

It is well known that conventional income-based poverty measures involve assumptions about household income-sharing that effectively prevent the approach from identifying which *individuals* are poor, only those that live in *poor households*. In contrast, the consensual approach to deprivation allows deprivation to be identified at the individual level by specifying items that are relevant to the needs of individuals (as well as households). This makes it possible to estimate deprivation at the individual level and to compare deprivation differences within the household, including between men and women, adults and children, and immediate and extended family members. This paper uses data for Hong Kong from the first two waves (2013 and 2015) of a multi-disciplinary longitudinal survey to explore how the level and forms of child deprivation vary across households with different numbers of children and between siblings within the same

household. Attention focuses on the nature of the sibling deprivation differences and on the characteristics of the siblings and their households where these differences are shown to exist, with a view to better understanding the underlying causal factors and flow-on consequences. The use of data from two waves of panel data also allows us to examine changes over time cross-sectionally and longitudinally, including among those (very few) survey participants who acquired a sibling between the two surveys, and those where sibling deprivation differences increased. Survey data on different dimensions of well-being will also be used to examine how the presence of siblings affects well-being and whether the differences in sibling deprivation translate into well-being differences. The paper will conclude with a discussion of the implications of the findings for poverty research and for the design, implementation and evaluation of anti-poverty policies.

Geumsun Byun, Mihee Park & Heyjin Ko
Poverty Among Young Adults in South Korea

Among the OECD member countries, Korea had the highest poverty rate for the elderly in 2017 (45%), while its poverty rate for the youth (11.3%, as of 2017) was lower than the OECD average (13.1%, as of 2017). Thus, youth poverty has rarely drawn attention as a primary policy issue in the country. Instead, when it comes to the youth, policymakers have tended to focus on unemployment. Korea has taken steps to increase youth labor market participation because young people are expected to escape poverty by working hard. However, it is possible that the real level of youth poverty in Korea is distorted by an assumption that income is shared equally within families. It is widely believed that financial support from parents extends to young adults in line with prevalent East Asian family-oriented traditions. This study examines the validity of this assumption. In this paper, we seek to shed light on the unique features of youth poverty in Korea. Specifically, we compare poverty rates of the youth based on household income with poverty rates based on individual earned income of the youth. Then, we analyze what affects youth poverty, focusing on co-residence with parents and their financial support, and how the poverty status of youth changes after leaving parents. We use data from the Korea Welfare Panel Survey, 2005-2016. Finally, we discuss policy implications for reducing youth poverty.

Panel session 7: Work, Incomes and Poverty in East Asian Countries

Ji Young Kang, Wonjin Lee, Julia Shu-Huah Wang & Sunyu Ham
Decomposing the Motherhood Penalty in the East and the West: Cross-national Comparisons between Korea, Taiwan, USA, Germany, and Finland

Although women have increasingly participated in labor markets and have narrowed the gap in employment participation and earnings relative to male workers, such gaps between women with or without children (the motherhood penalty) still persist. Extant literature on the motherhood penalty was predominantly based on Western contexts, and only limited attention was paid to the differences in the motherhood penalty among East Asian countries, where gender norms and family values are more conservative than those in the West to varying degrees, while only a few studies contrast the motherhood penalty between East Asian countries and Western countries. In this study, we aim to compare cross-national differences in terms of the motherhood penalty in two East Asian countries (Korea and Taiwan) and Western welfare states such as the USA (a liberal welfare regime), Germany (a corporatist regime), and Finland (a social democratic regime). We investigate cross-national differences in the motherhood penalty using the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) and the Korean Labor and Income Panel Study and applying the Oaxaca decomposition method. In measuring the motherhood penalty, we use two indicators: (1) employment participation and (2) wage. Even though the majority of studies on the motherhood penalty focus on wage, we argue that doing so may obscure various aspects of the motherhood penalty and further ignore the selectivity into employment participation among women in East Asian countries. This study contributes to the understanding of cross-national differences in the motherhood penalty, and sheds lights

on the multidimensionality of the motherhood penalty by studying it through the aforementioned domains of employment and wage.

Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Aya Abe, Ji Young Kang, Inhoe Ku, Irene Yue Hoong Ng, Chenhong Peng, Xi Zhao & Jiwan Lee

Adequacy, coverage, redistribution, and work incentives in East Asian welfare system: A comparative analyses using model family approach

East Asian social welfare systems have been traditionally described as productivist regimes in which most social investments focus on elements of welfare that can induce economic growth. Emerging literature points to evolving and divergent features of social safety nets within East Asia. Although these inquiries are informative, the extant East Asian welfare comparative research often focuses on a limited set of social policies and seldom captures the bundle of welfare programs or the contexts in which these programs operate (e.g., tax systems and service costs). This study extends the understanding of East Asian welfare systems by comparing social safety nets in mainland China, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan using a model family approach. This approach entails collecting income-packaging data in each location, and can shed light on the coverage, eligibility and benefit levels of social safety nets. We focus on collecting data for 2019. Specifically, income packages include labour income; cash benefits; tax benefits; and the cost of services such as health care, education and childcare in each location for each family profile. A family profile consists of a family type and income class. We first compare income packaging distributions of labour income, tax liability, cash benefits, and service costs using descriptive statistics and visualization methods, and then we propose income packaging typologies. Next, we compare compositions of safety nets using a social protection framework. Finally, we compute and compare three characteristics of social safety nets: adequacy, work incentives, and family formation incentives. This study's findings can contribute to the debate on the contemporary landscape of East Asian welfare models and inform policymakers in East Asia of the strengths of social safety nets in their countries relative to others. The income packaging typologies developed from this study can also enhance perspectives in studying of social safety nets.

Bruce Bradbury Markus Jäntti, Aya Abe, Julia Shu-Huah Wang & Inhoe Ku

The Family Incomes of Poor Children in East Asia

Previous research using the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) has identified a distinctive East Asian model of income protection for disadvantaged children. In the wealthier East Asian countries, relative poverty rates are similar to those of many Western European countries, but income transfers are low and market incomes (including private transfers) relatively high. This paper compares the family circumstances and household 'income packages' of disadvantaged children in Japan, Taiwan and South Korea with those in selected other OECD countries using data from the LIS and national data sets. Our focus is on the poorest one-fifth of children in each country, and how their living standard compares to that of the national median (or median child). We examine their household living arrangements and sources of household income. What are the environmental factors and policies that have led to these demographic and income outcomes? Are high household market incomes the result of high wages, long working hours or reliance upon extended families? Does this East Asian model represent an effective 'work first' model of social protection

Panel 2: Social Policy Responses to COVID-19 in East Asian Welfare Regimes

DAY TWO - 3 July, 3.10-4.25pm (Panel session 3)

Meeting ID: 955 3182 8765

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/95531828765?pwd=VjdtanVod2doSjE5cHM4d1lDQmRNQT09>

Rm: WYL113

Panel Organiser: Zhuoyi WEN, Lingnan University, Hong Kong

The Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) has delivered significant economic shock across the world. Lockdown and lost business activity will mean bankrupt firms, job loss and falling incomes. The public health crisis hits ill, disabled people and elderly living alone hardest. Social protection can play a crucial role in cushioning the socio-economic impact on people, particularly the most vulnerable. According to the International Labour Organization (2020), 13 countries in Asia and the Pacific, the first region hit by the pandemic, have made social protection measures in response to the coronavirus crisis between 1 February and 22 March 2020. The social protection measures cover all policy areas and are diverse, including increase in benefit level, extension of coverage, relaxing eligibility criteria. There are heated policy and theoretical debates on introduction of universal basic income, reducing social insurance contribution to support business, and so on. This panel aims to analyse social policy responses to the COVID-19 in East Asian Welfare Regimes.

Contributed papers:

Young Jun Choi, Stefan Kühner & Shih-Jiunn Shi

From 'New Social' to 'Covid Social Risks'? The Challenges for Inclusive Society in Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan Amidst the Global Pandemic

While old and new social risks have aggravated citizens' welfare in de-industrialized and ageing societies, the global Covid-19 pandemic has created tremendous hazards to citizens' well-being around the world. It is now clear that incidence, hospitalisation, and mortality rates have varied by individual and regional socio-economic indicators. In comparison, less is still known about the indirect social and economic losses following the global Covid-19 pandemic and to what extent they have disproportionately affected different groups of people. In this article, we carefully examine the newly emerging Covid-19 related risks in South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and discuss whether newly emerging divides in the areas of employment, skills and knowledge, health, care, and relationships can be meaningfully distinguished from existing theoretical conceptions of social risks. We also provide a brief summary of the government responses to the global pandemic and empirically examine how these risks emerged in the three East Asian societies. We argue that the three East Asian societies have confronted 'Covid social risks' that are qualitatively different from the established understanding of old-industrial, and new social risks. We conclude that East Asian governments will have to find a new policy mix to facilitate individuals' ability to absorb 'Covid social risks', and that is more conducive to alleviating increasing inequalities in terms of people's income, assets, human capital, and gender. The emerging post-productive, social investment paradigm across East Asia is unlikely, on its own, to posit a sufficient response to the challenges posed by Covid-19 and other potential future global hazards.

Zhuoyi WEN

Active Citizenship and Community Governance: Hong Kong's Successful Fight against COVID-19

It is believed that strong governance capacity and high citizen trust in government determine a country's resistance to the coronavirus. Beyond the state-centric approaches, community-based responses may also contribute to the success in the battle. Hong Kong has achieved a remarkable success in pandemic control, despite extremely low trust in authorities after a prolonged social protest in 2019. Hong Kong case study suggests, local residents embody high level of self-discipline and social solidarity to protect themselves and vulnerable populations in the community. They also urge the local state, which has been in inaction by political and economic ideology, to take more proactive measures. These individual and collective actions of citizens are mainly coordinated through community governance and network mechanism, which maximize the collective interests without statutory orders and economic incentives. The lessons from Hong Kong point to community governance as a promising approach to coordinate pandemic responses in a semi-democratic, partially incapable and low-trust state.

Genghua Huang, Zhaiwen Peng & Zhen Tian

Social policies respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in a productive welfare regime: The case of China

Why did China succeed in coping with the COVID-19 pandemic? This article provides a social policy perspective. China has witnessed significant expansions in social policies since the *Hu-Wen* era. Accessibility to many existing programs has increased through extended coverage and several new social policy programmes have been launched, providing most urban, unemployed residents, migrant workers and peasants with social protection. The expansion of social policies has enhanced the residents' support for the government, which is the foundation of China's successful lockdown policy. As a pandemic, COVID-19 and the lockdown policy had a serious impact on the medical system, low-income families and enterprise production activities. In response, the government promised that patients with COVID-19 would gain access to free medical treatment and further expanded the coverage of social policies, especially social assistance for low-income families. In addition, the government lighten the burden of enterprises by allowing them to pay social insurance premiums late and reducing other payments. Hovering between productivism and protectionism, social policy has become an important tool for the Chinese government to maintain social stability and the production activities of enterprises. However, these special measures have a negative impact on the sustainability of social insurance funds, resulting in new unfairness among different groups and regions.

Xiaoyu Zhuang, Qin Li & Zhuoyi Wen

Collective coping strategies and individual psychological distress: Evidence of Guangdong, China

Few studies have investigated how Chinese people's collective coping influences their compliance with government COVID-19 prevention measures and their psychological distress. The present study aims to explore how collective coping strategy inconsistently influenced their psychological distress through compliance with government COVID-19 prevention measures and enhancing community resilience among residents in Guangdong, China. Four hundred and two community residents in Guangdong, China, were surveyed using the online Survey Monkey platform from November to December 2019. Results showed that collective coping strategy, namely forbearance, positively induced psychological distress indexed by Kessler-6 among Chinese people. However, forbearance could help strengthen the compliance to the government infection prevention measures and community resilience, which in turn contributed to lower levels of psychological distress. Therefore, although culturally appropriate coping strategies among Chinese people could lead to unity and strengths in response to the public crisis, they imposed side effects on personal mental health. Practical and policy implications on implementing infection prevention measures and providing mental health services among Chinese community residents during the post-pandemic era are discussed and recommended.

Panel 3: Welfare Reform and Social Investment Policy in Europe and East Asia

DAY TWO - 3 July, 8.00-9.15pm (Panel session 4)

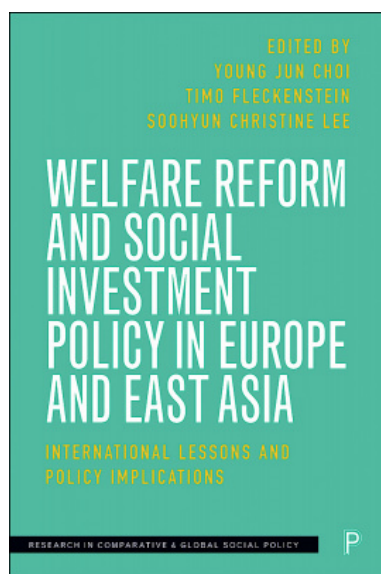
Meeting ID: 952 8776 5208

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/95287765208?pwd=K3ordzBLUUVKWE1NSlIXQ2RFa2JuUT09>

Rm: WYL113

Book Launch Seminar

Moderator: Young Jun Choi, Yonsei University



Social investment has been one of the most important social policy paradigms in Europe and East Asia. Indeed, much has been done under the rhetoric of social investment, and there have been a number of academic debates on this approach. Yet, as we have witnessed, it is dubious how successful this paradigm has been to address the challenges of post-industrialisation demographic transition, and the increase in social equality across the OECD. Even in the era of Covid-19, although few deny the importance of social investment, many question whether the current paradigm would be effective enough to respond to the fast-approaching digital capitalism. Under this circumstance, this panel session aims to discuss the socio-politico-economic conditions for success and failure in the rise of social investment policies and how to enhance the outcome of social investment through the comparative perspective. More specifically, we discuss social investment policies in Europe and East Asia, looking at three key domains – labour market, family and education, together with the relationship with social protection policies.

Speakers:

- **Timo Fleckenstein & Soohyun Lee:** Welfare Reform and Social Investment Policy in Europe and Asia
- **Ijin Hong & Jieun Lee:** Family Policy and Gender Equality in East Asia and Europe: Ways Ahead?
- **Sonia Exley:** Education Spending as Social Investment – A Rather Limited Approach?
- **Young Jun Choi:** Upgrading Social Investment Strategy in the Dualised Society

Panel 4: Forty Years of Welfare Reform in China (1978-2020): Challenges from Developmentalism to Covid-19

DAY THREE – Sunday 4 July, 2021 (Panel Sessions 5 & 6)

Meeting ID: 975 7251 5607

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97572515607?pwd=ckJ1dzdYNUZFSnh5dmRhb0x5Sk04dz09>

Rm: WYL113

Panel Organiser: Ijin HONG & Kinglun NGOK, Sun Yat-sen University

Following marketization-oriented economic reforms in 1978, China has been fast-paced in industrialization and economic growth but struggled to address new social risks and establish control as income inequality was widening along the urban/rural divide (Li & Greve, 2011). Yet, welfare reform did take place during the recent twenty years, with main social insurances (notably, pensions and healthcare) becoming more inclusive of rural citizens, alongside urban residents; additionally, a new contracting-out system, pushed forward from the government in 2013, was meant to stimulate the growth of a quasi-market of services run by NGOs (Lei & Chan, 2018). Our Panel Proposal aims to provide a comprehensive overview of how institutional change takes place in social policy reform in China, thus offering a novel perspective centred on the political and institutional actors of this transformation. This collection of papers focuses on welfare politics and welfare governance in China from an internationally competitive team of specialists from Europe, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Australia. Our Panel specifically answer to the following questions:

1. Did welfare in China grow over the last forty years?
2. Which social policy areas and targeted beneficiaries were most affected by welfare growth/cuts?
3. How did welfare politics contribute to social policy change in China?
4. How did socio-economic structural features impact on welfare development in China?
5. How is the outbreak of the Covid19 crisis impacting on the pre-existing welfare system?

Several possible determinants of welfare development are highlighted here, among which we find external shocks in the form of public health crisis (especially the new coronavirus 2019), industrialization and de-industrialization, urbanization and rural-urban migration, demographic changes, labour market structure, and family structure. For what concerns welfare politics and governance, our articles gather a consensus on developmentalism and the role of the central state, but also leadership change in the CCP, central and/or local bureaucracy, epistemic communities, NGOs are shown as being increasingly involved in the development of social policies in China.

Panel session (5): 2.00-3.15pm:

Ijin Hong & Kinglun Ngok

The modernization thesis revisited: Social Policy Reform in the Emerging Welfare State in China (2000-2019)

Welfare states in East Asia have witnessed a late development in comparison to their counterparts in the Western world. The Chinese welfare state, in particular, has only started to develop in the past two decades. After having experienced rolling back on welfare during the 1980s and 1990s with the marketisation of its economy, since the turn of the century, China has adopted a series of expansionary reforms in the 2000s and 2010s (Guan, 2010; Ngok & Huang, 2014). Does it make sense to consider these developments as a form of welfare expansion? This study addresses this issue through two research questions: 1. Has welfare expansion

happened in China since the new century, and if so, to which extent? Which policy areas were most affected? 2. Is industrialization (and economic growth) the main force behind the development of welfare in China? By describing major welfare reforms enacted during the course of four decades, and comparing levels of social expenditure and welfare coverage in China at similar levels of industrialization with other more advanced welfare states in the Western world and Asia, we aim to assess more thoroughly what is the role that the 'modernization' hypothesis has had on welfare growth in China, and whether it is more relevant than the 'power resources' hypothesis, as could be expected.

Tao Liu

Crisis-driven social policy in China with a special focus on pandemics

Conflict theories constitute one of the primary explanatory models for social policy besides the functionalist and cultural theories. This paper chooses one particular and under-investigated angle within conflict theory – crisis events and their special function in shaping social policy. Crises are usually regarded as negative social events that tempestuously challenge the pre-existing socio-economic order, triggering social conflicts and disruption, either temporarily or in a more enduring fashion. However, social crises may also foster new opportunities for social investment, public finance expansion, and welfare state building after the outbreak of a crisis and even during the post-crisis period. This article focuses upon the SARS-pandemic and analyses its developmental trajectory, reconstructing the crisis-management and crisis-response mechanisms amidst the SARS crisis and in the post-SARS period. I argue that this crisis event revealed many weaknesses and loopholes in the Chinese public health system, constituting a powerful driving force for reshaping the medical insurance system and health governance in China, and strengthening public discourse in this field. The social policy developments brought forth by the SARS crisis may shed light on the current Covid19 pandemic and its impact on social reform in China and pandemic-related governance. Two sectors are going to be affected in particular: healthcare and the traditional offline labour market and the brick-and-mortar business, challenged by increased digitalization stimulated by the home-office model. Through event analysis and methodological triangulation including documentary analysis, context analysis and discourse analysis I will construct the trajectories of these two crises and further compare two heterogeneous types of crisis-management mechanisms and two idiosyncratic crises-related patterns of discourse formation and policy making for social welfare in China.

