

Human Rights

Research Committee 26 IPSA

Newsletter No. 4, April 2018

Website: <http://rc26.ipsa.org>



Dear Members of IPSA RC26,

Greetings!

It has been my honor and privilege to serve the transnational community of human rights scholars and activists for the past two years. My term as Chair of IPSA RC26 (human rights) will be over this July. The RC26 is going to elect new chair, governing board officers and form a new secretariat during upcoming biannual World Congress in Brisbane, Australia.

Our membership size has increased dramatically from about 300 to 450 in recent years. It shows growing interests in the advancement of human rights. It also ironically reflects the rising tension between populist autocracies and human rights protection. We are passing through difficult times which I hope to be a brief transition from the current turmoil to a more peaceful and just global society.

RC26 has been making a good progress with most of the agendas proposed at the start of my term. This was possible with the hardworking secretariat and

supportive governing board. The diligent editorship of Professor Oscar Pérez de la Fuente at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid in Spain produced three timely and informative newsletters. They were circulated not only to RC26 members but also to 4,000 members of International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS). I am very grateful for Max Steuer, Eleni Krikeli and Isabel Köhler of IAPSS for their cooperative spirit. RC26 looks forward to continuing this collegial arrangement with IAPSS.

Professor Alexander González Chavarría at Pontificia Universidad in Colombia has done a superb job of updating RC26 website, www.rc26.ipsa.org. His service as the webpage manager was indispensable in making the website easily accessible and informative.

Professor Tatiana Barandova at St. Petersburg School of Social Sciences and Humanities in Russia was always willing to respond to various communication needs as the secretary. It was wonderful to have someone to rely on like Tatiana for the past years. I would like to thank Professor Alexander Sungurov for recommending her for the secretarial position.

As reported in the previous newsletter, RC26 was one of the two IPSA RCs which participated in the General Conference of European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) held at Oslo University, Norway, in September 2017. The panel was dedicated to academic freedom. It attracted a good number of audience including IAPSS representatives.

RC26 also organized an interim conference on wartime sexual slavery at Chungang University in Seoul, Korea, on November 3, 2017. The conference was co-sponsored by Northeast Asia History Foundation, Research Network on Wartime Sexual Violence, Foundation for Justice and Remembrance for the Issues of Wartime Sexual Violence and BK21PLUS Team at Chungang University. The full day conference was packed with multinational participants and audiences interested in the protection of women's rights from wartime as well as military sexual violence.

For the upcoming World Congress in Brisbane, RC26 has organized a record number of panels. More than 25 panels will address a wide range of human rights topics such as the Rohingya crises, sexual violence, human rights education, economic inequality, refugee (re-)settlement problems, migrations, rule of law and environmental protection among others.

I would like to thank the secretariat and governing board for their support and encouragement during a darkest moment of my professional career. The challenges of 2017 propelled me to give a very serious consideration to a voluntary resignation from all the RC26 duties. It started with the filing of criminal complaint against me by my former employer, Hiroshima City University of Japan. Their complaint led to house raid, arrest and 11-day solitary confinement. The university moved to dismiss me on the day of my release from the tenured position. Their decision was despite the Prosecutor's dropping of the criminal charges (see, www.justice-for-mikyounghkim.org). The university president's press release and press conference on the day of the arrest framed me as a criminal in the public perception, and that was even before the police investigation started. I felt destroyed as a person and an academic. I also had to deal with the difficult logistics of deportation from Japan followed by relocations to Korea and the U.S. It felt like my entire life ended on the Japanese right wing's terms. The warm support by the members of secretariat and governing board kept me afloat. Thanks to their camaraderie, I became more determined to fulfill my duties.

