

THINKING FUTURES IN ASIA

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE DGA'S YOUNG SCHOLARS' GROUP



The program includes sessions on religion, intellectualism, politics, geopolitics, activism, spatial transformations, and media, alongside vibrant discussions, networking opportunities, and the election of the next DGA Young Scholars' Group representatives. A welcome dinner, city tour, and communal lunch will also offer informal spaces for exchange and connection.



9-11, MAY 2025
SCHILLERSTRASSE 6
04109 LEIPZIG



**UNIVERSITÄT
LEIPZIG**

Friday, 09 May, 2025

Arrival & Opening

14:30–15:00 | Registration & Arrival, M 102

15:00–16:00 | Welcome & Introduction, M 102

16:00–16:15 | Coffee Break, M 104

16:15–17:45 | Parallel Panels

Panel Religion and Intellectualism (Chair: Dr. Friederike Assandri, Leipzig & Richard Ellguth, Berlin), M 102

- Tang En-De (Berlin) | Towards a Future of Human Dignity: Case Studies of Three Courtesans Who Performed as Confucian Scholar-Officials
- Rolf Scheuermann (Heidelberg) | Walking for Change: Buddhist Walking Meditation as a Form of Climate Change Protest
- Han Chen (North Carolina, Chapel Hill) | How “Cut off Sagacity, Abandon Wisdom” in Zhuangzi and Daodejing/Laozi Influenced Ji Kang’s Poem “Recomposing Tetrasyllabic Verse, Seven Poems (Hybrid)

Panel Political Strategies and Governance (Chair: Prof. Dr. Nadin Heé, Leipzig & PD Dr. Daniel Hedinger, Leipzig), M 103

- Aya Hino (Bochum) | Transgression: A theoretical reflection on the temporality of future imagery of the Japanese Empire
- Jorinde Wels (Edinburgh/Leuven) | The Imaginary Pandemic: Public Health Experts, Visionary Science, and Influenza in 1944 Japan
- Huang Pao-wen (Bochum) | Taiwan’s Tariff Reform Model (1960s–1980s) and Its Future Vision

Evening Program

18:00 – Open end | Welcome Dinner at Pho Viet, Katharinenstr. 13 (self-paid)

Saturday, 10 May, 2025

Morning Sessions

08:30–09:00 | Arrival & Coffee, M 104

09:00–10:30

Panel Spatial Transformations (Chair: Dr. Percy Arfeen-Wegner, Düsseldorf), M 102

- Kingshuk Datta (TU Vienna) | A Procedural Framework for Understanding Hindu Temple Architecture in Eastern India
- Kurniawati Setyaningrum (Cottbus-Senftenberg) | The Role of the Singapore Government in Heritage Shophouse Conservation

10:30–10:40 | Coffee Break, M 104

10:40–12:10

Panel Geopolitics (Chair: Dr. Lucas Brang, Freiburg im Breisgau), M 102

- Md Farid Hossain (Education University of Hong Kong) | China's Growing Influence in South Asia
- Munira Jahan (Education University of Hong Kong) | BRI and China's Grand Strategy in South Asia
- Salomé Rosa & Carla Melo (Lisbon) | Threat Perception and National Role Conception in Japan (Hybrid)

12:15–14:00 | Lunch Break, Moritzbastei

Afternoon Sessions

14:00–15:30 | Parallel Panels

Panel Activism (Chair: Dr. Yasmin Koppen, Leipzig), M 103

- Chun Ho (Samuel) Lee (Tübingen) | Reinterpreting the "Lying Flat" Movement in Hong Kong
- Runzhou Xu (Munich) | Religious Transformation and National Identity Construction in Taiwan

Panel Multinational Entanglements (Chair: Dr. Monika Arnoštová, Duisburg-Essen), M 102

- Chigadaev Aleksei (Leipzig) | The Digital Transformation of Shuttle Trade Between China and Its Neighbors
- Cheng Ma (FU Berlin) | Thinking Europe(s) from Asia: Decolonizing Epistemologies and Future Knowledge Production

15:30–16:00 | Coffee Break, M 104

16:00–17:00 | Election of the New DGA YSG Representatives, M 102

Evening Program

17:00 – open end | City Tour of Leipzig (Optional participation)

Sunday, 11 May, 2025

Morning Sessions

09:00–09:30 | Arrival & Coffee, M 104

09:30–11:00

**Panel Society and Media (Chair: Gwendolyn Domning, FU Berlin),
M 102**

- Youlim Kim (Bochum) | Framing Shifts in Abortion Discourse in South Korea
- Anna-Maria Rau (Bochum) | Future Conceptions and Music in Republican China
- Nora Wölfling (FU Berlin) | Imagining the Future through Nature – New Media Art in the Sinophone Region

11:00–11:10 | Coffee Break, M 104

11:10–12:30 | Final Discussion & Feedback Session, M 102

12:30 – open end | optional Lunch (self-paid) at Andria

The Young Scholars Group Representatives organise conferences and workshops, serve as contact points for members, and represent the Group on the DGA board. They are elected every two years at the Group's conference.

Current representatives:

Yasmin Koppen, Ph.D (Religious Studies: China–Vietnam)
Munkhzul Bat-Erdene, M.A. (Korean Studies, Northeast Asia)
Lars Konheiser, M.A. (Chinese Politics, Authoritarianism)
Katharina Dreßen, M.A. (Japanese Foreign Policy)
Dan Petersen, M.A. (Manuscript Cultures, Southwest China)

For any inquiries, please contact us at nwg@asienforschung.de.