GUO Yu

Developmentalism and Decentralization: Understanding the Expansion of Chinese Social Pensions

This paper applies the developmentalism and decentralization approach to trace the recent expansion of the pension system in China. It examines how policy orientation, developmentalism, and decentralization structure pension entitlements and real participation in the policy shift to universal pension coverage. Using Chinese General Social Survey, a nationally representative household survey data at distinct development stages of 2008, 2010, 2013, 2015, and 2017, multilevel data analysis will be conducted to shed light on both the characteristics of who receive the public pension and the province level, to explain the determinants of pension expansion. To better reflect developmental and decentralized effects, macro-level variables of population, economic development, fiscal dependency, GDP per capita, and other regional factors are merged to the original database, which contains individual and firm-level data. Preliminary empirical results show that a variety of individual and institutional factors, ranging from demographic profiles, socio-economic status, institutional contexts, and regional disparities, are predicting pension participation. The variation of statistically significant factors throughout this whole period reveals how developmentalism, welfare politics, and historical institutions have intertwined and functioned. For example, pension expansion does not look too favourable to women and migration, hinting that intrinsic inequalities in the labour market and the enduring effects of traditional Hukou institutions could determine welfare discrepancy. On the whole, political rhetoric, policy analysis, and empirical studies add up to a recognizable historical institutional approach that contributes to our understandings of social policies.

Alex Jingwei He, Azad Singh Bali & M Ramesh

Active Stewardship in Health Care: Lessons from China

Health care reform is prone to policy ‘fads and fallacies’ (Marmor et al. 2005), lurching from one grand design idea to another. The trend started in the 1980s with the rapid spread of market-centred reform ideas inspired by New Public Management (NPM). This was followed by ideas promoting collaborative governance and public-private partnerships in the following decade. The one element these earlier waves had in common was the motivation to substitute or at least offset the central role of the government with larger role for market and/or partnership with business and civil society groups. The vast efforts and resources devoted to the reforms based on this line of thinking did little to achieve the goals of universal health coverage, however, and indeed contributed to increase in expenditures and decline in access. The disappointing results of market and partnership reforms refocussed reformers’ attention on the role of the government in health care (Ramesh 2008a). One strand of thinking – known as the regulatory state – to emerge from the experience with earlier reforms underscored the need for a strong framework of regulations to guide the behaviour of market and societal actors (Levi-Faur 2014). While this marked a significant improvement on the earlier approaches centred on the presumed superiority of markets or civil society, it still did not fully acknowledge the centrality of the government in health care beyond establishing regulations (Dickinson et al. 2021). It is only recently that policymakers and commentators have begun to fully appreciate the centrality of the government, but without going back to the pre-reform days. In the latest formulation, the government is meant to be a ‘steward’, and not a producer, financier, manager, or regulator (WHO 2000). The purpose of the paper is to map and understand the stewardship role of governments in contemporary health care by studying China’s recent experience. In the wake of economic liberalization that started in the 1980s, the Chinese government adopted reforms promoting private financing and market competition in health care. The reforms were an unqualified failure in terms of containing health care expenditures or improving services, as the Chinese government itself later admitted (Research Development Center of State Council 2005). The government sought to overcome the problems through regulation of prices and social insurance financing but to no avail. The situation began to improve only after the launch of comprehensive national reforms in 2009 (Yip et al. 2019). The latest round of reforms targeted not only financing issues but the entire range of critical conditions related to production and distribution of health care. The reforms were underpinned by, as we will see in this paper, active stewardship backed by enhanced policy capacity. Based on the Chinese experience, we argue that active stewardship is an essential condition for providing universal health care at affordable costs to the society. A capable steward not only sets strategic goals, but also actively intervenes through management directives and active purchasing and spending, complemented by appropriate regulations. The ebb and flow of China’s health care reforms suggest that governing the health sector effectively requires not only regulation but also active stewardship of all key components of the health care system.

Panel session (6): 3.35-4.50pm:

Wing-kit Chan & Shih-Jiunn Shi

Coordination, competition and protectionism in long-term care reform: A social decentralization perspective

To meet the care need of the ageing society, central government launched pilot long-term care (LTC) insurance in 15 cities in 2016. However, the planned second stage of pilots stopped in 2019 without a clear destination. To explain the policy dynamics, this article employs the social decentralization perspective with reference to complex interactions between central and local governments. Data for analysis stem from official documents, local policy statistics, and semi-structured expert interviews. In its selection of pilot cities, central government’s coordination reflects the intent to develop a national scheme but hesitates to support with its tax revenues. For localities, reforming social care helps tackle new social risks, create jobs, and

generate revenues. Private institutional care is prioritized over home and community-based care. Under these circumstances, the LTC faces a dilemma: either new social need is met at the expense of regional inequality or balancing interregional developments by delay of new programs. Recent outbreak of the coronavirus further casts a long shadow over the prospect.

Qian Fang, Bingqin Li, Xiaohui Zhong & Zihong Deng

Family policy pre-and post COVID19 in China

The COVID-19 outbreak and nationwide lockdown put families in China to an unprecedented stress test. Families have to face a whole range of new risks as a result of different levels of lockdowns: discontinued social care for the old, children, and people with disability; loss of income; a sudden change in work arrangement and deteriorating health or even loss of family members. The lockdown and social distancing also make it unusually difficult for social needs to be identified and addressed. Failing to address them in a timely manner has led to human costs and extreme distress. This paper is based on theories of the developmentalist welfare state (Holliday, 2000; Gough, 2001; Kwon, 2005), welfare de-familisation (Daly & Lewis, 2000; Ferragina & Seeleib-Kaise, 2011; Ferragina, 2020; Esping-Andersen, 1996) and the theory of the urban spatial structure of human activities (Steiger et al. 2015). A literature review of these studies underpins this paper's argument that there is a link between the assumptions of the roles of families, the state and the market and the spatial structure of daily human activities. Social distancing, as an essential response to COVID-19, has forcefully redrawn the spatial boundaries of these activities and limited the access of different service providers to each space. It resulted in dramatic spatial concentration and re-familisation of human activities, which highlights the need for the welfare state to be better prepared for public health crises, to better respond to them in the future. The welfare state in China has persistently treated family as a support to economic activities rather than as a centre for meeting social needs. This practice is challenged by COVID-19 responses. In relation to COVID-19 response, spatial concentration refers to activities that used to take place in multiple locations and have now become home-based. These include work, education, family care and other household chores. Re-familisation under COVID-19 means that some of the responsibilities that were de-familised before the COVID-19 have suddenly returned to families. Because of the imposed limit to human movement and spatial confinement, the market and the state can become helpless to people who are not able to be physically present. Moreover, the home space is now used for activities that used to take place elsewhere, such as work and education. The radical spatial change may result in unmet needs for extra space and extra rooms within the family home, as well as a higher level of stress. The spatial patterns of meeting urban human needs before COVID-19 lockdown will be established based on the findings of existing studies. There are numerous studies based on different types of big data on the spatial structure of urban life (e.g. Huang & Wong, 2017; Wang, et al., 2015). Re-familisation in the context of COVID-19 will be developed based on existing social policy research that helps develop the trend of de-familisation (Yu, et al., 2018) and a wide range of social research on the unmet needs of Chinese households. The official statistics on the coverage of social services will be used in putting the picture together. Links will be drawn between the developmentalist welfare state approach and the patterns of spatial structure of meeting human needs and de-familisation in the pre-COVID-19 era. We will further analyse the possible disruption to the pre-COVID-19 patterns when different levels of social distancing are introduced. Social distancing rules will be categorised according to their stringency. Social distancing variables will be developed based on policies published by different levels of Chinese governments in Hubei Province (the epicentre of the outbreak) and in five other provinces: Zhejiang, Guangzhou, Beijing, Sichuan and Lanzhou, covering different regions in China. We will code the policies adopted in one capital city and a second-tier city in each province. The coding will be used to develop a scale of social distancing stringency. With each level of social distancing, we will examine 1) how boundaries are shifted; 2) what are the resulting vacuums in social support and care; 3) are there solutions in the existing social policy and service systems? In this way, we will draw a link between the social distancing rules and corresponding family vulnerabilities. Further analysis will be made to examine which family vulnerabilities can be met by emergency responses and existing social policy arrangements, and which have not. The emergency responses and social policies will be based on official policy documents.

In the conclusion, we will discuss the findings in relation to the theoretical construction of spatial concentration and refamilisation of human activities. This research stresses the need for a social welfare system to put family a more central position and highlights the importance of a flexible social support system that can adapt to different levels of constraints to human movement.

Ka Ho Mok & Zhuoyi Wen

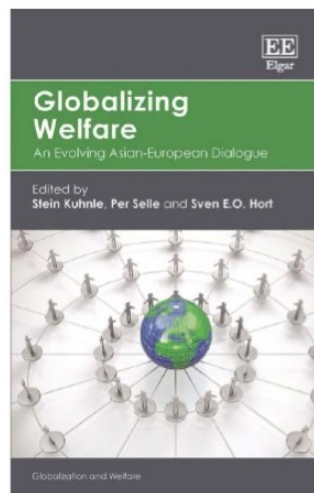
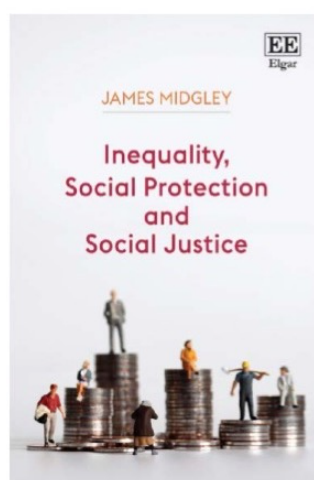
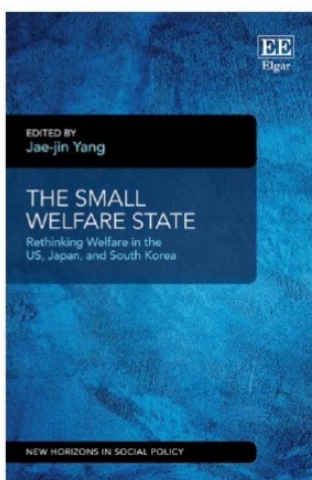
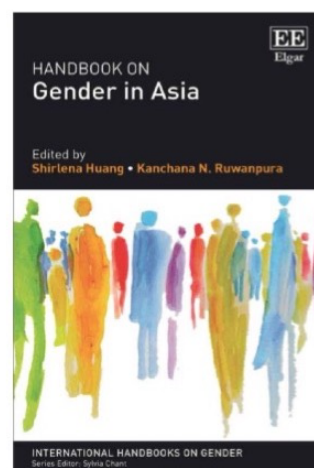
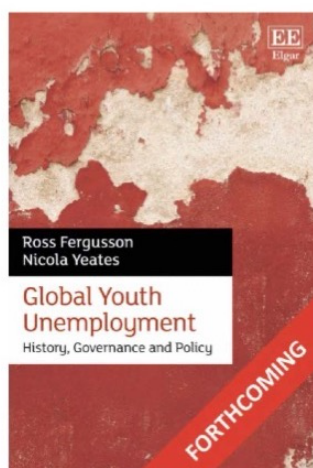
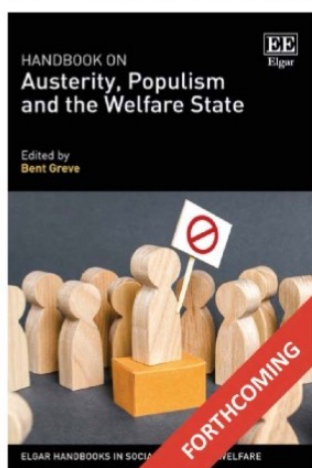
Managing Contracting out Social Services under the Socialist Market Context: A Study of Changing Welfare Governance in the Bohai Bay Economic Rim, North China

This article sets out against the broader context when China searches for better social governance to improve social service delivery catering for the changing social service needs of the citizens in the Bohai Bay Economic Rim (BBER), the previous China's rust belt and now an emerging economic powerhouse of North China, rivalling the Pearl River Delta in the South and the Yangtze River Delta in the East. Based upon critical policy reviews, fieldwork and interviews with social welfare experts, managers of non-governmental organizations, officials and social workers, this research contributes to a better understanding of social governance reforms in China through the government procurement of social services, the development trends and implementation challenges, as well as the changing state-NGO relationship. More significant of all, this article shows how personal links and relationships affect the implementation of contracting out of social services. As the data generated from the fieldwork shown, the success of the governance reforms taken place in BBER area depends heavily on personal relationships rather than organizational reforms, this article analyzes the diversity of social governance reforms from inter-regional comparisons, drawing the historical institutional perspective to understand the changing welfare governance in China.

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Parallel Stream Sessions

DAY ONE – Friday 2 July 2021

3.30-4.45pm: Parallel stream sessions (1)

Session 1: Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis

Meeting ID: 933 8122 9314

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/99617652828?pwd=OUNoRDdsZEFFUG9tSEhJTC9zK3BHdz09>

Rm: WYL103

Ye-ji Jeon, Mihyang Choi, Yichi Zhang & Rina Iwai

Family Policy Responses to COVID-19 in East Asian Countries: Explaining Policy Variations and Causes

As the COVID-19 pandemic has engulfed the globe, we have been facing a childcare crisis due to partial or full closure of day-care centers, kindergartens, and schools, which is intended to prevent the virus from spreading. While the new school year was postponed and schooling was shifted from offline to online, the responsibility of caring for children has been fully transferred to their parents, especially to women. Without any guidelines for policy responses against the novel coronavirus, governments needed to react to the severe childcare crisis urgently. Although East Asian countries, especially China, Japan, and Korea, have shared a similar cultural context, each government's family policy responses have differed widely in type and timing. The purpose of this study is to investigate differences in family policy responses to the COVID-19 among China, Japan, and South Korea and examine the causes of those differences. We categorize family policy responses in terms of three types-cash, time, and service-and analyze differences in these responses resulting from the specific combination of pandemic prevention strategy and family policy among the three countries. The present study provides a basis for following research into the variations of family policy responses, as well as social causes of the COVID-19 pandemic among China, Japan, and Korea.

Jesse Lastunen

"To the Rescue? The mitigating role of tax and benefit rescue packages for poverty and inequality in Africa amid the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic presents a virtually unprecedented challenge to many developing countries, including most African nations. With their minimal social protection schemes and weak healthcare systems, these countries are particularly exposed to the virus. While implementing effective policy responses is challenging due to the constrained fiscal space faced by most African governments, appropriate emergency income support measures and tax waivers are critical in limiting the economic hardships resulting from COVID. We analyze the distributional effects of the pandemic in Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, using detailed tax-benefit microsimulation models. Our research offers insights into the economic impact of the crisis in 2020 and the effectiveness of COVID-related tax and benefit policies in alleviating the adverse effects on people's livelihoods. Our main contribution comes from developing nuanced impact estimates of increases in poverty and inequality that have resulted from the pandemic, along with detailed decomposition of the sources of these effects. While the research is in progress, our preliminary results lend support to modest growth in consumption-based inequality and relatively large increases in consumption-based poverty across the five countries studied, while also pointing to notable heterogeneity in impacts across countries. Mozambique, in particular, was severely affected by the pandemic, with substantial increases in poverty and inequality and large reductions of incomes in the informal sector. In most countries, income losses also fell on higher income households, and across all countries, automatic stabilizers only had a limited role in mitigating losses of disposable income. Our forthcoming work will take advantage of new empirical data to improve the modelling of labor market transitions across countries and unpack the contribution of emergency income support measures in alleviating the adverse effects on inequality and poverty.

Xue Li & Changquan Jiao

Decentralization or Recentralization: The role of central Fiscal Transfers in the Expansion of Social Security System in China

Most existing research describes the welfare regime of China as a decentralized and fragmented system in which local governments take responsibilities for most social expenditures depending upon local fiscal resources. Since the early 21th century, as the intergovernmental fiscal transfer system develops, over 50 percent of local expenditures has been covered by fiscal transfers from the center. The fiscal transfers include tax refunds, general transfers and special transfers. Whether and how do the fiscal transfers reshape the decentralized social welfare regime? We investigate the relationship between fiscal transfers and the generosity of the governmental social security spending and social insurance spending by analyzing a provincial level panel data spanning from 2000 to 2018 using fixed-effect model. We find that the fiscal transfers from the central government significantly encourage the local social security spending and social insurance spending. But the fiscal transfers have limited impact on the existing decentralized welfare regime. Although the special transfers shrink the disparities of social insurance spending between provinces, the overall local fiscal capacity – local revenue plus fiscal transfers – help maintain the existing gaps among provinces' social security spending and social insurance spending. This indicates that fiscal transfers from the center underlie the decentralized welfare regime of China.

Session 2: Welfare States & Welfare Regimes

Meeting ID: 926 3865 4828

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92638654828?pwd=NHVpWUNwZUdqczQzcmxKOWVDTldkdz09>

Rm: WYL107

Karl Johnson

Rediscovering Social Investment in Welfare State Policies: Back to the Future with Developmentalism

The recent stress on the productive potential of social policy beckons for a new economic rationale for social policy provision. However, it is a misperception that the majority of social policies need to be radically adjusted to changes in the economic and social order. This paper argues that we need to better understand the ways in which long-standing policies have enabled and continue to facilitate adaptation to ongoing social and economic changes. Failing to do so risks severing or otherwise upsetting vital social policy synergies. The paper distills a dissertation that developed a conceptual framework for thinking about welfare state social policies that may be simultaneously both protective and productive; that is, that reduce post-tax/transfer poverty without decreasing pre-tax/transfer or market earnings. Observing that some countries with expensive social policies appear to be able to achieve low poverty rates without adverse effects on economic performance, the study argued that theoretical explanations for this pattern are lacking. Applying social developmentalist ideas to the traditional welfare state literature, emerging from the Global South and North respectively, it argued that the nature of the trade-off between efficiency and equality varies by the types and combinations of social policies that countries employ. The study conceptually explains how and why different types of conventional social policy that occur across welfare states might be expected to produce outcomes that are at the same time protective and productive. Using abduction, this paper describes the logic underlying the effects of what the author defines as developmental welfare state policies (DWSPs) in contrast to standard economic view. The paper argues that we should make a greater effort to understand the investment or generative aspects of existing policies rather than promoting separate social investment policies and explains the dangers of dichotomizing policies as either passive or activating.

Shih-Jiunn Shi & Stefan Kühner

Social Policy in East Asia: Between Productivism and Social Investment

Productivism used to be a catchword for the East Asian welfare capitalism, denoting the latter's priority of resource allocation on economic development over social redistribution. This logic of political economy has been challenged on several fronts ranging from economic globalization, political democratization, and social changes. Social investment that emphasizes human-capital cultivation instead of income maintenance seems to be emerging as a new direction of current social policy reforms. The present study argues that, while major East Asian welfare states have introduced social investment reforms, the ways in which they unfold indicate a growing magnitude of institutional diversity. South Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong are taken as examples to demonstrate the different paths that East Asian welfare states have trodden in response to the new social risks. Major factors that account for the variety of social investment reforms are: Political advocacy coalitions that favor/discourage policy change, production regimes that shape the public-private social provision, and the existing social security systems that place constraints on the political/social actors involved when it comes to policy reforms. The analysis results point to important implications for understanding current development of East Asian social policy, namely the increasing heterogeneity in institutional building and –restructuring. Concepts such as productivism and social investment may no longer suffice to catch the essence of a changing landscape. In urgent needed is a nuanced perspective sensitive to the variation of institutional reconfiguration in East Asian social policy.

