

**IDENTITY POLITICS IN THE POST-SOVIET SPACE:
THE KOREAN DIASPORA IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE**

Korea Foundation Global E-School in Eurasia and CEU Department of International Relations

Course convenor:

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Semester: Spring 2016

Credits: 2 (CEU), 4 ECTS

Please note that this course is offered in a blended format (online/offline) at CEU and online at the other partner institutions.

Course dates: March-April-May 2016

	DATE	Time/ Venue	TOPIC
1	22/3		Course overview
2	22/3		Historical context
3	22/3		Key concepts
4	23/3		Key concepts 2
5	23/3		Origins of the Koryo Saram
6	23/3		State- and nation-building in the post-Soviet space
7	5/4	CEU, 10am	Homelands

8	5/4	CEU, 12pm	Homelands 2
9	6/4	CEU 10am	Great Power Contest in Central Asia
10	6/4	CEU 12pm	Great Power Contest in Central Asia
11	11/5	CEU 10am	Global Korea
12	11/5	CEU 12pm	Korea's foreign policy towards Central Asia
13	11/5	CEU 2pm	Korea and the other East Asian players
14	12/5	CEU 10am	Debate
15	12/5	CEU 12pm	Debate
16	12/5	CEU 2pm	Conclusion

Course description

The course uses the case study of the Korean diaspora in the post-Soviet space as a prism to understand the process of identity formation and transformation in the region. The course first introduces and discusses some key concepts to understand this process. Next, it provides some context to contemporary nation-building by focusing on Soviet nationality policies. The following section looks at state- and nation-building in the post-Soviet era, with a particular focus on diasporic communities. The second part of the course deals specifically with the role of middle powers in the region and analyses the drivers of Korea's engagement in Central Asia and Russia.

Aims

The course seeks to achieve the following aims:

- Define and critically discuss a small number of key concepts (nations, nationalism, diaspora)
- Understand the specific case of the Korean diaspora, its origin and dynamics;
- Account for the role of East Asian powers in post-Soviet politics.
- Comparing Korea's role in Central Asia with that of China and Japan

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- apply key analytical tools to empirical cases;
- understand the evolving geopolitical environment and how it affects regional politics;
- locate the case study in a comparative perspective;
- account for intra-group variation as regards cultural and political allegiance;
- Explain the drivers of Korea's foreign policy towards the post-Soviet space.

Assessment

Participation: 30%

Group presentation: 20%

Final in-class debate: 20%

Grading scale

ECTS Grading System

Grade	Students*	Definition
A	10%	<i>Outstanding performance with minor errors</i>

A- /B+	25%	<i>Above the average standard but with some errors</i>
B+/ B	30%	<i>Generally sound work with a number of notable errors</i>
B/B-	25%	<i>Fair but with significant shortcomings</i>
C+	10%	<i>Performance meets the minimum criteria</i>
INC	-	<i>Some more work required before the credit can be awarded</i>
F	-	<i>Considerable further work is required</i>

Reading list

All readings are available on the CEU e-learning website (ceulearning.ceu.edu).

Session: 1 Introduction

Course overview, assessment, guidelines for the presentations and the debate

Session 2 Key concepts I: Nations, nationalism

Kuzio, T. (2001) Nationalising states or nation-building? A critical review of the theoretical literature and empirical evidence. *Nations and Nationalism*, 135-154.

Brubaker, R. (1995) National Minorities, Nationalizing States, and External National Homelands in the New Europe. *Daedalus* 124[2], 107-132.

Session 3 Key concepts II: Diasporas

Brubaker, R. (2005) The 'diaspora' diaspora. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 28(1), 1-19.

Session 4 Historical Context

Hirsch, Francine (200). Toward an Empire of Nations: Border-Making and the Formation of Soviet National Identities. *Russian Review*, 50, 201-26.

Session 5 State- and nation-building in the post-Soviet space

Cummings, Sally N. (2012). *Understanding Central Asia. Politics and Contested Transformations*. London, Routledge, ch 5.

Session 6 Origins of the Koryo Saram

Gelb, M. (1995). An Early Soviet Ethnic Deportation: The Far-Eastern Koreans. *Russian Review*, 54(3), 389-412.

Huttenbach, Henry (1993). The Soviet Koreans: Product of Russo-Korean Imperial Rivalry. *Central Asian Survey*, 12(1), 59-69.

Session 7 Homeland(s) I

Diener, Alexander (2006). Homeland as social construct: Territorialization among Kazakhstan's Germans and Koreans. *Nationalities Papers*, 34(2), 201-235.

Khan, Valeriy, V. (1998). The Korean Minority in Central Asia: National Revival and Problem of Identity. *International Journal of Central Asian Studies*, 3.

Session 8 Homeland(s) II

Oh, C.J. (2006). Diaspora Nationalism: The Case of Ethnic Korean Minority in Kazakhstan and Its Lessons for the Crimean Tatars in Turkey. *Nationalities Papers*, 34(2), 111-129.

Oka, N. (2001). The Korean Diaspora in Nationalizing Kazakhstan: Strategies for Survival as an Ethnic Minority. *Korean and Korean American Studies Bulletin*, 12(2/3), 89-113.

Brubaker, R. And Kim, Jaeun (2011) Transborder Membership Politics in Germany and Korea. *Archives européennes de sociologie/European Journal of Sociology* 52(1), 21-75.

Sessions 9-10 Great Power Contest in Central Asia

Cooley, Alexander (2012). *Great Games, Local Rules. The New Great Power Contest in Central Asia*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Laruelle, Marlene and Peyrouse, Sebastien (2012). *Globalising Central Asia: Geopolitics and the Challenges of Development*. Armonk, NY, M.E. Sharpe.

Session 11 Global Korea

Cheongwadae (Blue House, CWD) (2009). *Global Korea: The National Security Strategy of the Republic of Korea*. Seoul, Office of the President.

Lee, J.Y. (2003). Korea's policy for Ethnic Koreans Overseas. *Korea Focus*, July-August.

Shim, David and Flamm, Patrick (2012). Rising South Korea: A Minor Player or a Regional Power? Hamburg, GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Working Paper no. 200.

Session 12 Korea's foreign policy towards Central Asia

Fumagalli, M. 2016 Growing inter-Asian Connections: Links, Risks, and Opportunities in South Korea-Central Asia Relations. *Journal of Eurasian Studies*, 7(1).

Fumagalli, M. (2012) South Korea's Engagement in Central Asia from the End of the Cold War to the New Asia Initiative. *Journal of Northeast Asian History*, 9(2).

Calder, Kent, E. and Kim, Viktoriya (2008). *Korea, the United States, and Central Asia: Far-flung partners in a Globalising World*. Washington, Korea Economic Institute, Academic Paper Series, 3(9),

Hwang, B. (2012) A New Horizon in South Korea-Central Asia Relations: The ROK Joins the "Great Game". *Korea Economic Institute Commentary*, December.

Session 13 Korea and the other East Asian players

Dadabaev, T. (2014) Chinese and Japanese Foreign Policies towards Central Asia from a comparative perspective. *Pacific Review*, 27(1), 123-145.

Dadabaev, T. (2015) *Japan in Central Asia. Strategies, Initiatives, and Neighboring Powers* (Palgrave), ch 2-3.

Sessions 14-15 Debate

Session 16 Conclusion