RC26 IPSA

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I would like to conclude my final message by thanking each one of the members for the continuous support for RC26. I also would like recognize officers and former chairs. The officers are Professors Sonia Cardenas (Trinity College, USA), Tom De Luca (Fordham University, USA), Katharine P. Gelber (University of Queensland, Australia), Henry Krisch (University of Connecticut, USA), Serif Onur Bahcecik (Middle East Technical University, Turkey), Jedrzej Skrzypczak (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland) and Alexander Sugurov (St. Petersburg School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Russia). The former chairs are Professors Zehra F. Kabasakal Arat (University of Connecticut, USA), Füsün Türkmen (Galatasaray University, Turkey) and Anja Mihr (Humboldt-Viadrina Governance Platform and University of Erfurt, Germany). This has been a wonderful journey!

Thanks & Regards,

Mikyoung Kim

Visiting Research Professor

Emory University

JAPANESE CITIZEN'S RESISTANCE AGAINST PRIME MINISTER ABE'S ARTICLE 9 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT



MASAKI INA

The Japanese Peace Constitution came into effect on May 3, 1947. During nearly 70 years after its making, this constitution has not had any amendments. Amendments to the Constitution can be initiated by the Diet through a concurring vote of more than two-thirds of all the members of each House. They shall thereupon be submitted to the people for ratification, which shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of all votes cast thereon, at a particular referendum or such election as the Diet shall specify. The Japanese Constitution belongs to the rigid constitution type.

The main reason for no amendment experience lies with the support of Japanese people. They wish for the defense and development of the three principles of the Constitution such as the Protection of Fundamental Human Rights, People's Sovereignty, and Pacifism. Japanese people have been fighting to substantiate the constitutional contents. On the contrary, the neoliberal forces and reactive forces have consistently fought for a constitutional amendment. Of course, at the time of general elections, if the forces of neoliberalism feel unpopularity of constitutional amendment argument, they will evade pronouncing it. The politics of anti-constitutionalism thus far have been carried out by changing the interpretation of the constitution without altering its text.

Abe Administration enacted Specified Secrets Protection Law, Security-related Laws which authorized the exertion of collective self-defense right, and Conspiracy Crime law which destroyed the principle of *nulla poena sine lege*. It established the Cabinet Bureau of Personnel Affairs which changed the politico-bureaucracy relationship to the politician's

advantage. The politics of anti-constitutionalism has been fashionable among the reactionary circles. The most pressing issue is whether the attempt to revise the constitution which is called "Abe's Article 9 Constitutional Amendment" will be realized or not.

Abe issued a message on May 3, 2017 (Constitution Memorial Day), which composed of the following points: 1. Making 2020 the year to realize the new Constitution. 2. The revision of Article 9 is the focus of the constitutional amendment. 3. While leaving Article 9 intact, adding an original article about Self-Defense Force (SDF). 4. Combining some camouflage amendment proposals.

The ruling party, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Japan, announced a constitutional amendment draft in 2012 calling for a scrap of the present constitution and seeking the enactment of a new constitution. It lowers the guarantee of fundamental human rights drastically, makes the Emperor as the head of the state, prescribes the National Defense Army, and introduces emergency clauses among others. However, if LDP pushes this draft from the front, it may not get the approval of a majority of the popular votes. Therefore, Abe adopted a camouflage soft approach to press onward with the constitutional amendment.

Article 9 is the most relevant provision of the Constitution of Japan, and it is the reference standard of Japan's post-war pacifism. Article 9, consisting of the renunciation of war, no maintenance of war potential, and the denial of the right of belligerency, together with the provision of "right to live in peace" in the preamble, have sustained the idea of warless state and maintained peace in lieu of armed forces. By adding a new article to the existing Article 9, we can delete unconstitutional argument on SDF, and to instill pride in the SDF personnel. These campaigns are about to set up by the incumbent government.

However, these attempts are doomed because it will change the characters of SDF fundamentally, provide unquestionable publicity for the army, and, above all, alter the fundamental basis of the no-war, pacifist state.

"Say No! to Abe's Article 9 Constitutional Amendment." That is the slogan for the ongoing nationwide unified signature collection movement in order to protect the current Peace Constitution. It aims to preserve the Constitution of Japan and realize no-war state and mature democratic society.