Chak-Meng Lei & Yeun-wen Ku

What Is the Implication of Social Investment in Macao's Social Policy? Evidences from Expenditure on Education and Elderly Welfare

The core value of the social investment is for the future, which focuses on investing in the children and adolescent education and in the human capital. The concept of life course points out that social investment pays attention to how an individual with risks in his different life stages and helps an individual to maintain healthy in his old age so as to reduce his demand and dependence on social welfare. Although 'active aging' is an important norm for social investment, it is hoped that the social policies will not be tilted towards the elderly. Remedial policies for the elderly are crucial while positive policies for the development of children and youth should not be ignored. This study tempts to explore the social investment perspectives of Macao in its policy planning by analyzing its expenditures for the education and elderly policies. Three indicators are used for the study. The result shows the education policy expenditure in the total government public expenditure, GDP, and per capita policy expenditure is higher than that of the elderly policy expenditure. Therefore, it is believed that the social policy in Macao has evolved towards a social investment perspective. However, the study also finds that as the education policy expenditure has been relatively stable over the years, the problem of the aging population brings a "policy effect" in the society, leading a gradual increase in the elderly policy expenditure. As a result, the per capita policy expenditures of education and elderly policy are similar, indicating that the government has not paid enough attention to the allocation of resources on the education policies. If the government does not increase the education policy expenditures, the proportion of per capita expenditures on elderly policies will exceed that of the education policies on someday, the welfare regime of Macao will regress and thus difficult to develop towards the mode of social investment.

Session 3: Social Security & Social Justice

Meeting ID: 989 1418 7682

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98914187682?pwd=a3pkU1pVQU5XMStucjE3aW5QY2U1Zz09>

Rm: WYL109

Rita Griffiths

Universal Credit and the conundrum of the Covid-19 £20 uplift

Universal Credit (UC) is the UK's single, 'digital by design' working-age benefit, intended to simplify benefits and incentivise work and higher earnings for low-income individuals and couples both in and out of work. In March 2020, in response to Covid-19, the UK government announced an increase of £20 per week in the Universal Credit standard allowance. Intended as a temporary measure to mitigate the worst effects of job loss, sickness and reduced household income as a result of the lockdown and pandemic, the £20 uplift was due to end on 31st March 2021. Following intense debate and lobbying in favour of retaining the £20 increase and extending it to the legacy system, in the Spring 2021 Budget, the government extended the uplift by six months. Research by academics and policy think tanks modelling the financial impact of the uplift provides strong support in favour of making the increase permanent. Returning the allowance to pre-pandemic levels, they argue, would represent a benefit reduction of greater magnitude than that imposed during the previous decade of austerity and social security cuts. Recent qualitative research based on the experience of people claiming Universal Credit, shows that the £20 uplift may provide claimants with less financial support and income security than econometric models generally indicate. In our study, many participants reported that they had not received the increase, others that they had been paid much less than the publicised amount. Indeed, some said that their UC payment had actually decreased since the uplift was implemented. All new and existing Universal Credit claimants are eligible for the extra £20 per week, so how can this conundrum be explained? This paper explores claimants' differential experiences of the £20 uplift with reference to the hidden complexity and inherent insecurity that lie at the heart of Universal Credit's design.

Fran Bennett & Jane Millar

Universal Credit: how integration and automation limit reform options

Commentators have argued that COVID-19 has given Universal Credit, the integrated means-tested benefit being introduced in stages in the United Kingdom from 2013 onwards, its moment in the sun, in that it has coped with a near doubling of the numbers of claimants. But both before and during the pandemic there have also been high numbers of reports documenting the range of problems experienced by Universal Credit claimants. Our purpose is to analyse the causes of these problems, rather than just the symptoms, and to explore the limitations on policy development and reform options imposed by key features of the design of Universal Credit and the goals shaping these. Through an analysis of key policy documents, we dissect the integration of six different means-tested benefits and tax credits which had different purposes and were intended for different groups of people into one scheme in Universal Credit, whose design embodied an overriding drive to smooth the transition to work, or more work. We examine automation and digitalisation of the process of deciding on and delivering Universal Credit claims, and the associated imperative to save on the costs of administration. We highlight on the one hand the paucity of evidence that integration and automation are delivering on their aims, and on the other the growing signs that they create critical constraints on policy flexibility, including for the devolved administrations in the smaller nations of the UK. We conclude by arguing that a single-minded focus on Universal Credit is also excluding proper consideration of other crucial elements of a comprehensive social security system for the 21st century.

Sarah Jiyeon Kwon

The effects of universal child allowance on maternal health: Evidence from South Korea

This study aims to investigate the effects of universal child allowance in South Korea (hereafter, Korea) on maternal health, as measured by mothers' physical and mental health. Child allowances in Korea were first introduced in September 2018 for which the bottom 90% of households (ranked by income and wealth) with children aged 0-5 (0-71 months) were eligible. Then, in the beginning of 2019, the income threshold was abolished, making the policy a universal program. In September 2019, the age-threshold increased up to age 6 (83 months). Capitalizing on a national-level policy change, this study focuses on how an exogenous increase in income due to the policy change affects mothers' self-reported health, depression, and life satisfaction. Data are drawn from the Korean Welfare Panel Study in 2017 and 2019. This study employs a regression-discontinuity method combined with a difference-in-difference approach, exploiting an age-eligibility of the policy. I compare children aged 0-6 who are eligible for child allowances and children aged 7-12 who are just above the threshold. The difference-in-difference method allows us to account for age effects. In my earlier research which compared maternal health in 2017 and 2018, findings suggest that child allowance leads to an improvement in maternal depression symptoms and their life satisfaction, while it has no statistically significant impact on physical health. However, in the current study, I will exclude data from 2018 because age-eligible children received allowances up to only 4 months in 2018, suggesting that the comparison between 2017 and 2018 may not reflect the full effect of the policy.

Session 4: Education & Youth Transitions

Meeting ID: 926 3588 3967

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92635883967?pwd=QXZOeGlHczRtdXVtRXlKcWpRQzZudz09>

Rm: WYL111

David HO

Protection and Disparities among Hong Kong Undergraduates: Risk Society Theory, Curriculum Design and Stress

Social protection scheme has long been regarded as a decisive role in protecting lives by securing incomes and ensuring access to safe. For the youth, it has specific meanings--access to education without barriers. However, under COVID-19 crisis, many young people are struggling with different barriers. The vast majority of the students have a sense of insecurity. They feel uncomfortable as they cannot catch up with their peers. The dramatic increase among the undergraduates from lower class. It is commonly believed that government can adopt social protection responses to the pandemic. However, how to recognize the potential of social protection and enshrine the corresponding measures into systemic approaches going beyond mere ad hoc crisis responses. In fact, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated longstanding barriers which limited the opportunity of the undergraduates from lower class. This presentation would like to voice out for these young people. A total of 20 students have engaged with in-depth interview at two time points in July 2020 and November 2020 respectively regarding their difficulties and experiences of learning journeys in COVID-19 era. This pilot study applied Theory of Planned Behaviour as a framework and identified that distance learning makes the students from lower class feel falling behind. The preliminary findings show that curriculum design works for social reproduction which, then, may avoid social unrest to exacerbate wide and persistent disparities. For long term, however, a reform of social protection scheme in line with the students from lower class family has an important role simultaneously.

Chan Wing Kit & Ngok Kinglun

Education policy as Labor Market instrument. Chinese way for mass Higher Education and its Implications for Chinese Welfare Regime

Contemporary studies on education policy seem to focus on education's role in adjusting social stratification or supplying trained talents to a knowledge-based economy. Thus, expanding education has been viewed as an instrument in promoting sociologists' social mobility and accumulating economists' human capital. In the real world, however, introducing a new education policy might prove to be something more complicated, especially in China. This paper argues that it is necessary to consider the government's motives behind such expansions. In 2019 and 2020, China introduced a new wave of higher education expansions after the first one in 1999. The impact of these expansions is an intensively studied topic among economists concerning human capital and sociologists worrying about social mobility. However, the recent expansion was not triggered by the need to prepare for a new round of economic growth or the concern of "rigidness of social classes". Instead, it was initiated in the context of massive incoming unemployment. The outcome of successfully managed unemployment in 2020 after the preempted expansion turns out to be a good footnote of which role of education policy truly valued by the government. Policy innovation comes with side-effects and will eventually meet its limits. Using expansion to contain unemployment is not an exception. This paper, with a perspective of viewing education policy's unusual role as a labour market instrument, attempts to review this more than two-decade development from a macro-level perspective. The exploration of China's practices in using expansion as a labour market instrument should be able to disclose the prospect of the employability of this policy innovation outside the country but also reflex on its limits.

Jin Jiang & Dong Zhang

"Golden Opportunity" of the Greater Bay Area for Hong Kong Youth? Evidence from Big Data

Since the launch of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) initiative in 2015, the development of young Hong Kongers has been increasingly recognized in national policies on the GBA. The Hong Kong SAR government places great emphasis on encouraging young adults to pursue their careers in the GBA. From the government's perspective, the GBA represents a "golden opportunity" for local youth's employment and further career development. However, recent surveys revealed the absence of interest from the majority of local people. This sharp contrast between the government's enthusiasm and young adults' lack of interest will create challenges for the Hong Kong government in responding to the central government's call to develop the GBA. We believe that effective strategies for engaging youth in the GBA initiative rely on a good understanding of local people's genuine ideas about the GBA. Given Hong Kong's high Internet penetration rate, we use the online data to examine how local people perceive the role of the GBA for youth development. Specifically, we collect the online discussions from five popular local online news and discussion platforms and adopt the big data analysis to investigate the sentiments, perceptions, and major evaluations on the opportunities and challenges posed by the GBA for local youth working and living in the GBA. The research findings have important policy implications for local youth's employment and career development, as well as Hong Kong's active engagement in the GBA development.

Session 5: Measurement of Income & Poverty

Meeting ID: 919 2370 7233

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91923707233?pwd=WllaanVleWlOanpha2FpTzdnbmRBUT09>

Rm: WYL113

Seung-ju Lee & Jong-sung You

Progress and challenges in measuring income inequality in South Korea, focusing on the problems of survey data

It is not easy to measure income inequality accurately. Researchers working on topics related to income inequality should be aware of the issues involved in measuring inequality. In addition to the different definitions of income such as primary income, market income, gross income, and disposable income, different operationalization of the same income concepts, different units of income such as personal income and household income, and different methods of equivalizing income based on household size, the survey data being used to measure income inequality often suffer various problems. This paper reviews the debates and progress made about the survey data over the last decade in Korea and raises some important problems that have not been solved. First, under-representation of high-income households in the household survey data was raised as a serious problem. The academic debate compelled the Statistics Korea to scrap the previous survey data and to use a new household survey that better represents high-incomers. In addition, the new survey data has been corrected by administrative data such as taxation data, which helps to fix some missing or under-reported income data in the survey. However, a recent study reveals that even the new survey data captures only 20% of the financial income of the richest income group. We raise another important issue that has not been scrutinized so far, i.e., skewed representation of household sizes. In particular, we show that the severe under-representation of increasing numbers of single-person households in which poverty is concentrated leads to under-estimation of income inequality in Korea. Considering the increasing trend of single-person households in many countries in the world and the difficulty for surveyors to access them, this problem may not be confined in Korea. The paper discusses some possible remedies, including linking survey data with full-population administrative data on incomes, taxes, and benefits.

Kitae Yoo

Setting the deprivation threshold in Australia: a Poisson-based framework

There is a growing recognition that non-monetary deprivation measures complement substantially to the conventional income-based poverty measurement. The measurement of non-monetary deprivation is generally based on checklists of items that are considered as essential in a given society. However, the commonly used thresholds for deprivation studies often have an arbitrary character with little conceptual basis. As such, one of the challenges in the deprivation measurement is to specify the number of items that must be lacking in order to constitute deprivation. The choice of a threshold can produce significantly different incidence rates as well as the conclusions drawn from the results. As such, setting the threshold requires more explicit theoretical and empirical justification. In responding to the perceived challenge, this paper will implement the Poisson-based framework devised by Babones, Moussa and Suter for setting count-based poverty thresholds. Data from the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey will be used to examine the empirical incidence of households lacking items using the properties of the Poisson distribution and to derive an appropriate deprivation threshold in the Australian context. This paper aims to highlight the need to question the arbitrary thresholds and provide the conceptual and empirical basis for determining the deprivation threshold.

Chan Siu Ming

The role of housing cost and housing tenure in poverty and inequality analysis: The case of Hong Kong

Hong Kong faces long-lasting housing and poverty problem and the situation worsens in recent years under the influence of globalization and financialization. The Hong Kong government sets up the official poverty line in 2013 to monitor the poverty situation and to enhance anti-poverty policy. However, the poverty rate almost remains unchanged and the income inequality worsens in the recent years. In addition, the housing price and rent increased rapidly since the year of 2003. The poor population are suffered not only from low income but also from the high housing cost. However, this poverty situation is not revealed by the using the existing income approach poverty measurement. Using data from the Hong Kong population census, this paper aims at examining the poverty rate and inequality situation from 2001 to 2016 by considering the housing cost and housing tenure. The result indicates that the poverty and inequality situation get worse after taking account of housing cost. The poverty rate and the income inequality ratio of private housing renters are mostly increased after counting housing cost. The findings highlight the importance of housing cost and housing tenure in analyzing the poverty and inequality situation in Hong Kong. It urges the government to implement more progressive housing policy to alleviate poverty and to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor.

5.05-6.20pm: Parallel stream sessions (2)

Session 6: Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis

Meeting ID: 933 8122 9314

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/99617652828?pwd=OUNoRDdsZEFFUG9tSEhJTC9zK3BHdz09>

Rm: WYL103

Bo-Yung Kim, Seon-Hoe Han, Seonwoo Yoon & Young Jun Choi

More essential but more marginalised: Different care work experiences during COVID-19 pandemic

While care homes have been reported as facilities most vulnerable to coronavirus over the past year, care work has been praised as essential and indispensable by the media. Yet, little is known how those in need of care and those who provide care have been sailing through this unprecedented period. This study seeks to examine how different forms of care work were conducted during the pandemic period and discuss the impact of this on those in care needs and care workers. Despite the introduction of long-term care insurance in South Korea, considerable care burden still falls on informal carers and the poor working condition of formal care workers has been an important policy issue. We organised four focus group interviews in different care settings: family informal care, formal home care, and residential care in order to investigate care work experiences and their effects on care before and after the pandemic. We found that caregivers experienced different challenges depending on care setting and that conflictive relations also emerged between formal and informal caregivers. However, they were commonly essential workers, but they were even more vulnerable and forgotten in this period. In the final part, we suggest theoretical and policy implications.

Sezgi Akbaş

Social Security of the Self- Employed in Turkey: A Field Study on Effects of the COVID- 19 Period

Self-employment has some common features all over the world. Heterogeneity, informality, volatility of income and social insecurity are some of these features. The most important factors affecting the ability of individuals to be covered by social security are their income levels and the conditions to qualify for benefits. The COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected the whole world, has occasionally affected the work routine of self-employed individuals in traditional sectors rarely positively, and in most cases negatively, in terms of the

results it has created in the goods and services market. These negativities made it difficult for individuals to fulfill their obligations in terms of social insurance. In addition, it has shaken trust in governments in some ways. This study focuses on social security of the non- agricultural self-employed in Turkey. Therefore, the problems in terms of the coverage and benefits provided under the premium regime were examined. In order to determine the problems experienced in practice, a field study was carried out, including a total of 81 self-employed people (craftsmen and artisans, members of the liberal professions, small business owners with less than 10 employees) residing in Denizli province. The study was conducted in-depth and face-to-face, through semi-structured survey questions, between June and July 2020, in the middle of the first wave of the COVID-19. Individuals were asked about the impact of the COVID-19 in their views on social security, the support they could reach during the process, the effects on working conditions and economic situations. According to the findings of the field study, self-employed individuals find the burden- benefaction duality of the social security system unfair. The interviewees criticize the system especially for the high premium rates and the low level of cash benefits provided. The COVID-19 has undermined self- employed individuals' confidence to the social security system, raising concerns about their future due to insufficient government support. The study is concluded by discussing the social security of self-employed with various policy recommendations.

Chae Jeong Lee & Ellie Suh

Targeted or universal social assistance as a policy response to Covid-19? A comparison between the UK and Korea

Covid-19 has brought a new social and economic challenge on an unprecedented scale. The UK experienced a high number of confirmed cases and Covid-related deaths since March 2020. A series of lock down and social distancing measures were put in place throughout the year in the UK. Korea, which acted earlier to contain the pandemic, enforced strict social distancing and quarantine rules but imposed no lockdown. The two governments responded differently to the pandemic, but both nations paid a heavy toll as economic downturn and uncertainty weighed heavily on the economic wellbeing of their citizens, especially those in the lower socio-economic status. The two nations introduced social assistance programmes of a different nature. Apart from procedural changes brought to Universal Credit, the UK government introduced the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (better known as the 'furlough' scheme), which effectively paid up to 80% of wages up to £2,500 per month in temporary suspension of employment for those who otherwise would have lost their jobs. Korea chose to provide temporary but universal Disaster Relief Aid (DRA, equivalent to £127) to all citizens, which is considered to deviate from its tradition of providing targeted assistance. This study assesses the two different approach to welfare policies, building on Chamber's (2009) policy analysis framework. It also analyses distributional outcomes of the policy intervention using various poverty and inequality measures including Gini coefficient. Further, the social assistance introduced in response to Covid-19 are compared to policies put in place after the global financial crisis of 2008 in the two nations in order to evaluate to what extent introduction of (or changes to) policies after crisis interact with existing social assistance programmes. Based on the comparison of the UK and Korea, findings of this study are expected to present the direction of future social assistance system in the era of the continuing economic uncertainty.

