

Vienna Taiwan Lecture Series

The Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology and
the Vienna Center for Taiwan Studies are pleased to announce a lecture by

Vienna Institut für Ostasienswissenschaften der Universität Wien
TSC Japanologie, Koreanologie
台灣研究中心

JENS DAMM
Chang Jung University

Soft Power through Cultural Diplomacy by Non-State Actors Taiwan's Strength, China's Weakness?

ABSTRACT

While Taipei and Beijing are apparently no longer competing to represent 'China', Beijing's claim on the island still restricts Taiwan's cultural diplomacy. On the other hand, various Taiwanese non-state actors are actively collaborating with Chinese (and Chinese transnational) actors and, thus, also promoting the image of Taiwan as an open and democratic society. In this way, they are creating soft power for the island.

Taking into consideration various NGOs (such as a disaster relief organisation and women's/gender and LGBTQ groups, as well as groups involved in academic exchange), this paper contrasts the effectiveness of their non-state (or minjian) cultural diplomacy with state led cultural diplomacy and shows how, particularly in cross-strait and broader transnational networks, Taiwanese groups are, in fact, much stronger than might be expected given their weak political position. By contrast, Chinese groups /mainland Chinese groups continue to suffer under various restrictions despite the increasing political and economic power (soft power, hard power) of China.



JENS DAMM is an Associate Professor at the Graduate Institute of Taiwan Studies, Chang Jung University, Tainan, Taiwan. His research interests include the new media and the Internet, the Taiwanese and Chinese diasporas, and gender studies China's cultural diplomacy. He is currently leading a research project at the Oriental Institute, Academy of Science, Czech Republic supported by the Czech Science Foundation, GACR.



Date: Wednesday 30th Nov., 2016
Time: 18:15
Location: SIN1, at the Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology,
Altes AKH, Campus, Spitalgasse 2, yard 2, entrance 2.3
<http://campus.univie.ac.at/plan-universitaere-einrichtungen>

Introduction and discussion lead by Dr Astrid Lipinsky – University of Vienna
The lecture is open to the public without charge or prior registration

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