PM Abe's exclusionary nationalism purports to deter the so-called China threats and to strengthen post-war Japan's sense of honor. There are many causes for the intensified nationalism such as fierce competition due to globalization, loss of sense of social solidarity, and residual effects of colonialism, etc. However, only by augmenting the pacifist image of the country in the regional order and the international community through preservation of constitutional democratic pacifism, it is possible to tackle the current and pressing crises.

MASAKI INA is Retired Professor of International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan. He can be reached at masakiina95@gmail.com. For his pacifist activities at Kenpo Net 103, a Japanese NGO, please visit <https://kenpokenkyushanet.wixsite.com/toppage>; <https://www.facebook.com/kenponet103/>; and <https://www.facebook.com/masaki.ina.9>.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Sixth International Scientific Conference "October Readings-2018".

Topic: "Political governance in a global world: new practices, levels, scales",

Saint Petersburg, 18-20 October 2018.

The Higher School of Economics

Chairman of the program Committee – Professor Irina Bussygina

One of the key characteristics of the global world is its "connectivity" that reached unprecedented proportions. Globalization becomes the most important factor in the transformation of practices, forms and tools of (political) control in the contemporary world, although the degree of variations of these practices and forms across regions and states is extremely high. Thus, changes affected the distribution of power in modern states and supranational entities, and how and who makes decisions. One of the most significant issues is the question of the functioning and maintenance mechanisms of accountability and control.

On this basis, the discussion during the "October readings - 2018" will be focused around the following issues: (1) what are the main trends in the development of practices and mechanisms of political governance at the global, macro-regional, national levels? (2) what are the new opportunities arising with the spread of these practices? (3) what are the limitations, costs and risks associated with various forms of political control?

For further information, please, contact: tbarandova@yandex.ru

The Age of Human Rights Journal

<http://revistaselectronicas.ujaen.es/index.php/TAHRJ>

The Human Rights Age Journal is a scientific journal of international relevance, published in English, peer-reviewed and open-access, containing papers concerning Human Rights from different approaches. This Journal is edited in the framework of the Research Group "The Age of Rights", composed by about one hundred researchers belonging to some of the most important human rights research groups in Spain.

Among the members of the Scientific Board are such relevant scholars as Robert Alex

y, Joana Abrisketa, Kai Ambos, Reiner Arnold, Fareda Banda, Martha N. Bello Albarracín, Emmanuel Décaux, Elías Díaz, Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Todd Landman, Massimo La Torre, Mario Losano, Javier de Lucas, Susan Millns, Ramon Paniagua, Antonio E. Pérez Luño, Philip Pettit, or Richard Wilson.

The Journal has been included in the catalogues of *Emerging Source Citation Index* of the *Web of Science*, LATINDEX, ISOC (CSIC), DIALNET and REDIB.

Call for Papers

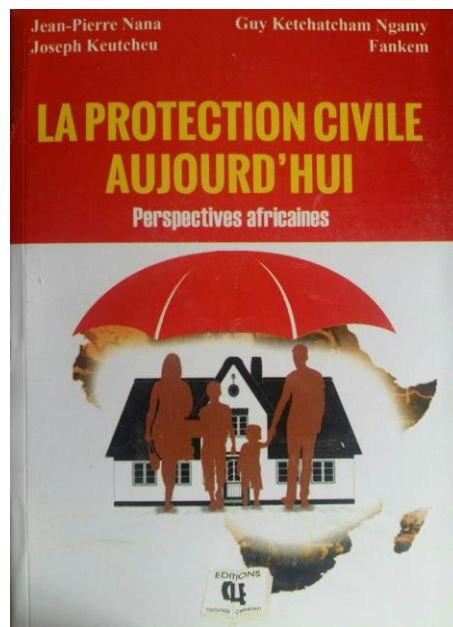
Submission instructions:

<http://revistaselectronicas.ujaen.es/index.php/TAHRJ/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>

Manuscripts should be sent to

tahrj@ujaen.es

MEMBER PUBLICATIONS



Daniel Stockemer and Mikyoung Kim. 2018. "Editors' Introduction: Symposium on Academic Freedom," *Journal of European Political Science*, forthcoming.