Session 7: Health & Human Well-being

Meeting ID: 926 3865 4828

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92638654828?pwd=NHVpWUNwZUdqczQzcmxKOWVDTldkdz09>

Rm: WYL107

Aungsumalee Pholpark

Is the subsidiarity principle inevitable for public long-term care?: A case of Thailand

Thailand is one of a rapid increase of population ageing in Southeast Asia and is expected to reach the completed ageing society since 2021. Prior to the implementation of long-term care policy in 2016, care for dependent older persons mostly relied on family and private providers. Unlike some developed countries (e.g., Germany, Japan), marketization or new public management of care does not apply for the case of Thailand. This study aims to reconstruct through process tracing how the traditionally residual and familistic welfare system in Thailand has reached an agreement for socialization of long-term care (LTC) with involvement of communities and public intervention. In particular, this study aims to observe whether and how the subsidiarity principle still applies to LTC in Thailand. After long debates and several pilot implementations, the new LTC policy has been introduced as a community based long-term care with partial public support, aiming to give priority to ageing in place and promoting dignity and quality of life among dependent older persons. The main characteristic features of this policy are its public commitment in finance and provision. However, due to the limited provision, main responsibility of taking care of dependent older persons still belongs to the family. Unlike the health care system, the long-term care system is designed to place the local government in a major role for the implementation with the technical support from the district hospitals. Several challenges, for example, LTC provision in urban area, care worker wage and employment, financial sustainability, emerge under the new system and require further developments. Lessons learnt for middle- and low-income countries can be draw from Thailand experience.

Jinbao Zhang & Kai Liu

Privatization in Healthcare Systems and Healthy Aging

Purpose: Healthcare systems exacerbate or mitigate declines in intrinsic capacity and influence healthy aging. Previous studies mainly focused on country-level features and suggested that healthy aging was associated with principles of delivering healthcare (universalism and residualism) and generosity of family policies and public health expenditure. However, few studies investigated the impact of locality-specific health policies and its implementation on healthy aging. Moreover, no study explored the influence of multiple health policies on healthy aging by comprehensively analyzing healthcare systems. It is still unclear how different aspects of healthcare systems influence healthy aging. This study investigates the impact of healthcare systems and implementation on healthy aging by considering the social division of welfare (privatization vs. state). **Methods:** First, we use web crawler tools to develop a macro/city-level policy database. Using a novel text mining method, we comprehensively coded health policy texts into three dimensions: financing, provision, and regulation. Second, an ordered probit model was used to analyze the impact of healthcare systems on healthy aging. Older adults aged 60 and over in the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (n=10,729) were included. **Results:** Privatization in financing negatively influenced healthy aging. Although privatization in provision related to healthy aging, the impact was not significant. **Discussion:** Privatization in financing implies that older adults have to assume more financial burden in navigating healthcare systems, leading to poor health status among older Chinese. Although previous studies highlight that private service providers are more responsive to patients' need than state provision, our results did not demonstrate the argument. The reason may be that older Chinese concern more about financing, instead of types of providers.

Guohuang Cao & Ijin Hong

The changing roles of stakeholders in driving Chinese healthcare policy reform: A case study on public hospitals in Guangdong

Since 1949, health policy in China, traditionally focused on healthcare provision from public hospitals, experienced a series of dramatic changes: from a central planned system aiming to provide universal basic medical service, to active pursuit of marketization. However, this indiscriminate privatization and profit-seeking was confronted by several setbacks and difficult accessibility to healthcare, which prompted a degree of re-regulation reforms from the government, and involved more decentralization of responsibilities in healthcare financing and provision. This study identifies several phases of policy change through history (1950s-2020): universalism oriented policy, decentralization and market-oriented policy, policy failure and chaos, and the present attempt to find a balance between public interest and marketization. Who are the stakeholders behind these health policy reforms? What has their role been across the different stages of healthcare reform during the past decades? We argue that, differently from the several advocacy coalitions often observed in Western democracies, Chinese health policy change has had an initial predominance of central and local governments. With later reforms, the central government gradually involved more actors into the policy process, from hospitals and patients, to the social actors including mass media, NGO and citizens. With this study, we want to focus our attention on the changing relationships that occurred between local governments and healthcare service providers over the different historical phases of healthcare reform. We argue that different stakeholders had played different roles in the Chinese healthcare policy change process, with central government dominated the overall direction of the change and financed all healthcare service in the early phase, local governments colluding with public hospitals in driving marketization or privatization, and other social forces emerging in the past two decades as a counterbalance to protect public interest. Focusing on the experience of the most affluent province in China, Guangdong, we make use of primary (interviews, surveys) and secondary data (provincial and local level statistics) to support our institutional analysis with first-hand empirical evidence.

Session 8: Social Security & Social Justice

Meeting ID: 989 1418 7682

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98914187682?pwd=a3pkU1pVQU5XMStucjE3aW5QY2U1Zz09>

Rm: WYL109

Ilan Katz

When welfare conditionality meets evidence based policy: Income Management/Cashless Welfare in Australia

Various forms of Income Management have been in operation in Australia for 13 years. Income management involves 'quarantining' a proportion of benefit recipient's income (up to 80%). The welfare recipients are issued a credit card which allows them to spend their money on anything other than alcohol, tobacco or gambling. The measure has been largely focused on Indigenous Australians, but has recently been expanded to some non-Indigenous areas. Some forms of the measure are targeted to certain categories of welfare recipients whereas others are blanket provisions in particular geographic areas. There have now been around 8 evaluations of different forms of income management, but many of them have been of poor quality. Despite the methodological limitations of many evaluations, a clear picture is emerging; a minority of people subject to the measure benefit from it, but for the majority Income Management/Cashless Welfare is harmful and stigmatising. Despite this growing evidence base, even from some government funded evaluations, the government has continued to push to expand the measure and is now proposing to extend it to all welfare recipients in Australia. The government response has been a mixture of 'cherry picking' evaluation findings and ideological arguments about the use of 'taxpayer's money'. This paper will assess the evidence base, discuss the role of government funded evaluations, the challenges

of providing rigorous evidence in this context and the response to research evidence by governments when the evidence contradicts their policy objectives.

Tim Goedemé

Can a carbon tax and dividend scheme be an effective eco-social policy? Five propositions and a simulation for Belgium

There is growing evidence that climate change and economic inequality are strongly interlinked. Furthermore, many climate policies have significant redistributive effects, and risk to widen inequalities. While carbon taxes are recognised to be an important tool for mitigating climate change in an efficient and effective way, it is also recognised that they should be accompanied by proper compensatory mechanisms, such as dividends, to avoid regressive effects. However, many analyses, including for Belgium, do not sufficiently consider long-term dynamics and the heterogeneous redistributive effects a carbon tax and dividend scheme can have on people living on low incomes. In this paper, I discuss five propositions about the constraints and conditions under which a carbon tax and dividend scheme could be part of an effective eco-social policy. The propositions are illustrated with the results of an ex ante simulation of a carbon tax and dividend scheme in Belgium, targeted at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from heating and private transport by households. I argue that carbon tax and dividend schemes should be accompanied by other measures which help the poor to reduce their emissions, to ensure that these schemes do not become regressive, even when they are distributionally neutral or progressive in their original design. Furthermore, the raised tax revenue should only be used for funding transitory costs, preferably targeted at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, in particular among low-income households. Specific policy interventions are required to swiftly identify, compensate and help the largest emitters among the bottom income deciles. The results also point to trade-offs between the overall goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions as fast as possible, and reducing poverty and inequality. However, if successful, the living standard of the poor can be improved, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by households.

Tijs Laenen, Sarah Marchal & Wim Van Lancker

To target, or not to target? How targeting preferences relate to targeting policies in European welfare states.

In light of ongoing debates about the extent and direction of income targeting in European welfare states, this article examines how popular targeting preferences are related to public targeting policies. More specifically, it is the first to investigate how targeting preferences are (positively or negatively) associated with both intended targeting designs and (partially unintended) targeting outcomes - which often deviate from each other due to external factors such as population composition and take-up. Based on the unique combination of fine-grained opinion and policy indicators in a multilevel analysis, we show that targeting preferences are indeed empirically related to targeting policies, but that the nature of the relationship differs between policy domains. In the case of unemployment benefits, we find evidence of positive policy feedback: support for high-income targeting increases the more these benefits are also intended to benefit higher incomes. For income taxation, by contrast, it turns out that there is negative policy feedback at play and that it is not so much the design but rather the outcome that matters more: the more taxes actually end up with higher incomes, the less support there is for a poll tax working to the advantage of higher earners.

Session 9: Poverty & Minority Groups

Meeting ID: 926 3588 3967

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/92635883967?pwd=QXZOeGlHczRtdXVtRXlKcWpRQzZudz09>

Rm: WYL111

Vincent Lee & Henry Ling

Inequalities and Deprivations in An Affluent Community: A Case Study of the Livelihood of the Grassroots in Central and Western District, Hong Kong

The Central and Western District often gives the impression of prosperity, prosperity and progress. It is Hong Kong's symbol of prosperity and modernization. In 2018, it is the least poor district amongst the 18 districts in Hong Kong. The social problems of material deprivations, inequality in education and training opportunities, depilated living environment and unaffordable daily expenses experienced by the grassroots have long been neglected. The objectives of this study are to understand the living conditions and social relationships of the disadvantaged groups, as well as the upward mobility of the youths. Based upon a constructivist grounded theory research design, qualitative semi-structured interviews were conducted between May and October 2019 with a total of 75 grassroots housewives, older adults and youths, church workers, NGO representatives and local politicians by purposive sampling. The biggest challenge faced by the adult interviewees, including the immigrant housewives and low-income older adults, was the housing problem. The environment of the subdivided units was filthy, and the rising rental cost was also a heavy burden for them. The youths were mainly faced with difficulties in catching up with the English language requirement of the prestigious schools in the district. They also suffered from insufficient learning resources as compared with their well-off counterparts in schools. We thus recommend that the district governmental and NGO units should proactively provide decent affordable housing for these households through social enterprises. They should also strengthen the social capital of these households for ending their social isolation. Besides, the NGO service units and churches in the district can provide free or affordable English tutoring services and learning equipment that the grassroots young people needed for achieving higher social mobility and social integration in the future.

Laure-lise Robben

Unravelling the homeless conundrum: to get help, you need an address

Homelessness is an extreme manifestation of poverty and social exclusion. Certainly, in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, when 'staying home' became the frontline defense. However, experiencing homelessness comes with a cruel irony: to get help, you need an address. The ability to receive benefits, to apply for jobs, to open a bank account and to receive postal mail: for persons experiencing homelessness, having an address is not just a matter of location, it's de facto a means to receive social rights remaining out of reach at the point they are needed the most. Drawing on a case study of Belgium, this article disentangles the reference address at a local Public Center for Social Welfare (PCSW) as a means to access these rights and services. Furthermore, we explore similar systems in EU Member States (e.g. Austria) created for this specific vulnerable group following the loss of a permanent address. Analyses will be drawn on in-depth interviews, survey data from point-in-time counts and unique and large-scale longitudinal administrative data in Belgium (2003-2017). By zooming in on the effectiveness of a reference address, the results are expected to lead to a greater understanding of the access of persons experiencing homelessness to fundamental rights.

Wim Van Lancker, Jan Van Bavel & David de Smalen

How much does immigration contribute to national poverty rates? A decomposition analysis for Western European welfare states

The aim of this article is to examine two recent coinciding trends among European welfare states: the

inability to lower country-specific poverty rates, and the rapid growth of the foreign born population due to immigration. Today foreign born people are the main contributor to population growth in Northern and Western Europe, both through immigration and to a lesser degree through fertility. Besides being an important contributor to population growth, immigrants occupy a disadvantaged position in Europe's labour markets, and run a much higher risk of being poor compared with natives. In this contribution we ask to what extent immigration is driving the disappointing poverty rates of European welfare states. This is a crucial question, since many European countries are struggling with the economic and social integration of recent immigrants. We present a Kitagawa-Blinder-Oaxaca decomposition of national poverty rates in 17 European welfare states between 2005 and 2018. We empirically examine whether, and if so to what extent, changes in net immigration and changes in the poverty risk of immigrants influenced changes in the destination-country poverty rates. Our study is (to our knowledge) the first attempt to quantify the effect of immigration on national poverty rates in a cross-country perspective. Our results find that the influx of foreign born, especially non-EU immigrants, did in fact increase the overall poverty rate significantly in a number of western European countries. The decline in the share of natives also added to the poverty rate, because natives are the group best protected against poverty. However, in most countries changes in the poverty risk of natives and immigrants had a larger impact on the national poverty rate, than changes in the composition of the population due to recent immigration.

Session 10: Politics of Social Welfare

Meeting ID: 919 2370 7233

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91923707233?pwd=WlIaanVleWlOanpha2FpTzdnbnRBUT09>

Rm: WYL113

Yuen Wing Han Vera

Expert advice, citizen compliance, and political trust amid the COVID-19 pandemic

Compliance with COVID-19 measures is important to reduce number of infections. Governments can carry out measures by decree, but given the impossibility to monitor all citizens of their behaviors, voluntary subjugation and cooperation is helpful to control virus spread. Hence, political trust in government and public support for measures are factors to enhance effectiveness. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, governments have sought help from health experts for both advice on public health measures and the dissemination of public health information. Research finds that expert advice can enhance support for containment, mask-wearing, and contact-tracing measures; and endorsement by health experts can result in knowledge change. The problem is that health experts sometimes speak in conflict with governments, which may reduce the authority of government and hence compliance of COVID-19 measures. Views diverge because health experts focus on their expertise which is disease control and tend to consider less economic and social impact. Government officials concern the trade-off between public health and its socio-economic impact. Also, in some occasions, officials are seen to have political calculation in COVID-19 decision-making. On this point, the government may gain from aligning with expert advice in justifying COVID-19 measures, but if experts hold contradicting opinions to government decree, this strategy may backfire, resulting in loss in political trust and public cooperation in combating the pandemic. This research has two objectives. First, how expert advice, when aligned with government or in conflict with the government, affects support for controversial COVID-19 measures. The second research question studies whether and to what extent expert-government interaction affects public trust in both actors respectively.

Eunyoung Ha

Social Welfare and Elite-Mass Communication in South Korea

This paper evaluates how elite and mass preferences in Korea are communicated across different policy issue areas. It is conventional wisdom that, in democracies, political parties align their policy issue preferences

with those of the voters. However, I argue that party representatives in Korea are not necessarily responsive to their partisan supporters for salient economic policy issues such as social welfare and taxes. As income inequality in Korea has enlarged over the last two decades, the key redistributive policies such as social welfare and taxes have become more controversial in the national and local elections. Although the public demand for social welfare in Korea has become increasingly popular, the resistance against taxes has generally remained steadfast. Using elite and mass survey data for tax-spending, trade, culture, and immigration, the empirical analysis in this paper show on elite and mass perception surveys show that political elites in both conservative and progressive parties in Korea have more moderated views on the controversial social welfare and tax issues than do their core partisans. This gap in elite-mass communication flows has enlarged political discontent among partisan voters and risks representative democracy.

Eunyoung HA

Globalization and Partisan Polarization in South Korea

This paper analyses how the Asian financial crisis in 1997-1998 and the following neoliberal market reform in Korea have strengthened the citizens' demands for social welfare and polarized partisan support. After the Asian financial crisis, South Korea has adapted to the changing international environment by processing trade and capital liberalization proactively and deliberately. Although the rapid market liberalization in South Korea has brought the high level of economic development, it has increased income inequality and job insecurity in that nation. The increasing public concerns over economic inequality and insecurity have broadened partisan debates over how to build welfare states in Korea. Ideally, the public discontent could be resolved by paralleling economic growth and social welfare, by nurturing a middle class and providing welfare for irregular workers. However, existing social welfare provisions in Korea were still minimal and the expansion of social benefits often confronted significant tax resistance and budget deficits. I argue that the Korean public under the expansion of the liberal market integration has increasingly perceived their political stances on the economic terms and, thus, become polarized government policies in economic domains. To test my theoretical argument, I examine a series of public survey datasets in Korea from 2003 to 2016. The pooled time-series data analysis shows that the Korean public has become more liberal, but also increasingly polarized on government policies for redistribution, jobs, and housing. In particular, the results reveal the partisan support in Korea has been realigned along with income, jobs, education, and gender over time, strengthening class votes and moderating prevailing regionalist votes.

DAY TWO – Saturday 3 July 2021

3.10-4.25pm: Parallel stream sessions (3)

Session 11: Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis

Meeting ID: 996 1765 2828

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/99617652828?pwd=OUNoRDdsZEFFUG9tSEhJTC9zK3BHdz09>

Rm: WYL103

Aya ABE

The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Poor Children in Japan

As in other countries, the COVID-19 crisis affected all children in Japan. The closure of schools was a direct loss of educational opportunities and not only did they lose learning hours but also interaction with their peers and teachers. The restrictions on activities caused loss of sports and other outdoor activities. It is suspected that these losses were more severe among the children from low socio-economic status (SES) families compared to children from high-SES families who could have taken measures to compensate ill

effects of the pandemic. The economic impacts were also more severe for the low-SES families, as the early surveys show that those in unstable and low-paying jobs, especially in service sector, experienced larger decrease in income compared to those in stable and salaried jobs. The paper, using data from a survey on 10-year-old children and their parents in Tokyo in September 2020, examines the disparity of the impact of the pandemic on children according to their socio-economic status. It investigates who experienced the ill effects more severely compared to others, as well as what kind of ill effects. The survey contains data on children's outcomes, including academic achievements, health and peer relations, as well as the pandemic's impact on parents such as loss of income, loss or change of working hours. Even though the pandemic is still on-going and the its long-term effects surely needs further examination, the paper shows an insight into the early impacts of the pandemic on children.

Vitalija Gabnytė, Aušra Čižauskaitė & Jekaterina Navicke

Nowcasting poverty and inequality in the context of economic growth and covid-19 pandemic in Lithuania

The official statistics on poverty and inequality in the European Union (EU) are based primarily on survey data. The existing data gap prevents the availability of up-to-date poverty and inequality indicators, impact assessments of newly enacted policy reforms and, most importantly, evaluation of the impact of the tax-benefit system on poverty and inequality indicators, especially due to COVID-19 circumstances. Unsurprisingly, the work on developing methodologies for nowcasting distributional statistics took place by individual researchers (Navicke et al. 2014, Leventi et al. 2014, Gasior and Rastrigina 2017, etc.) and is currently being further developed by Eurostat (2019). The methodology presented in this paper further advances this research. This paper presents a methodology for nowcasting poverty and inequality indicators as currently being developed and used by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour in Lithuania. It combines the techniques of tax-benefit microsimulation and calibration of the survey weights. The use of microsimulation helps to include the most recent changes of the fiscal policy into the analysis, including the Covid-19 measures, which were introduced in 2020. The results show favourable tendencies for Lithuania in reducing both poverty and inequality in the general population and by age groups in the context of the rapid economic growth and improving labour-market situation in 2018-2019. The results of 2020 suggest that relative at-risk-of-poverty rates and inequality in the country are likely to decline. However, this change is due to the different factors. The relative poverty estimates are sensitive to the stagnating or in the case of the V-shaped scenario declining threshold of at-risk-of-poverty. The foreseen decrease in the at-risk-of-poverty rate is primarily due to a reduction in the poverty risk among the elderly people, as their situation improves relative to the working-age population due to the greater stability of their pensions as well as additional Covid-19 related transfers. Finally, we discuss how the nowcasted indicators an ex-ante impact assessment of the proposed policy changes fed into the Ministry's work and informed political decision-making process in 2020. We reflect on this aspect through the analytical lens offered by the models of the policy change (Dunn, 2017). We argue that while the nowcasting and ex-ante impacts assessment techniques are the tools typical for a comprehensive rationality model of political change, those made the highest impact within a context of a punctuated equilibrium. Within a political earthquake triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic, readily-available ex-ante evaluation on the expected effects of the set of possible tax-benefit measures generated a much-required knowledge-based certainty and momentum leading to a set of policy changes in spring 2020.

