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East Asian Economy and Society



Special Lecture

Economic Regionalism in East Asia

- Monday, 11 April 2011, at 4:15 pm
- Seminar room “Ostasien” (OAW)
- Language: English



Christopher M. Dent is Professor of East Asia's International Political Economy, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Leeds, UK. His research interests centre on the international political economy of East Asia and the Asia-Pacific. He has published ten books, the latest being *China and Africa Development Relations* (editor, London: Routledge, 2010), *East Asian Regionalism* (London: Routledge, 2008; awarded the 2009 Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Foundation 'Special Prize') and *China, Japan and Regional Leadership in East Asia* (editor, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2008). Christopher Dent is also author of over 70 academic articles and other papers. He has acted as a consultant advisor to the British, Australian, Chilean, German and United States Governments, as well as the Asian Development Bank and European Commission. He has been an invited speaker at conferences and other events

in Asia, Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, Middle East and Oceania. Professor Christopher Dent is also an Expert (Brains Trust) member of the Evian Group.

The significance of East Asia in the international economic system continues to grow. It is one of the world's three dominant economic regions, is home to two of the world's top three largest economies (China and Japan), and also hosts a number of dynamic 'tiger' economies (South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam). East Asia accounts for over a quarter of world production and trade, and its centres of innovation make important contributions to the development of the global economy. Yet how coherent is East Asia as an economic region? Is it just a collection of diverse national economies with its countries only pursuing their own national interests? Or are strong coalescent forces at work binding these countries closer together in an interdependent way at various levels? This coalescing process is generally referred to as regionalism, which itself has become a defining feature of the contemporary international system. In this lecture, Christopher M. Dent examines the extent to which a strengthening East Asian regionalism is evident from a number of international political economy perspectives, and what the implications of this are for the region's international relations.