Mikyoung Kim. 2018. " At the Intersection of Nationalism, Incompetence and Money: Mikyounge Kim vs. Hiroshima City University of Japan," *Journal of European Political Science*, forthcoming.

Mikyoung Kim. "North Korea's Hidden Revolution: How the Information Underground Is Transforming a Closed Society," *Journal of Asian Studies*, forthcoming (book review).

ACTIVITIES

Mikyoung Kim's second court hearing to recover her previous tenured position at Hiroshima City University of Japan was held on March 6, 2018 in Hiroshima, Japan.

Mikyoung Kim served as the Best Dissertation Award Review Committee of APSA Human Rights Section (September 2016-September 2017).

Mikyoung Kim served as the Best Paper Award Review Committee Chair of ISA Human Rights Section (April 2017-April 2018).

PROMOTION

MEMBER AWARDS

GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

Mikyoung Kim. Academy of Korean Studies (Korea, 2018-19), Kwangju Democracy Movement Data Compilation (Principal Investigator: Professor Won Kim; Research Participants: Jung han Kim, Moon-Young Jeong, Gun Park and Byongju Cho), Sunnam City, Korea (USD20,000).

JOB OPENINGS

LINKS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Please send your nominations for the next chair and other executive board member positions to RC26 Secretary, Dr. Tatiana Barandova at tbarandova@yandex.ru by May 21, 2018. Self-nominations are welcome. When submitting the nominations, please include short biography of the nominee. In the case of self-nominations, submit a note of interest along with a short biography. Please refer to www.rc26.ipsa.org for more information.

*Next IPSA World Congress will be held in Brisbane, Australia during 21 and 26 of July 2018

For more information visit <https://wc2018.ipsa.org/events/congress/wc2018/home>

New Membership Features for 2017: Global South Membership Category



IPSA is glad to announce that it has created new membership category that will help our colleagues from the Global South joining our international community of political scientists by drastically reducing their membership fees, therefore supporting IPSA's mandate to be inclusive, globally present and to develop political science in the whole world.

From now on, every citizen of a low and lower middle income country to complete an IPSA membership will be given access to a new membership category called the Global South Membership.

The rates of the Global South Membership will be as follow:

Global South Membership 2017-2018

Regular 2-years	US\$ 80
Senior 2-years	US\$ 30
Student 1-year	US\$ 5
Student 2-years	US\$ 10

These rates represent significant discounts, reaching up from 53% to 89% discount off the regular membership price.

BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!



Here is the list of countries that will benefit from the Global South Membership for 2017:

Afghanistan	Honduras	Papua New Guinea
Armenia	India	Philippines
Bangladesh	Indonesia	Rwanda
Benin	Ivory Coast	Samoa
Bhutan	Kenya	Sao Tome and Principe
Bolivia	Kiribati	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Kosovo	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Kyrgyzstan	Solomon Islands
Cape Verde	Laos	Somalia
Cambodia	Lesotho	Sudan
Cameroon	Liberia	Sri Lanka
Central African Republic	Madagascar	Sudan
Chad	Malawi	Swaziland
Comoros	Mali	Syria
Congo (Brazzaville)	Mauritania	Tajikistan
Congo (Kinshasa)	Micronesia	Tanzania
Djibouti	Moldova	Togo
Egypt	Mongolia	Tonga
El Salvador	Morocco	Tunisia
Eritrea	Mozambique	Uganda

Ethiopia	Myanmar	Ukraine
Gambia	Nepal	Uzbekistan
Ghana	Nicaragua	Vanuatu
Guatemala	Niger	Vietnam
Guinea	Nigeria	Yemen
Guinea-Bissau	North Korea	Zambia
Haiti	Pakistan	Zimbabwe

This list will be adjusted at the beginning of every year to follow the updates of the [World Bank's lists](#).

We sincerely hope that academics from these countries will take advantage from the incentives in place to join our international community of political scientists.

Please help share the good news with your networks!

For more details, visit <https://www.ipsa.org/>

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visit <http://rc26.ipsa.org/>