Hye sang Noh, Han Seon Hoe & Young Jun Choi

Who spends more and why against social risks caused by Covid-19 among OECD countries?

In the era of the COVID-19 pandemic, the role of government is being emphasized again to deal with various levels of social risks. As the crisis prolongs, countries have made unprecedented policy interventions by expanding their additional budget in order to stabilize people's livelihood. While the patterns of responses vary from country to country, little is known about how much and why some countries additionally increase

spending and others do not. This research aims to explore the factors affecting the different levels of government additional spending against social risks due to the Covid-19 crisis. The conventional view from traditional theories seems that higher social demands such as more infected or unemployed people would increase the size of the additional budget or stronger political power such as the power of the labor union would affect the level of the budget. But, existing policy structures, e.g. unemployment benefit, also matter in explaining further policy intervention. Based on these theoretical approaches, we attempt to figure out the different size of the additional budget against the Covid-19, other than health spending and loans, among OECD countries. To investigate the causal relationship, we use the cross-country regression method together with case studies. We find that factors relating to unemployment had a significant impact on the government spending against social risks. Specifically, the unemployment rate significantly increased government spending while replacement rate of existing unemployment benefits showed the opposite effect. In addition, the size of the national debt and the number of trade unions also had significant effects on the spending. In the end, we discuss the theoretical implications of our findings.

Session 12: Education & Vocational Training

Meeting ID: 931 2026 1749

Link:

<https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/93120261749?pwd=cUtXM2tZRmwwM2dRdnpTdGNMeGZhQT09>

Rm: WYL107

Jie wang, Bingqin Li & Ilan Katz

Reducing or relocating the study load? Policy integration and shadow education in China

Shadow education is a private 'add-on' to formal education, where private educators deliver extra tutoring to improve student performance in formal education. It may cause competitive exam tutoring outside schools and reinforce both education and social inequalities. As a response, many countries, such as South Korea, Japan and Singapore, regulate against shadow education. In early 2018, the Chinese government launched a campaign to regulate against the shadow education that offered exam tutoring. This campaign was meant to accelerate the overarching education reform started in 1993—Education for Competence and Cultivation (素质教育, ECC). However, multiple reports showed that parents and teachers had colluded to move shadow education underground. This research is meant to understand why, on the one hand, parents are complaining against shadow education and, on the other hand colluding with shadow educators. The authors argue that in the context competitive human capital accumulation, middle-class parents are anxious to seek a competitive edge for their children through education and thus are locked in the trap of competitive exam tutoring. Using the integrated policy analysis framework, we identify the logic behind growing shadow education. The findings show that policymakers have to take a holistic approach and seek integrated policy interventions to help parents break out of the trap of competitive human capital accumulation. This research broadens the body of literature on reducing shadow education in China which tends to focus on regulating the private sector.

Zhou Xiaochen, Lucy P. Jordan , Chen Wanyue & Aree Jampaklay

The longer-term impact of parental migration on youth educational outcomes: Examining the trade-off of physical proximity versus financial gains

Despite well recognized motivation of parental migration to improve the educational opportunities of their left-behind children, there is a lack of empirical evidence, especially of studies using longitudinal data in migration studies. The current study brings a longitudinal approach to examine how different experience of early childhood parental migration influences the educational trajectories of children as they enter young

adulthood. We adopt a life course perspective by applying sequence analysis on the educational histories of young adults in Thailand. The study brings together two complementary cohort studies of families in areas of high outmigration in Thailand, CHAMPSEA (families of international migrants) and CLAIM (families of internal migrants). We selected data from 873 children, who were first interviewed in early adolescence and re-interviewed in 2019/2020 in early adulthood (aged 20 to 24) (n=873). First, the results from sequence analysis describe and visualize the educational trajectories of the young adults from primary school through school completion/leaving. Second, typology analysis captures the patterns and transitions to different educational track with four distinctive patterns of the young adults' educational trajectories: 1) children with early dropout (n=242); 2) children with academic senior high school track (n=225); 3) children with vocational high school track (n=164); 4) children with higher education record (n=242). Third, preliminary multivariate analysis identifies the important roles of child gender and migration status of parents (especially father's) experienced in early childhood in explaining different trajectory patterns, after controlling for household socio-economic factors. The current study enriches the understanding of the longer-term influence of childhood experiences of parental migration on diverse educational pathways using the case of Thailand. The findings offer insight to guide policy and family decision-making for other countries experiencing high levels of migration within the ASEAN region.

Oleksandr Movshuk

A machine learning approach on the relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement in Japan

Though relationship between socio-economic status (SES) and academic achievement has been intensively studied, this research typically relied on traditional regression models, such as the ordinary least squares (OLS). These regression models have well-known limitations, such as the assumption of linear relationships among variables, and very few interactions among explanatory variables (if any). In this paper, I applied several machine learning algorithms that can identify complicated non-linear relationships, along with high degree of interaction among explanatory variables, and then compared their performance with the traditional OLS model. The paper used a Japanese subset from the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) for 2015. In machine learning, no analytical model is specified in advance; instead, the model is learned from the data by computer-intensive search across numerous configurations of explanatory variables. For machine learning algorithms, I used elastic net, random forests, gradient boosting machine, extreme gradient boosting (XGBoost), deep learning, and automatic machine learning. Compared with the OLS, machine learning models produced much smaller prediction errors, with the smallest prediction error achieved by the XGBoost model. Machine learning models allow comparisons among explanatory variables in their predictive ability. In the best XGBoost model, top three variables with superior predictive ability were SES, time spend studying, and pupil's view of teacher's unfairness. Conversely, the worst predictive ability was found for pupil's age, gender, and reported happiness. The effect from SES was highly nonlinear, showed a prominent "S-shape", with flat profiles at the lowest and highest levels of SES, and a relatively steep SES gradient in the middle range.

Session 13: Gender Inequality & Work-Family Reconciliation

Meeting ID: 943 3107 2147

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94331072147?pwd=VmlaSTFhcUJtQ1Raa0RqamN5UENLQT09>

Rm: WYL109

Shimeng Yin

'Mind the gap': Gender inequality in China's urban pension system

Ageing in China is becoming on the main challenges for policy makers with recent studies estimating that nearly 35% of Chinese population will be over 60 years old by 2050 (Banister, Bloom and Rosenberg, 2012).

This presentation explores the role of the pension system in serving and protecting the rights of ageing people and focuses on the existing gender inequality problems in China's urban pension system. The combination of an unfavourable demographic transition and the path dependencies of an unequal public pension insurance system may influence both the sustainability but also the adequacy of retirement provision (Chen & Turner, 2015). China's pension system has been reformed for several times since 1952, however, significant differences still exist in pension provision between men and women. This presentation will contextualize gender inequality within China's urban pension system and will present the main findings about gender inequality in China's urban pension system based on the analysis of CHARLS data (2011, 2013, 2015 and 2018). In previous studies which focused on gender gap in China's urban pension system, retirement age was highlighted as the most significant factor that can affect the gender pension gap. My research findings show that retirement age is not statistically significant all the time. As the pension policy has been reformed for several times, the factors which have significant effect on gender pension gap also changed as time goes by with factors like working experience and pre-retirement salary, having the most significant effect on gender pension gap.

Yunyan Li

Women's Everyday Experiences in Modernised China-One Country, Multiple Stories

This paper investigates the recalibration of the economic reform and the gendered welfare system in contemporary China, under the interaction between modernisation processes and transforming Confucianism. There are dual national security systems and unbalanced social and economic development across rural and urban China, which brings the different gendered impact of the economic reform on women's lived experiences and the daily practices of gender justice. By drawing on 40 semi-structured interviews of women with children, this paper explores the tension, opportunities, and contradiction that challenge and support women's real-life experiences and the practices of gender justice. This paper develops a holistic 'human dignity' framework focusing on the challenges and opportunities of the fulfilment in women's autonomy and mutuality at home, workplace, and in a wider social context. This research found that intergenerational co-residence and family relations become more pragmatic based on the needs of physical childcare and financial support, rather than merely focusing on the hierarchical and patriarchal family relations and expectation. Under Communist governance, the Chinese welfare system with selective coverage of national security insurance, also continuously produces the divide of labour market in the public and private sectors, which generated a more complex and unequal practice in driving gender equality not only between men and women but also between women and women in different sector and industries. These findings portray the variations of the experiences of gender justice across space and time and highlight the disjuncture between transitional gender policy paradigms and everyday practices in contemporary China.

Session 14: Labour Markets & Employment

Meeting ID: 980 2685 9751

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98026859751?pwd=RVJRSIEveCt4UFF5WWpKN2FibVFYQT09>

Rm: WYL111

Sung-won Yun, Jae-jin Yang

Labor Market Reforms and Youth Unemployment in Korea and Japan

This study analyzes the increasingly divergent paths of youth unemployment in Korea and Japan. Until 2010, the youth unemployment rates in Korea and Japan were similar, but now Korea is about twice as high as in Japan. The conventional wisdom is that the diverging youth unemployment in the two countries could be explained by different demographic structure and economic fluctuations. However, this study seeks to explain it as an outcome of the success and failure of labor market reforms in Japan and Korea around 2000

and after. Both Korea and Japan shared many labor market characteristics such as life-long employment, seniority-based wage system, and dualism. Both countries also have tried similar labor market reforms to increase flexibility and to alleviate dualism in the labor market since late 1990s in Korea and early 2000s in Japan. Japan succeeded in the reforms while Korea failed. As a result, Korea suffers from massive youth unemployment seen in Southern European countries. Japan and Korea are usually grouped together as East Asian Model. But this study reveals significant within-differences, signaling a possible divergence in the East Asian Model

Chieh-Wei Niu, Yawen Cheng & Chung-Yang Yeh

A Brief Comparative Study of Attitudes Towards Unemployment Protection in Taiwan, South Korea and Japan

This study examined public attitudes towards unemployment protection by gender, age, educational level, household income, employment status and political ideology within and across 3 East Asian countries. Data from the Role of Government survey of the International Social Survey Program (ISSP) administered in 2016 in Taiwan, South Korea and Japan was drawn, and analyses were conducted among participants aged 18 years or above. Findings indicated that people in the lowest income groups were more supportive of unemployment protection than those with higher income in all 3 countries. Supporters of left-wing political party showed more positive attitudes towards unemployment protection than those supporting right-wing party. Japanese female showed more support than male, while no gender effects were shown in Taiwan and South Korea. Age, educational level and employment status were not significantly associated with attitudes towards unemployment protection in all observed countries. When examined across countries, the highest public support was found in Taiwan, while the lowest public support was found in Japan. Stronger public support for unemployment protection might reflect greater needs of people as well as societal values and normative beliefs towards the role of government in protecting vulnerable groups in the labor market. Also, the different patterns of public attitudes among 3 East Asian countries suggested the diversity of welfare systems and cultures in different East Asian countries, in contrast with theories about a homogeneous East Asian welfare regime. The findings of this study deserve consideration in the formation and discussion of unemployment protection policies.

Tat Chor Au-Yeung & Keith Ming

Navigation without protection? Gig workers' views on employment relations and social security in Hong Kong

Recent social policy literature suggests that the rise of gig economy poses new challenges on welfare state in terms of social and labour protection. The new forms of work generated in the gig economy are characterised by its on-demand nature and extensively mediated by a set of platforms in varying degrees. On the one hand, the welfare and occupational entitlements of gig workers appear to be jeopardised, resulting from the exclusion based on the 'independent' employment status. On the other hand, gig work, as the non-institutionalised or under-regulated activities, may undermine the fiscal bases of welfare state due to reduced contributions and tax revenues, especially for the social insurance schemes. Despite the growing attention to the interplay between social security and freelancing or self-employment in the face of digitisation, how gig workers perceive employment relations and social security remains unknown. To fill this gap, this paper presents the findings of a qualitative study of 24 in-depth interviews with gig workers in Hong Kong (HK) from a variety of sectors. The data reveals that interviewees generally pursued autonomy and flexibility of work and life at the expense of income security and the access to labour protection. While the skilled gig workers from cultural and creative industries considered job precarity as an inevitable trade-off for their engagement in the fields, the so-called low-skilled gig workers emphasised their complex relationship with the platforms or intermediaries. Arguably, the power asymmetries embedded in the gig economy are shaped by workers' reliance on platforms. Also, respondents demonstrated a distrust of the mandatory individual saving account as a private pension, driving them to eschew the contributions that

were deemed useless. More importantly, some gig workers did not see any key differences between their welfare entitlements and those enjoyed by general employees in HK. It is suggested that policy contexts play a key role in shaping the meaning-making of gig workers about their interests and risks. Two contributions are made by this paper. Firstly, it extends the research on gig workers beyond the contexts of capitalist democracies to the region where social insurance and labour rights are underdeveloped. Secondly, it addresses the ways how gig workers make sense of the institutional arrangements, which are overlooked in the current literature.

8.00-9.15pm: Parallel stream sessions (4)

Session 15: Housing & Urbanisation

Meeting ID: 985 9873 7287

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98598737287?pwd=MHA1OEVEEQ1JmR0FFL05tbFZVM1B0UT09>

Rm: WYL103

Chenhong Peng & Julia Shu-Huah Wang

Accommodating China's floating population: Local variations and determinants of housing policies for rural migrant workers

What are the various ways that local governments in China accommodate migrants through housing policies, and what are the forces that drive these variations? Through systematic coding of policy documents from 97 prefecture-level cities, this study captured the patterns of migrant housing policies using cluster analysis. We found that, despite the demonstrated commitment of central government to improve housing conditions of migrant workers, most cities adopted a *residual approach* (69%). Other cities that devoted more effort to migrant worker housing through adopting a short-term *rental or collective approach* (12%). Only a few adopted a *citizenship-oriented approach* (12%) facilitating the long-term settlement of migrant workers. Regression analyses examining the determinants showed that the policy variations were shaped by economic stages, reliance on land-based revenue and fiscal autonomy, but not by the severity of the housing problem or previous welfare generosity. In China, the problem-solving and social welfare functions of housing policies remain subordinate to its economic and political functions. To effectively incentivize local governments to provide housing and other services for migrant workers, we suggested that needed reforms lie in restructuring central-local fiscal relations and altering the local leaders' performance evaluation system.

Nam Hoon KANG

Explanation of the Korean government's failure to curb real estate speculation and an alternative policy proposal, based on system dynamics framework

Moon Jae-in administration of South Korea has tried to curb real estate speculation without success. The government has issued measures to prohibit speculation as many as 25 times between 2017 and 2021, but the public still expects that the widespread real estate speculation will continue. The prices of the apartments in the Gangnam area of Seoul have risen by one billion won (about one million USD) on average, and some apartments by more than two billion won (about two million USD), or 100 times the average annual income of Korean workers. This paper aims to explain the miserable failure of the Moon administration's policy and present an alternative policy proposal, employing the theoretical framework of "system dynamics" developed by Meadows(1972; 2004) and Forrest(1994; 2007). The theory recognizes circular causal relationships, distinguishing between balancing feedback and reinforcing feedback mechanisms. The paper shows why the usual balancing feedback mechanisms between demand and price does not work in real estate markets, often producing a reinforcing feedback loop between demand and price and, thereby, incentives for real estate speculation. Furthermore, those measures to curb speculation in some specific areas targeting some specific population produce balloon effects and only aggravate

speculation. Also, those measures to increase supply of houses do not lead to a fall in housing prices because of time lag in the supply, and the accompanying infrastructure construction projects produce further speculative demand. The paper proposes that a flat-rate land value tax will cut the reinforcing loop between demand and price, leading to an overall decline of real estate prices. It also proposes to introduce a universal basic income scheme using the revenue from the land value tax, which will not only enable the government to overcome the public resistance to a new tax but also lead to a considerable redistribution of income from the wealthy few to the majority of population.

Stefan Angel & Alexis Mundt

Residualization of Social Housing in Austria since 1995

Defining which groups should have access to the government-subsidized rental sector (“social housing”) is a crucial policy question. A key term is residualization, which refers to the process whereby public housing moves towards a position in which it provides primarily a ‘safety net’ for low-incomes. Our paper relates to the literature on housing systems in Europe. According to this literature, Austria belongs to the ‘integrated regime’ where social housing is open to broad classes of the population. However, some scholars (Scanlon et al. 2014) argue that a general trend towards refocusing social housing on the weakest populations can be observed over the last decades. In our paper, we check if social housing in Austria still hosts households from a broad range of the income distribution or if residualization of social housing increased since 1995. While there are many studies on the topic for various European countries, Austria as a typical “integrated” country has not yet been investigated. Austria is an interesting case study due to its high proportion of renters and social housing, particularly in the capital Vienna. We first look at residualization on the outcome side. For this, we utilize data from the Austrian ECHP and SILC from 1995 to 2018. We calculate various residualization indicators based on the income structure of housing tenure groups. We also ask if Vienna is different from other regions if we look at the municipal housing stock separately from the Local Public Housing Association housing stock. We hypothesize that the municipal housing stock has become much more residualized in the last two decades, due to reforms of eligibility rules (“urgent demand for accommodation” initiative). Second, we have compiled time series data on official income limits for social housing across federal states and compare where these limits sit in the overall income distribution.

Session 16: Children & Childcare

Meeting ID: 933 8717 9231

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/93387179231?pwd=Zm0vYzI4emVSZlFHajhJd0MwTkV3dz09>

Rm: WYL107

Kitty Stewart, Ruth Patrick & Aaron Reeves

A time of need: Exploring the changing poverty risk facing children in larger families in the UK

Child poverty in the UK has seen rapid change over the last two decades, falling from the late 1990s to 2012/13 and rising since then. As a result, child poverty rates converged with rates of poverty for working-age non-parents before diverging again. This paper examines these changes through the lens of family size, asking how horizontal inequalities have changed over this period between larger families – those with three or more children – and smaller families with one or two. We look at trends in poverty rates for the two groups and explore alternative explanatory factors – changes in the composition of who larger families are, differential employment rates, and differences in the impact of social security support. Our interest in family size is two fold. First, by interrogating the way different family types have been affected by policy we gain a better understanding of the effects of particular approaches to poverty reduction, with implications for policy debates both in the UK and beyond. Second, larger families are rhetorically important in the popular discourse around benefit receipt, with stigmatising representations of ‘benefit broods’ mobilised by politicians and popular culture to critique a supposed culture of ‘welfare dependency’. This has provided

justification for recent significant cuts in social welfare provision, including policies specifically targeting larger families – the benefit cap and the two child limit. The paper seeks to illuminate the reality behind these popular conceptions by exploring larger families' composition, employment and poverty rates, even before these policies take effect. We find that the UK child poverty story – both the fall and the rise – is almost entirely a story about poverty in larger families. Social security changes are the key driver: these have affected larger families much more sharply than smaller families, simply because larger families have a greater need for support, both because of lower work intensity and higher household needs. This remains true despite steady increases in employment in larger families. Larger families are more dependent on the state, by definition, while children are at home. We conclude that if independence from state support is the goal, a larger family is an option only for the wealthy.

Duoduo Xu, Lucy P. Jordan , Jiao Guo & Karen Ka Han Li

Who can help? Childcare Providers and Women's Labor Force Participation in Hong Kong

It is well-recognized that women's labor force participation (LFP) is severely constrained by their child-rearing responsibilities. Struggling with work-life balance, working mothers must rely on formal or informal providers for complementary childcare. Previous studies have separately investigated the contribution made by family members (particularly grandparents), live-in domestic workers and (non-)government pre-school institutions, while few have examined them simultaneously. Hong Kong is a Chinese global city that fuses eastern and western cultures, a place where intergenerational support and domestic outsourcing are both common. Therefore, the case of Hong Kong offers a rare opportunity for us to compare different childcare providers. In this study, we link the household data from four waves of the Panel Study of Social Dynamics in Hong Kong (HKPSSD) to external information on kindergartens and childcare centers, to study how the availability of various childcare support affects married women's LFP. Both cross-sectional and longitudinal evidence suggests that, having a foreign domestic worker at home significantly increases the likelihood of LFP for married women, especially for those with a young child who has not yet started formal education. The influence of living with grandparent(s) is positive in pooled data analysis, but insignificant in panel data analysis. Nevertheless, the relative availability of pre-school education places in the residential neighborhood exerts no impact on married women's LFP, irrespective of whether they have children or not. Policy implications of these empirical findings are discussed, with consideration for lower socio-economic women for whom the plausibility of financing and housing a foreign domestic worker may remain out of reach without coordinated policy design across different government departments.

Yu-Chen CHANG

Moving Towards a Just and Equal Society? A Critical Discourse Analysis of Taiwan's Childcare Policies from 2000-2017

The twin issues of an ageing population and a declining birth rate in the 1990s prompted the Taiwanese government to introduce a series of childcare policies, starting from 2000. However, existing studies rarely addressed the social values and identity underlying these policy practices. Accordingly, this study explores the discourses embedded in Taiwanese childcare policies, examining the social meaning and relations constructed by the government. It examines whether these policies reorient the Taiwanese welfare state towards a more just and equal society, or reinforce the existing unequal power relations and social knowledge. This study employs Critical Discourse Analysis to analyse childcare policies implemented in Taiwan from 2000 to 2017. Reflecting social changes and the changing emphasis of policymakers, it compares two periods: 2000 to 2007 and 2008 to 2017. The findings reveal the (dis)continuity of the discursive practice of childcare policies between these two periods, indicating three trends: 1) politicisation of childcare need, 2) commodification of childcare relationship, and 3) marketisation of childcare value. These trends suggest that the government did not challenge but reinforced the existing unequal power relations. Governmental policies aimed at enhancing justice and equality have led to maldistribution and misrecognition. They indirectly legitimised not only the existing social division among class groups, but also structural and institutional exclusions. The superior and inferior division of the social identity and moral values between

the able-worker/consumer and the unable-caregiver/care-receiver were reinforced. These findings suggest that only when the government fundamentally reconstructs the social meanings of human life and challenges the moral position of childcare among social activities underlying social norms and knowledge construction in society, can future institutional reform on childcare be more likely to lead Taiwan towards a more just and equal society.

Session 17: Social Policy Responses to the Covid-19 Crisis

Meeting ID: 984 1838 5998

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/98418385998?pwd=VXp4dUIVNTVqNGVKRIArQThQQUF1UT09>

Rm: WYL109

Qiaobing WU & SHIMIN ZHU

Digital Poverty, Experiences of Online Learning and the Psychological Wellbeing of Secondary School Students in Hong Kong during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has changed the lives of all populations and posed significant challenges to school students worldwide. Given the lockdown and social distancing measures being enforced, schools in many places of the world had to be temporarily closed, and the traditional classroom teaching and learning had to switch online. This change of learning mode unveiled a hidden poverty issue – digital poverty – which exposed a proportion of students whose families could not provide sufficient digital resources to extreme adversity. Having difficulty in access to appropriate digital devices and stable internet would seriously hinder students' effective learning, which further influence their psychological wellbeing. This is critical in the Hong Kong context wherein students have experienced an unexpectedly prolonged time of staying home for online learning due to school closure. Drawing upon data from a cross-sectional survey with 2264 secondary school students in Hong Kong, this study aimed to examine the association among digital poverty, students' experiences of online learning and their psychological wellbeing. Digital poverty was assessed by the number of digital devices that students possessed at home and whether or not there was access to stable WiFi. Experiences of online learning was measured by asking the students if they agreed with four statements related to their perception of online learning, rated on six points ranging from totally disagree to totally agree. Psychological wellbeing was assessed by happiness, anxiety, stress, and depression using standardized scales. The structural equation modeling results suggested that difficulty in access to stable internet did show significant negative effects on students' experience of online learning and their psychological wellbeing. Online learning experiences also mediated the effects of digital poverty on all four wellbeing outcomes of students. The findings called for policy responses to address the issue of digital poverty in order to ensure educational equality and promote the psychological wellbeing of students, especially in the context that online learning may become the trend of future education as an unexpected consequence of the pandemic.

Mutsuko Takahashi

The issues on infant mental health in Japan under the Covid-19 crisis – risk and protective factors

This research aims to discuss how the well-being of infants has been reacting to socio-economic challenges under the Covid-19 crisis in Japan by focusing on perspectives of infant mental health. The discussion begins with a brief overview of the significance of infant mental health in the long-term human development and health. In brief, it is commonly shared among child psychiatrists worldwide that lack of healthy development – not only physically but also mentally - in early childhood very often leads to substantially increase health risks in adulthood. It is attempted to highlight how the Covid-19 has been influencing over infant mental health through clinical survey studies in collaboration with the Japanese Association for Infant Mental Health. It will be addressed how vulnerability, uncertainty and insecurity have been manifested in infant

mental health clinics in Japan. Based on the clinical reports, risk factors and protective factors will be studied. In the final part of this paper efficient policy responses for protecting and improving infant mental health will be discussed. Despite its importance for life-long human health the infant mental health has not always gained sufficient public attention except extreme cases such as reported abuse as infants tend to be looked down on as immature being. Such tendency seems to have become stronger in the era of Covid-19 crisis when health itself is no longer self-evident for anyone. Still, it will be argued that to ensure infant mental health is essential both for acute critical conditions in clinics and for longer-term approach in social policy.

Barry Colfer, Stefano Sacchi & Gianluca Scarano

Ghost in the machine : The challenges and opportunities facing Digital Public Employment Services under COVID-19 in Europe

Rather than being a 'great leveller' or 'equaliser', it has become evident that COVID-19 disproportionately affects some groups of people over others. For example, the pandemic has precipitated job losses, creating new job-seekers, while simultaneously pushing those already excluded from the labour market further away from employment. Meanwhile, the social and economic transformations associated with digitalisation has been ongoing for decades, during which time many countries have expanded their reliance on digital tools for the administration and delivery of public employment services (PES). The composition of digital PES interventions differs markedly across Europe regarding the tools mobilised, their scope and purpose, and rates of investment. The pandemic has tested the capacities of digital PES offerings, and has accelerated the processes of digitalisation, given the requirements for social distancing and remote-working. This contribution undertakes a comparative analysis of five countries that have been at the forefront of the digitalization of PES in Europe, namely: Austria, Belgium (with a focus on Flanders), Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. Original data was gathered through semi-structured interviews with PES officials at the central and local levels in each case which explored the design and delivery of digital interventions since the onset of the pandemic. Firstly, this contribution considers the impact that COVID-19 has had on the nature and scope of digital PES tools, including the use of algorithmic technologies to identify job-matching opportunities, distance to the labour market, and training opportunities. Secondly, this contribution considers some of the challenges associated with the digitalisation of PES, focusing on those that have been highlighted by the pandemic, including relating to bias, data privacy, digital literacy, infrastructure, and, the crucial question of 'who decides?'. Finally, our paper seeks to understand the extent to which digital tools have been successful at mitigating the challenges posed to the delivery of PES.

Session 18: Labour Markets & Employment

Meeting ID: 960 3781 5432

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96037815432?pwd=dTEybzRZS1doL3BVaUJXKzhMMWN6Zz09>

Rm: WYL111

Jekaterina Navicke & Arūnas Juška

Labor Law Liberalization and Labor Market Flexibility in Lithuania: Outcomes and Impacts on Gender Differences in Work Arrangements

The paper evaluates impacts that the labor law liberalization in 2017 had on labor market flexibility in Lithuania. While in 2017-2019 employment did grow rapidly, there was little change in labor market flexibility. Furthermore, and against expectations, part time employment also declined as labor relations continued to be administered under path-dependent institutional inertia inherited from previous decades. Prevalence of full-time, dual-earner employment was shaped by the country's socialist legacy and was reflected in high employment rates and permanent open-ended contracts for both men and women. Analysis also showed that the revised labor law lowered the probability of women with family care responsibilities to be hired, but once hired, they were offered permanent employment albeit with reduced protections that such contracts now provide. Impacts of the new labor law in facilitating a shift of socio-economic risks from capital to labor are discussed. We also discuss the implications of the labor law liberalization in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic in Lithuania. The country

faced the highest increase in unemployment rates in the EU in 2020.

Sophia Lee

'Melting Labour' and Limits of Social Protection Institutions in South Korea

The purpose of this study is to conceptualize the state of work that is deviating from the standard employment relationship as [melting labor] and to analyze the reasons for the occurrence of institutional mismatch between the existing social protection system and melting labor in South Korea. Since the late 2000s, with the transition to digital capitalism, which began to accelerate, nonstandard forms of work that is completely different from the industrial society and the service economy society has spread. At the same time, international organizations such as the ILO have focused on the future of work as a key agenda. The concept of melting labour describes the changing features of work that makes it difficult to conceptualize with a fixed and solidified dichotomy such as regular and non-regular workers. Melting labor show a completely different labor process not only in the way of work, such as job ordering and skill formation, but also compensation and control methods such as the price of work, working hours, and labor control. These changes are, in the end, acting as a major cause of institutional mismatches in which the existing social safety net is difficult to operate. This paper attempts to explain the changing forms work with the concept of 'melting labour' and explains how social protection institutions mismatches with the changing labour market revealing new challenges. The paper focuses on the case of South Korea.

Genghua HUANG, Ka Ho MOK & Zhen TIAN

One country, diverse employment systems: Measuring employment regulations in sub-national China based on Employment Protection Legislation Index (EPLI)

Is there a single and homogeneous regulation system in China? If not, how and why do its localities differ in employment regulations? China has undergone a fundamental economic reform since 1978. Along with the transition from a planned economy to a market economy, the Chinese employment policies and regulations have also experienced dramatic changes. As the most populous country of the world, its employment issue have attracted high scholarly attention. Yet, the existing scholarship overlooks the divergence of employment regulations in sub-national China. This paper tries to demonstrate that, despite the centrally formulated policy framework, employment regulations in sub-national China have not advanced towards the same form. Rather, variations are seen across the Chinese provinces. Employing the OECD EPL Index, this research assesses the strictness of provincial employment regulations with respect to employers' firing costs. It not only disaggregates the regulatory state in China with provincial-level legislation dataset, but also is devoted to explain the political economy behind the formation of diverse employment regulation systems in its localities by quantitative and qualitative methods.

DAY THREE – Sunday 4 July 2021

2.00-3.15pm: Parallel stream sessions (5)

Session 19: Housing & Urbanisation

Meeting ID: 915 9126 5717

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91591265717?pwd=cVMxbHA0N2NxFBCbXk5enFVYW5UT09>

Rm: WYL103

Jiajia Zhou

Material support to parents in reciprocity with parental support to adult children's marriage in China: will children's gender matter?

Objectives: The norm of reciprocal exchange between parents and adult children has been a commonly accepted principle to understand intergenerational support. This study primarily aims to investigate that how does the upstream support from adult children is affected by parental transfers in children's marriage for housing purchase and marriage gifts, as well as by parental wealth? Whether there is a gender disparity of adult children in providing support for parents. **Methods:** Using retrospective data from China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study 2018, a paired sample of 11,613 older parents with 24,440 adult children were created. Multiple logistic regression models were fitted to examine how parental support for the child's first marriage influences the received material repayment from adult children, and the differences between sons and daughters are compared through interaction terms of children's gender with main independent variables. **Results:** Helping attain homeownership for adult children was negatively associated with monetary assistance for parents, while marriage gifts were positively correlated with adult children's in-kind support provision. Monetary transfers were more likely to be provided by adult children if parents lack financial assets, but higher parental income would increase the probability of giving in-kind support to parents. Compared to sons, daughters who were subsidized for a house by parents were less likely to provide financial support. However, when marriage gifts were received, daughters may be more likely to provide in-kind support to parents than sons. **Discussion:** As expected, giving marriage gifts for adult children was positively associated with children's probability of providing in-kind support, but the mutual reciprocal pattern is not valid between parental support on housing purchase and monetary support from adult children. Concerning with parental wealth, this study concluded that in response to the needs of parents and resources they received, adult children may proactively adjust their strategies of intergenerational support exchange, as well as the corresponding exchange currencies, to achieve the balance of both sides. Finally, a subtle gender disparity in intergenerational support was captured, though the heterogeneity was not quite powerful.

Maggie Lau & Henry Hin Yan Chan

'Active Families': Reconsidering the Family in Intergenerational Housing Welfare Provision amidst Intensifying Housing Affordability Crisis

Housing occupies a pivotal position in the shaping of life chances, social stratification and family relations. However, in a context of globalizing housing unaffordability and diminishing capacities of states and self-reliance in addressing independent housing needs, housing opportunities of emerging adults are highly constrained across many advanced economies. It is against this context that this article aims to examine the sphere of family as an important and dynamic source of housing welfare provision across changing welfare regimes and between generations. This is achieved by unpacking a recent social phenomenon in unaffordable housing contexts – the increasing reliance of intergenerational assistance in addressing individual housing needs of adult children using the case of Hong Kong, one of the most unaffordable housing contexts across the globe. Three research questions are addressed, including: (1) how has the role of families in the housing welfare provision changed over time?; (2) how do family 'strategies' adapt to structural

changes in order to maximize the housing opportunities of the emerging adult children and how do these strategies evolve over generations?; and (3) how do different family members make sense of the changing family 'strategies' in housing welfare provision amidst intensifying housing affordability crisis and ageing society? The data are drawn from in-depth interviews and large-scale survey data from parents and adult children in Hong Kong. It argues that 'active' family housing help becomes increasingly critical in shaping emerging adults' housing trajectory in Hong Kong. This turn of active family help, whether financial and non-financial, emerges in a context of housing welfare residualization, expanded social mobility of the baby-boomer generation, changing family structure, and decoupling of employment and housing market. However, intergenerational flow of housing resources is hardly automatic or frictionless but depends on individual family culture and dynamics.

Rod Hick, Marco Pomati & Mark Stephens
Housing affordability and poverty in Europe

There is growing concern about the affordability of housing in many European nations, as reflected, for example, in a recent OECD report (2021) which claimed that affordability has deteriorated during the last decade. This paper will present findings from an ESRC-funded study examining the association between housing and poverty in a comparative European context. Drawing on data from the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions survey for the period 2007 to 2018 for the 27 EU Member States + the UK, we explore variations in both objective measures of housing affordability – that is, ratio and residual income measures – as well as a subjective measure capturing the burden of housing costs. We show that aggregate-level affordability has not deteriorated in this period across a series of main measures, but that this aggregate-level trend obscures growing inequalities in affordability between groups – most notably, between owners and renters. We explore the extent to which these trends in housing affordability are being driven by housing costs, incomes, compositional effects, or some balance of the three, and whether this varies across countries. We develop a series of regression-based models to explore variations in housing affordability both within and between countries and conclude by reflecting on what trends in, and determinants of, housing affordability mean – in particular, for people living in poverty.

Session 20: Migration

Meeting ID: 967 5532 7185

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96755327185?pwd=ZUtja0NieUJuQTdOSTBFZS90a0RIQT09>

Rm: WYL107

Gizem Arat & Narine Nora Kerelian

"Born in Hong Kong or not?" Exploring educators' views on preferred acculturation strategies of ethnic minorities in Hong Kong

Existing literature in West about the preferred acculturation strategies of local individuals are well articulated. In contrast, very little is known about those in non-Western settings, such as East Asia. To fill this research gap, we utilized a small-scale qualitative study to explore educators' preferred acculturation strategies of ethnic minorities using Berry's Acculturation Theory on acculturation strategies (assimilation, marginalization, separation, integration) in Hong Kong. By this way, we aim to ground further research and policy implications to articulate social inclusion of ethnic minorities in Hong Kong. There were 20 interviews with ethnically diverse educators serving ethnic minority youth in Hong Kong using a vignette methodology using examples on specific ethnic minority groups (e.g., Pakistani ethnic minority youth, Filipina foreign domestic workers) to identify the participants' preferred acculturation strategies of ethnic minorities. The inclusion criteria formed of eligible participants: a) either Chinese (local Hong Kong Chinese and co-ethnic Mainland) or non-Chinese backgrounds; b) Hong Kong residence or eligible for Hong Kong residency; c) aged 18-60 years; d) either born in Hong Kong, Mainland China, or overseas; e) competent in Cantonese, Mandarin

or English, f) from education field (e.g., tutors, teachers) and actively working in the field regardless of their experience years, and g) has a relevant experience about teaching ethnic minorities. In this study, there were 20 Hong Kong-based educators. Based on the findings, three main themes yielded as: 1) perceptions of marginalisation and separation surrounding ethnic identity; 2) perceptions of integration surrounding ethnic identity; and 3) perceptions of assimilation surrounding ethnic identity. Study findings revealed that there is an interplay between perceived ethnic identity, previous experiences, stereotypes, and right of abode. Based on the findings of this study, we recommend research and policy implications in Hong Kong and other East Asian settings.

Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Yiwen Zhu, Chenhong Peng & Jing You

On the Formation and Nature of Internal Migration Policies: Patterns and Determinants of the Chinese Household Registration Reform in 2014

The nationwide reform in 2014 on the Chinese household registration (Hukou) system, which has long divided citizens' rights and perpetuated social inequality, aimed to end the distinction between agricultural and non-agricultural households and to convert rural-to-urban migrant workers to urban citizens. This study investigates the patterns of the city-level internal migration policies in response to this reform and the economic, political, and sociocultural determinants that drive local policy approaches. First, we collected and systematically coded policy documents from 231 cities. Results from cluster analyses show that the majority of cities (63%) adopted less lenient selection policies while offering integrative social welfare policies. This suggests that, under the Chinese decentralized policymaking system, most localities conform to the national guideline. Also, as a result of the reform, rights to internal migration remain to be selectively granted in China, yet rights to welfare in China become more equal than the past. Second, we exploited rich multidisciplinary data sources (e.g., the official migrant survey including 128,000 to 198,795 migrants every year, the nightlight data from satellite, the sociocultural environment data by machine learning of mass media, and the hand-collected local politicians' bibliographies in all cities) and examined the multifaceted determinants of Hukou reform. Results from multinomial regression analyses show that higher economic growth is related to more lenient selection policies, whereas local politicians' motivations and characteristics (e.g., tenure concerns, education, work experiences, and hometown favoritism) and sociocultural environments faced by migrants (e.g., pre-existing labor disputes) account for both selection and integration policies. This study highlights that migration policies are formed jointly by economic and local political forces. Even though policymakers are not liable to responding to public sentiments, sociocultural contexts still shape their policy decisions.

Zihong DENG, Jianli Xing, Ilan Katz & Bingqin Li

A systematic review of children's agency within families in the context of migration

Background and Purpose: A growing body of literature has examined children's agency in the context of migration. The children have reported different understandings of agency and different actions to exercise agency. Household has an important influence on children, and migration may lead to changing power dynamics within the household. This systematic review is proposed to compare and summarize children's understanding and exercising of agency within families in the context of migration. **Methods:** This systematic review follows the guidelines of Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) and the guidelines of Enhancing Transparency in Reporting the Synthesis of Qualitative Research Statement (ENTREQ). Literature searches were undertaken in ten datasets. English-written and full-text studies published in academic journals in or after 2010 were included. **Results:** Children can exercise their agency in navigating and negotiating their roles and resources within their families in the context of migration. Children have different levels of agency in the migration decision-making process, ranging from limited agency to high levels of agency. In different types of migration, children's agency is exercised in different aspects after migration, and examples include children negotiating intergenerational relations after family reunification, left-behind children's information disclosure and secretive behaviour, migrant children's

media and language brokering, and so on. Different measurements and expressions can show children's agency. Various factors play a role in children's agency, and migration can influence children's agency either in a positive or negative way and may make children's normative issues more complicated. Conclusions and Implications: Children's agency is based on the specific context and should be described contextually.

Session 21: Gender Inequality & Work-Family Reconciliation

Meeting ID: 977 5618 9264

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97756189264?pwd=dU0vYk9PZnNieEZXWmxrbXlqZUFOQT09>

Rm: WYL109

Ruby C M Chau & Sam W K Yu

Economic Defamilisation and Women's Financial Independency: a comparative study of government strategies for supporting the adult-worker model in fourteen European countries

Although very few can avoid the impacts of the COVID pandemic, people who are already socially disadvantaged because of their social and economic positions are disproportionately affected. Welfare systems in the coming years not only have a crucial role in tackling existing social inequalities but also the widening gaps caused by the pandemic. The heavy reliance on women for family care has deprived many of them of the opportunity to attain financial independency through paid work and; contributed to their lower social and economic status in many societies. This paper focuses on two strategies (the 'condition building' and 'rewarding/penalising') that governments can use to support the adult worker model which emphasises all men and women should engage in formal employment and; discusses how their implementation can affect women's opportunities to seek financial independency from the family. The empirical significance of these two strategies is explored through the examination of comparative data concerning early childhood education and care policies (ECEC) and reforms on pension age in fourteen European countries. The findings show that promoting the adult worker model does not necessarily benefit all women. While the fourteen countries provide ECEC to varying extents, the increase in pension age in most countries shows that governments adopt a 'rewarding/penalizing' strategy by allocating major welfare based on people's participation in the paid labour market. These pension reforms may generate a negative impact on women's chance of attaining financial independency, especially in their later lives. This paper suggests an alternative concept 'economic defamilisation' which stresses women's economic freedom to guide future policy development. By doing so, women will be in a better position to decide whether to continue as the main family carer and rely on their families' provision or to seek financial independency through state support and/or taking up paid work.

Lucy P. Jordan, Zhou Xiaochen, Chen Yu-Chih & Xu Duoduo

The influence of earlier adulthood transitions to employment outcomes of women in later life

Hong Kong is facing structural changes in the population composition prompting concerns about how to best engage non-working citizens, including women, in the labour force. There is current lack of understanding about the longer-term consequence of earlier adulthood transitions regarding family and career for later life employment outcomes, especially in the Hong Kong context. This study uses longitudinal data from four waves of the Panel Study of Social Dynamics in Hong Kong (HKPSSD) and proceeds in two stages. First we establish the key determinants of the gender wage gap using the full sample (n=2,739) highlighting the importance of marital status and children. In the second stage we restrict the sample to women aged 50-59 (n=950) to investigate how patterns in the timing of earlier adulthood transitions (age at first marriage/birth of youngest child) are related to later life employment outcomes (labour force participation and earnings). We conduct sequence analysis to determine the individual life course trajectories from 18 years old for the sample followed by cluster analysis to derive a family life course typology. We identify four different profiles capturing the trajectories: 1) married with child(ren) (n=625); 2) never married but with

child(ren) (n=83); 3) never married with no child (n=130); 4) married with no child (n=112). Regression analyses highlight the significant association between these trajectories and labour force participation (Multinomial) and earnings (OLS) in later life, controlling for other relevant covariates. The study offers insight into the how early family life course events are associated with women's later life employment outcomes. Women face trade-offs regarding family formation and social reproduction on the one hand, and later employment and economic security on the other. Policy makers should address the structural barriers which women face to successfully combining employment and social reproduction, and consider the interrelated nature of labour market and family policy.

Sunwoo Ryu & Kun Lee

Female labour market participation at a crossroads: what explains the different M-curve changes in South Korea and Japan?

South Korea and Japan have been known as archetypal examples of the familialist male-breadwinner-female-caregiver regime. Due to the severe childcare burden held by women, both countries have also been characterised by the persistence of the so-called M-shaped curve of women's economic participation, in which women start to exit the labour market at the age of marriage and childbirth and re-enter in their 40s and 50s. Whilst the M-shaped curve of Korean women's labour market participation persists, Japan's once-sharp M-shaped curve has softened during the last two decades. What explains the difference between the M-curve changes of the two countries? In order to answer this overarching question, our research employs a 'causes-of-effects' approach, in which we combine diverse qualitative explanations with supporting quantitative data. Firstly, our research begins by comparing the development of childcare policy and labour market institutions in both countries, which shape reconciliation between women's right to care and right to work. We then turn our attention to comparatively explicate the two countries' demographic trends and structure, as they also influence the supply of and demand for labour. Finally, our research delves into the changes in gender norms and attitudes towards work and care. By integrating these institutional, demographic-economic and sociological explanations, our research delivers a comprehensive analysis on the growing divergence between the two countries' female labour market participation patterns, something that cannot be fully explained through a single perspective.

Session 22: Pensions & Old age

Meeting ID: 913 5635 6357

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91356356357?pwd=UmRMZUIzd3cxWkYjZVZExYQT09>

Rm: WYL111

Jiaxin LIU

Crowding out or crowding in? The interaction between public pensions and private transfers in China

By 2020, more than 542 million older Chinese had been receiving China's newly introduced residents' pensions. As a crucial policy response to the ageing population crisis, China's expansion of public pension coverage received surprisingly little attention to its impact on intergenerational support, given the hot debate around the potential "crowding-out effect" on private transfers. Based on findings from Heckman two-step regression analyses of China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (2011-2015), this study examines the interplay between public pensions and family support where older people are not only seen as recipients but also as providers of intergenerational transfers. Results showed complex co-existence of the "crowding-out" and "crowding-in" effects of public pensions. The long-established employees' pension scheme was found to have decreased the likelihood of older people receiving child-to-parent upward transfers yet led to a higher incidence of parent-to-child downward transfers. On the other hand, the access to the new pensions, rather than substituting family support to older people, has in effect stimulated it by "crowding in" both incidence and amount of child-to-parent financial transfers (although the latter was only

found among rural recipients). By bridging public pensions and private support, this study contributes to the understanding of the dynamic relationships not only between the working-age and older generations but also between the state and family concerning their roles in welfare provision in China. Setting in the context of a middle-income country with entrenched cultural influences of Confucianism, this study also adds to the less-discussed “crowding-out/in” debate in developing countries and emerging economies (as suggested by Cox and Jimenez 1992; Cox, Hansen and Jimenez 2004).

Edward Palmer, Xinmei Wang & Peng Zhan

How the Parameters Underlying China’s Present Public Pension System Are Creating a High Gini Coefficient among China’s Present Retirees

China’s relative scale of expenditures of public pension benefits, measured by the share of total benefit’s expenditures over GDP divided by old age dependency ratio, has increased fast since 2000 and become significantly higher than most major developed countries, such as the US, Japan, Germany, Sweden, et al. While, on the one hand the level of the Gini coefficient of market income of China falls within the range of those of other major economies, the inequality of the distribution of public pension incomes of China is much higher than in, for example, Japan and Sweden. As a result, the Gini coefficient of public pension income of the elderly is even much higher than that of the total income of the elderly. In other words, the present construction of public pensions is what is driving the high degree of inequality of pension income. This paper investigates how pension policy can be redirected in the future so as to create greater income equality in old age, while maintaining the criterion of financial balance and sustainability of the public pension commitment. This study approaches China’s sustainability issue from a different perspective: the distribution of public pension income and the factors governing the distribution. The study is based on data from the CHIPs database that we employ, together with data from the firstly publicly opened the balance sheet of public pensions in 2019 and combined with macro data are used to explore the distribution of public pension income and the factors governing the distribution. The factors that are of particular importance are the long-lasting urban-biased policies (Yang, 1999) and unusual model and parameter settings. The background is that in 1997 China introduced a new pension model for enterprise employees and October 2014 for public sector employees. Consequently, the majority of the urban pensioners have received benefits based on the “old” system which promised too high replacement rates, for example, it is more than 80% for public sector retirees. This paper establishes that the historical underpinnings of the present system – parameter settings for the overall system that have reigned since 1997 – have hindered migrant workers from switching from the social pensions to earnings-related pensions. The paper establishes that this is due to: too high contribution rates, too high a contribution ceiling and floor, too high contribution based on the biased formal sector official economy average wage, huge and growing subsidies from general revenue for earning-related pensions, migrant’s triple (or double) burden costs and disincentives to participate the earning-related pensions. The paper also establishes that an additional four factors are: too early mandatory retirement age for urban women in earning-related pensions, the lack of the income tax policy on pension benefits, the 15 years of minimum contribution policy in earning related pensions, and too low benefit level of social pensions. The latter two factors have also been discouraging migrants switching from social pensions to earning-related pensions despite the hard efforts having been paid by governments. Our analysis concludes that viewed in an international perspective the relative percentage of total expenditures on public pensions has already reached the top. In other words, the one key pressure on the financial sustainability on China’s public pensions has come from the skewed distribution of public pension. This in turn reflects the design on the models and parameters. We show that switching the existing amount of government subsidies from earnings-related pensions to social pensions will ensure that the benefit level of redistributive social pensions achieves the relative level of the international minimum living standard. The diagnosis embodied in the first conclusion leads to a second conclusion. This is that in the context of the future the social pension should be adopted together with the introduction of a universal individual earnings-related non-financial defined contribution (NDC) pension scheme, itself topped by a universal financial (FDC) defined contribution scheme, which in the long run assures that the returns on the growth of capital income is

distributed fairly throughout the deciles of the overall population. In this way, China's internal "migrant workers" would be integrated into the future development of China's earnings-related pensions.

Edward Palmer, Peng Zhan, Xinmei Wang & Guangzhou Wang

Creating an Intergenerationally Fair and Financially Sustainable Universal Pension System for China

This paper examines the role that a universal NDC pension scheme could play in a multi-pillar universal pension system in China, with a minimum general tax-revenue pension guarantee benefit at its foundation. The goal is to create a universal, affordable and financially sustainable pension system that delivers intergenerationally fair pension outcomes for all Chinese workers over all coming decades. In this framework, because the guarantee and the NDC old-age pension scheme will be the same for all, complete labor market mobility is accommodated, i.e., a contribution of an amount of Chinese Yuan Renminbi to the NDC scheme gives the same future pension rights regardless of the nature of the work and the region in which it was performed. At the same time, it will be possible to build an additional pillar on top of this universal architecture consisting of supplementary financial FDC schemes. Income data used is from the Chinese Household Income Project (CHIP) – a survey-based database that is statistically representative of the country – performed at regular intervals during 1988 - 2018. This provides a point of departure for assumptions about the workforce participation and earnings. Beginning with the picture provided by the CHIP database, the population is assumed to move forward to 2070 in accordance with UN/Chinese population projections. Assuming China follows the development path of present high-income countries, labor-force formality, i.e., contribution density, will increase with time, and regional and urban-rural differences will decrease. Different distributions of earnings will be availed for the purpose of determining the scale and distribution of the guarantee. The question examined is: How will the combination of universal NDC with a (Swedish/Chilean-style) guarantee, perform in terms of generating *intergenerational fairness* in the sharing the economic consequences of the Chinese *population decline from 1.4 billion to 1 billion people* within the coming half century?

3.35-4.50pm: Parallel stream sessions (6)

Session 23: Health & Human Well-being

Meeting ID: 915 9126 5717

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91591265717?pwd=cVMxbHA0N2NxFBCbXk5enFVYW5UT09>

Rm: WYL103

Wanyue CHEN & Lucy P. JORDAN

Choice of health care providers among migrants and local residents in China: the role of medical insurance participation

In 2010, there were more than 260 million migrants in China. The floating, or migrant population (流动人口), has restricted access to healthcare due to the structural constraints of the Hukou system. Only residents with local hukou registration are eligible for the resident medical insurance program, and utilization of medical insurance managed by hometown administration in migration destination is restrictive. To our knowledge, no study has yet evaluated the varied effect of medical insurance on the choice of healthcare within the general population including migrants and residents. This study seeks to examine this gap. The key research questions are: (1) how does choice of healthcare vary by migration status? (2) what are the relationships between medical insurance participation and migration status on the one hand and choice of healthcare on the other? This study uses data from one wave of the nationally representative China Family Panel Studies (2014, n=29,624). Preliminary findings from multinomial regression models suggest that migrants were less likely to utilize community-level care than non-migrants. Holding new rural cooperative

medical schemes (NRCMS) increased non-migrants' probability of using community healthcare centre or township hospitals by 3.0% ($p=.005$) and community healthcare post or village clinic by 6.0% ($p<.001$). In contrast NRCMS did not increase the probability of using these facilities for migrants. Large hospitals with good reputations appear more attractive to migrants. Migrants may experience greater insecurity and mistrust towards local healthcare systems compared to local residents. This could have implications for healthcare financing as well as health outcomes: large hospitals tend to cost more and patients may delay seeking care for more minor and preventative health concerns. Health policies can play an important role in navigating migrants into the local healthcare systems.

Jung Youn Park, Yun Hwa Kim, Ji Eun Park, Hui Yeon Kim & Eun Jin Lee

Factors Affecting Self-management of Health for the Socially Vulnerable to the Mitigation of Health Inequality

The concept of health inequality, which emerged through the rapid growth of capitalism due to industrialization, has served as an opportunity to develop and implement various healthcare policies to address or mitigate the relationship between health and socioeconomic inequality since the 1980s. Despite the efforts of the healthcare community, however, the health inequality is still ongoing due to the income disparity. The purpose of this study is to assume that the causes of the health inequality experienced by the socially vulnerable, among different income-level groups, are in the paradigm of healthcare policies that emphasize individual responsibility for health care, namely self-management of health. For this purpose, the study used the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2018 Community Health Survey Data ($n=188,021$) to examine the association between income levels and main health life indicators among variables corresponding to self-management of health for individuals. The analysis was performed Chi-square test and ANOVA. The authors found that income levels and individuals' self-management of health were statistically significant to each other. In particular, income groups belonging to the socially vulnerable were found to be more relevant in items such as non-smoking attempts ($p = 0.47$), food nutrition labelling considerations ($p = .000$), efforts to control weight ($p = .000$), walking practices ($p = .000$), breakfast ($p = .000$), influenza vaccination ($p = .000$), and unmet health care needs ($p = .000$) compared to the higher income groups.

Hamzah Nor Bin Aedy Rahman

Unpacking the Complexities of Child Well-being in Southeast Asia: Insights for Social Policy

Despite the theoretical and conceptual debates on measuring child wellbeing, research on this important subject is skewed towards the developed countries. For instance, comparative research analysis on child wellbeing in Southeast Asia remains uncharted and non-existent in the research literature. As is ignored by several scholars, understanding the dynamics of child health and wellbeing is crucial to provision of better social facilities and basic needs to children for effective transition from childhood to adulthood. Deeply concerned about the conditions of children living in the global South and their wellbeing, this paper utilised 2018 data from the World Health Organization, World Bank and International Labour Organization to compute child well-being index (CWI) for each of the eleven Southeast Asian countries for comparative social policy analysis. The data found on four variables (health, education, household, and protection), of which 14 indicators were used. We theorised well-being of children in Southeast Asia from the results of the study through multidimensional poverty and social welfare perspectives. Using the standardized z-scores, the standard deviations and the mean of the data for the computation of the child wellbeing, the analysis showed that Singapore had the highest CWI (1.71) followed by Viet Nam (1.05) and Malaysia (1.02) respectively. Myanmar had the lowest CWI (-1.79). Similarly, countries like Timor-Leste (-1.53) and Lao PDR (-1.32) had lower CWIs. To know the conditions of children in Southeast Asia considering the GDP per capita (2018 US\$) of each country, we determined the relationship between CWIs and GDP per capita. There was a (positive) relationship between CWI and GDP per capita of the Southeast Asian countries. Surprisingly, Myanmar and Timor-Leste which were ranked the bottom two in the overall CWI achieved nearly equal GDP per capita in 2018 as compared to Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Lao PDR that performed better in the child well-being index. Given how most countries in this region have lower CWI, we call for generous welfare programs to support low-income families and intensified effort for provision of quality education, healthcare and

basic facilities in order to enhance the well-being of children. The results of the study also provide relevant information to assist policymakers and key stakeholders in these countries to reconsider their social welfare programs and basic social services that seek to provide quality of life to children.

Session 24: Basic Income

Meeting ID: 967 5532 7185

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/96755327185?pwd=ZUtja0NieUJuQTdOSTBFZS90a0RIQT09>

Rm: WYL107

Çağaçan Değer

Unrequited Transfers and Labor Market Outcomes: Implications for a Universal Basic Income in Turkey

As COVID-19 spread, restrictions on human movement was adopted as a response. One aspect of these restrictions was the closure of workplaces that center around socialization, such as pubs, restaurants, movie theaters. Travel has been restricted. These led to income losses and highlighted the importance of integrating unconditional income transfer mechanisms into social security systems. UBI (Universal Basic Income), frequently defined as an unconditional and universal monetary transfer, has become the center of attention and there are plans in many countries to experiment with the system. From an economics point of view, there are two main concerns. Firstly, what are the fiscal implications? How much will the program cost? How will it be financed? Secondly, what are the potential impacts on labor market participation? Given unrequited transfers, will people tend to consume more leisure and drop out of the labor force? Will there be an increased tendency for informalisation in the labor market? This paper empirically investigates the second question for the Turkish case. The aim is to analyze the impact of unrequited transfers on labor market outcomes of individuals in Turkey, where possible outcomes range from completely leaving the market to shifting to informalisation and extend to formal participation. The data used for the study is the Household Budget Survey Micro Data Set available from the Turkish Statistical Institute. The data covers tens of thousands of individuals with detailed information on multiple income sources and labor market positions. The dependent variable, labor market outcome, is a discrete one with multiple outcomes. Due to the nature of the dependent variable, an unordered probit estimation is deemed the appropriate econometrics approach. The analysis is expected to i) provide insight for a UBI scheme in a developing economy such as Turkey with relatively high informality in the labor market, and, ii) lay the groundwork for a further analysis on the fiscal aspect of UBI in Turkey.

Jong-sung You

Universal Basic Income and Universal Income Insurance: A New Proposal for Two-Tiered Income Security for All, with Application to Korea

The traditional social insurance model for income security is becoming increasingly outdated with deindustrialization and the advent of the fourth industrial revolution. Social insurances that are based on employees' and employers' contributions worked well during the heyday of industrial capitalism, with near-full employment of male breadwinners. Deindustrialization process, coupled with globalization and increasing participation of women in labor force, has produced labor market dualism, increasing the size of precarious workers that are outside of standard employment relationship. Furthermore, dualism in labor markets has been accompanied by dualism in social protection. In many countries, there is a growing divide between the regular workforce that are protected by social insurance and the precarious workers, or the precariat, that are covered by meager social assistance programs or entirely excluded from any social protection. There are contending policy proposals to solve this problem of double dualism in both labor markets and social protection in South Korea. Some argue for the introduction of universal basic income, while others propose the expansion of existing social security programs. This paper proposes a third way, or a combination of universal basic income(UBI) and universal income insurance(UII). Ultimately, a UBI could

replace existing social assistance programs and a UII could replace existing social insurance programs for income security. UBI will be financed by general tax revenue, while UII will be financed by a flat-rate tax from any earned income of individuals and profits of corporations. UBI will provide some amount of monthly income to every resident of the country, with the only condition of paying taxes to prevent free-riding. UII will provide benefits to those who have lost earnings to a considerable degree for whatever reasons, including sickness, disability, and retirement, and the amount of benefits will be proportional to their previous contributions, removing the room for moral hazard.

Diego d'Andria

Child Support Benefits Revisited: A Study of German Reform Proposals

Recent political proposals across several European countries and the U.S. ask for a reform of welfare programs targeted at children from poorer households. Proponents often argue that the existing policies are both insufficient and overly complicated, which together would lead to persistent disadvantage and high non-take-up rates. We study some prominent recent reform proposals for the German welfare system aimed at supporting children. All reform proposals include an unconditional benefit for children as well as a benefit conditional on household income, in order to cover the minimum income of a child. Our analysis is based on the microsimulation model of the Institute for Employment Research (IAB-MSM). Our model is calibrated for 2021 using rich survey data and has been extensively validated over time. It models households and persons individually providing a detailed representation of various items that are relevant for the application of means-testing and the computation of social benefits and taxes, namely different sources of labour income, costs incurred for housing and heating, civil and demographic characteristics, region of residence. We also estimate labour supply changes in response to policy reform based on an econometric discrete choice labour supply model. We are thus able to simulate not only the direct (mechanical) effects of a reform, but also the many interactions with other existing social benefits that are not directly targeted at children, and also the second-round effects on households' net position due to behavioural responses from labour supply. Furthermore, the labour supply model of IAB-MSM also considers the benefit take-up decision, which allows us to take into account take-up costs of welfare programs and to differentiate between conditional and unconditional programs in terms of take-up costs. Our results shed light on the different impacts of the reform proposals. We examine fiscal effects, effects on the distributional outcomes as the child poverty rate and on labour supply. In particular, we analyse the trade-off between labour supply effects at the extensive and intensive margins of different subgroups and the role of take-up costs. We discuss our findings related to basic features of a basic income and hint at possible generalisations of our results to other countries.

Session 25: Welfare States & Welfare Regimes

Meeting ID: 977 5618 9264

Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/97756189264?pwd=dU0vYk9PZnNieEZlqZUFOQT09>

Rm: WYL109

Tauchid Komara Yuda

Revisiting Welfare Regimes in East Asia: Qualitative Evidence from Indonesia

Confronted with the financial crisis of 1998, Indonesia noted together with other East Asian countries struggled to reform their economic performance through liberalization (London, 2018). In this effort, Indonesia belongs to one of the Asian countries, especially in the Southern part region of Asia that have succeeded in reversing their economic conditions and now are transforming into the world's 10th largest economy in terms of purchasing power parity (World Bank, 2020). Increased purchasing power parity indicates the promising growth of the middle-class population in this country (World Bank, 2020). Alongside the fascinating economic progress, there has been also undergoing major social policy reforms, especially for National Health Insurance (*Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional-JKN*). It represents the largest single-payer

health system in the world and becomes the main social policy in Indonesia (Fossati, 2016). The reform was carried out by encouraging "growing reliance on [household] expenditure, in the form of out-of-pocket payments and health insurance contributions" (He, 2018: p. 751). For this reason, consolidating citizen support, especially for those who belong to the middle-class population for JKN has become increasingly important for long-term sustainability of the program. Given that background, the research on welfare attitude is essential and relevant to capture the redistributive function of the existing Indonesian health insurance system (Dorlach, 2020). With a view to exploring individual experiences in negotiating solutions for health security, the qualitative explorative analysis resorts to personal views on the importance of family in social risk management, who should be responsible for health care, and the political legitimacy of the welfare state approach to health care. Drawing insight from 75-online interview over 2020 - 2021, it is found that most interviewees are inclined to continue to function in their family (e.g., unpaid care activities) and extract social protection from informal networks. At the same time, support and social practice for the welfare state remain impressive. It was evident from many cases where individuals remained committed to contributing to JKN despite the fact that they already have private health insurance. Such following attitude arises as a form of expression of national solidarity—an improbable phenomenon in typical informal-security regimes.

Alexandre Berthe & Pascale Turquet

Varieties of Social and Environmental Protections in Southeast Asia

Social protection in the global South has been the subject of growing interest for several years and has produced a multitude of sometimes rival typologies (Powell, Yörük & Bargu, 2019). Whichever analysis grid is chosen, it now seems necessary to introduce the environmental variable, given the importance of this issue in territories that could be strongly affected by climate change and that are already experiencing a great deal of high intensity local pollution. Faced with this, we need to understand how social and environmental protection systems can be combined and to what extent taking environmental protection into account may or may not represent an asset in terms of social development in South-East Asia. Our communication will be based on ongoing research on five countries in the Mekong Basin: Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand. This work aims to identify mechanisms that can combine social and environmental protection in the region. It is based on a systematic review of the scientific and institutional literature on the links between social protection and environmental issues in these countries: policies and current experiments, but also an inventory of academic thinking in this field. Our analysis grid is based on an approach combining "instruments" and "actors". The aim is to better define both: the type of tools implemented: compensation, co-benefits, etc. (see Gough, 2013); the role of the actors involved in the countries under consideration (the states, but also international organisations, multinationals, etc.) in order to consider the complexity of interactions between "*national, extra-national and transnational drivers of welfare formation and development*" (Mok, Kühner & Yeates, 2017, p.845). This approach makes it possible to go beyond the simple observation of transmission channels to understand whether there may be a systemic dimension in the relations between social and environment. It questions the existence of a diversity of possible responses, and therefore of an associated variety of capitalisms.

Session 26: Pensions & Old age

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Link: <https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/91356356357?pwd=UmRMZUldZ3cxcWkyeDMyYjZVZExYQT09>

Rm: WYL111

Young-hwan Byun

Universalism in Context: Pension Reforms and Old-age Poverty in Korea

Since the 1990s, both progressive and conservative governments in Korea have actively expanded social policy programs in terms of program type, expenditure size and the coverage of benefit recipients. However, such expansions have not reduced income inequality. This paper focuses on the 2014 pension reform, which aimed to reduce old-age poverty with tax-funded universal pension benefits, called Basic Pension. The reform established a universal layering of new benefits on a pre-existing highly stratified pension system. Despite a substantial spending for the new program (comparable to the amount of total public health expenditure), old-age poverty rates remain intact. Using the Korea Household Income and Expenditure Survey data, this study runs a micro-level policy simulation with alternative pension designs. The result shows that had the Basic Pension program adopted pro-poor targeting principle, it could have reduced the old-age poverty rate five times more effectively with a comparable budget. This finding affirms the importance of distributional principle for an effective social policy independent of the expenditure size. It also adds a contextualized evidence to recent research on the welfare states that underscores the importance of targeted programs in poverty reduction.

Chenhong PENG, Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Yiwen Zhu & Yue Zeng

The Effects of an Old-age Allowance Programme on Intergenerational Interactions in Taiwan

This study examines the effects of an old-age allowance programme in Taiwan, the Senior Citizens Welfare Living Allowance (SCWLA), on intergenerational financial transfers, living arrangements and contact, as well as the heterogeneity of its effects by adult children's five types of motives for giving: altruism, exchange, reciprocity, affection, and sense of responsibility. Using 2002, 2004, 2005 and 2006 data from the Panel Study of Family Dynamics, we employed a difference-in-difference individual fixed effect model to compare the outcomes across the treatment (aged 65 and older) and comparison groups (aged 55 to 64) before and after the introduction of SCWLA. Our results indicate that SCWLA crowds in intergenerational contact but does not significantly change financial transfer and co-residence patterns. The increase in intergenerational contact is primarily driven by adult children who did not donate money in the past year (lower levels of altruism), whose parents were less capable of financial help (lower motives to exchange for financial help), whose parents invested less on their earlier education (lower motives to reciprocate), and who reported lower scores in Filial Piety Scale (lower sense of responsibility). This suggests that old-age allowances may reduce financial entanglement between adult children and older parents and change the social norm by raising "low motivators" awareness, respect and concern for elderly. Providing public transfer to the elderly should not be hampered by the fear of distorting family support functions.

Chung-Yang Yeh

The Politics of the 2018 Pension Reform in Taiwan: Class, Generation, or Party?

Pension retrenchment is usually unpopular and politically risky, and therefore, pension reforms are difficult due to the elderly group would often against pension retrenchment. Arguably, generational politics is often embedded onto pension reform. Recently, the 2018 pension reform in Taiwan successfully cut pension benefits of civil servants, public teachers, and military servicemen. Is it a generational politics? In this paper, we will argue the 2018 pension reform should be regarded as a result of ethnic mobilisation, rather class and generational politics which are often the focus of the story of pension reforms in advanced welfare states.

This study will analyse the data of the 2016 General Social Survey of Taiwan to demonstrate how ethnic politics was mobilised to support the 2018 pension reform.

Zhen Tian & Suping Lou

Changing Roles in Long-term Care Service for Elderly Population in Urban China — A Case Study of Welfare Mix in Qingdao

The care of the fragile elderly has increasingly become a social problem that needs collective intervention under rapid ageing. The long-term care insurance system, as one of the most typical institutional arrangements internationally, has been piloted in China since 2016. Qingdao is the first city in China to explore and implement social long-term care insurance targeted for elder people and summarized as a unique welfare model by the Chinese central government and academia. The introduction of the long-term care insurance system has changed the non-institutionalized picture of traditional elderly care services to a certain extent, and reshaped the relationship between the government, the market, and the family in the elderly care services. This study analyses the welfare mixed model development in Qingdao city through conceptual dimensions developed from welfare mix model and social welfare analysis framework, including service coverage, service content, service provision, service financing, and service regulation combining under a perspective of vertical historicism. This study uses qualitative research methods including administrative text and literature analysis and conducts interviews with local political elites as well as stakeholders to explain the characteristics and influencing factors of Qingdao welfare model. The research result shows that in the case of Qingdao city, there is a transition from a state-led welfare model to a multi-participation model.

About Lingnan University

Lingnan University is the only liberal arts university in Hong Kong and has the longest established tradition among the local Hong Kong institutions of higher education. Its history can be dated back to 1888. In 2015, Lingnan University was named as one of the “Top 10 Liberal Arts College in Asia” by Forbes. Lingnan University students can participate in international internship programmes and about 80% of them spend a term studying abroad or participate in short-term summer programmes. Lingnan University upholds its motto “Education for Service” by providing students with Service-Learning and community service opportunities for engaging with society and helping those in need.



Lingnan University offers undergraduate, taught postgraduate and research postgraduate programmes in the areas of Arts, Business and Social Sciences. It has successfully launched several new Masters programmes, including the MSocSc Comparative Social Policy (International), and is home to the Institute of Policy Studies, the Centre for Social Policy and Social Change (CSPSC), the Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies (APIAS) underlining its strong track record in these research areas.



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General Information

Conference venue

Given the ongoing travel restrictions due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, we accept that most delegates from outside of HK will join the conference remotely. For those delegates who are keen to join the conference *in person*, the opening ceremony and all plenaries are scheduled to take place in the **B. Y. Lam Building, LBYG02, 8 Castle Peak Rd - Lingnan, Tuen Mun, Hong Kong**.

All panel sessions are scheduled to take place on the first floor of the **Dorothy Y.L. Wong Building, WYL**. Please look out for signposts and ask our student helpers for directions. The walk from the B. Y. Lam Building to the Dorothy Y.L. Wong Building take no longer than 5 minutes.

For more information about the conference venue you may also consult the Lingnan University website or Google Maps.

Conference dinners and refreshments

The conference dinners will be provided in the **Lingnan House Restaurant** situated in the Lau Lee Yuen Haan Amenities Building on the Lingnan University campus. Signposts will be available and student helpers will be at hand to point delegates in the right direction. Please note that no dinner will be provided on the final day of the conference (4 July). Refreshments will be provided in the **Dorothy Y.L. Wong Building, WYL** during all tea breaks.

How to find us

To get to the conference venue, you can drive, take a taxi, or use other public transportation:

If you come by **bus**, you could take the bus routes 53, 67M, 67X, 261, 960 (via Tuen Mun Town Centre and minibus 46), K51 and K58.

or,

If you come by **West Rail**, please get off at Siu Hong Station. You can then take the bus K51 (to Fu Tai); or if you choose to walk, take Exit F, and you will arrive the campus in about 10 minutes.

or,

If you come by **car**, please contact the conference organisers to arrange for a parking permit.

Please also refer to the following websites for more details:

- Kowloon Motor Bus (<http://www.kmb.hk/en/services/search.html>)
- MTR (http://www.mtr.com.hk/eng/getting_around/lt_bus_index.html)

Campus Map

校園地圖

Campus Map

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>① 陳德泰大會堂</p> <p>② 黃氏行政大樓</p> | <p>Chan Tak Tai Auditorium</p> <p>Wong Administration Building</p> | <p>AD</p> |
| <p>③ 李達強教學大樓</p> <p>④ 鄭森浩圖書館</p> | <p>Patrick Lee Wan Keung Academic Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fong Sun Wood Library <p>Indoor Sports Complex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tin Ka Ping Swimming Pool <p>Ho Sin Hang Building</p> <p>Leung Kau Kui Building</p> <p>B. Y. Lam Building</p> | <p>MB</p> <p>HSH</p> <p>LKK</p> <p>LBY</p> |
| <p>⑤ 綜合運動大樓</p> <p>⑥ 田家炳游泳池</p> <p>⑦ 何善衡樓</p> <p>⑧ 梁鈺培樓</p> <p>⑨ 林炳炎樓</p> <p>⑩ 黃玉蘭樓</p> <p>⑪ 劉仲謙樓</p> <p>⑫ 劉李婉嫻康樂樓</p> | <p>Dorothy Y. L. Wong Building</p> <p>Lau Chung Him Building</p> <p>Lau Lee Yuen Haan Amenities Building</p> <p>Simon and Eleanor Kwok Building</p> <p>Pan Sutong Sports Ground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wofuo Joseph Lee Student Activities Centre <p>President's Lodge</p> <p>Visitors' Quarters</p> | <p>WYL</p> <p>LCH</p> <p>LYH</p> <p>SEK</p> |
| <p>⑬ 潘蘇達運動場</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 和富李浩德學生活動中心 <p>⑭ 校長寓所</p> <p>⑮ 訪客宿舍</p> | | |
| <p>⑯ 郭少明仇儼樓</p> | | |
| <p>⑰ 永安廣場</p> <p>⑱ 現代花園</p> <p>⑲ 余近卿紀念園及紀念亭</p> <p>⑳ 乾新坊 (天幕)</p> <p>㉑ 地下停車場入口</p> <p>㉒ 有蓋停車場入口</p> | <p>Wing On Plaza</p> <p>Contemporary Garden</p> <p>Yu Kan Hing Memorial Garden & Pavilion</p> <p>Kin Sun Square (Skylight)</p> <p>Underground Car Park Entrance</p> <p>Covered Car Park Entrance</p> | |

Student Hostels

- | 學生宿舍 | Student Hostels |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| S1. 蒙民偉樓 | William M. W. Mong Hall |
| S2. 亞東堂樓 | The Bank of East Asia Hall |
| S3. 香港崇正總會樓 | Tsung Tsan Association Hall |
| S4. 霍英東樓 | Fok Cho Min Hall |
| S5. 忠信堂 | Chung Shun Hall |
| S6. 思賢堂 | Yee Min Hall |
| S7. 林義順樓 | Lam Woo Hall |
| S8. 賽馬會樓 | The Jockey Club Hall |
| S9. 賽馬會博雅堂 | The Jockey Club New Hall |
| S10. 黃海山樓 | Wong Ho Chuen Hall |
| S11. 黃浩川堂 | Wu Jieh Yee Hall |
| S12. 伍紹賢樓 | |



Notes

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About the Conference



The **East Asian Social Policy Research Network** (<http://welfareasia.org>) is a regional association for facilitating research exchange among social policy

analysts and providing a forum and network of communication for the development of social policy in East Asia and beyond.

The **Foundation for International Studies on Social Security** (<http://fiss-socialsecurity.org/>) is an independent, non-profit association that aims to



promote international, multidisciplinary research on social security, including its relationships with other aspects of society (such as the labour market, unemployment, poverty, income redistribution, savings, housing, the family, health and well-being).

Conference Steering Committee:

Peter Saunders, Bea Cantillon, Wim van Lancker, Julie Janssens, Shih-Jiunn Shin, Ijin Hong, Young Jun Choi, and Stefan Kühner.

Many thanks:

For the invaluable administrative support:

Chloe Pui Yee Siu, Grace Wong, Chiuyu Tsang, and Cynthia Leung

And to our student helpers:

Paul Ogowang Tulibaleka, Evelyn Aboagye Addae, Hamzah Nor Rahman, Kayson Lau, Ireen Manase Kabembo, Francis Arthur-Holmes, Patrick Chanda, Kwaku Busia, and Ng Yeuk Nam

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