

# Korean Studies Workshop in Southern Europe

### February 22 2024 | 9am-6pm

Sala Conferenze, Palazzo Corigliano University of Naples L'Orientale Piazz S. Domenico Maggiore 12 Naples, Italy

#### **Organzing Committee**

Jong-Cheol Kim (SNUAC)
Wi Seon Kim (L'Orientale)
Andrea De Benedittis (L'Orientale)

#### **Hosted by:**

Seoul National University Asia Center & Department of Asian, African and Mediterranean Studies, University of Naples L'Orientale

#### Sponsored by:

Korea Foundation

#### **PROGRAM**

### Korean Studies Workshop in Southern Europe

09:00-09:30	Opening Session
03.00-03.30	Opening: Jong-Cheol Kim (Seoul National University)     Welcoming: Byung-Kuk Woo (Korea Foundation)     Group Photo
09:30-11:00	[Session 1] Korean Studies in Southern Europe 1: Humanities
	<ul> <li>Moderator: Wi Seon Kim (University of Naples L'Orientale)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Speaker 1: Okyang Chae-Duporge (University of Bordeaux Montaigne), Research and Education of Korean Art History in France</li> <li>Speaker 2: Lidia Cossu (Ca' Foscari University of Venice), What It Means to Major in Korean Studies in Italy: A PhD Student's Perspective</li> <li>Speaker 3: You Jae Lee (University of Tübingen), Why Is It Easier to Found a New Institute than Make It Bigger?: Some Thoughts from South German Experience</li> <li>Speaker 4: Hyun Jong Noh (Soongsil University),</li> </ul>
	North Korean Studies in Korea: Humanities' Contribution, Challenges, and Its Relationship with Social Science
11:20-12:50	[Session 2] Korean Studies in Southern Europe 2: Language Education
	Moderator: Soung-U Kim (University of Naples L'Orientale)
	<ul> <li>Speaker 1: Cristina Bahón (Autonomous University of Madrid),         Korean Studies in Spain and Korean Language Education at the         Autonomous University of Madrid</li> <li>Speaker 2: Soyoung Kim (Sofia University),</li> </ul>
	Korean Studies in the Balkan Region: A Case of Language Education at Sofia University
	Speaker 3: Imsuk Jung (University for Foreigners of Siena),     Study on the Relationship between Academic Achievement and     Motivation of Italian Students Learning Korean: The Case of the     University for Foreigners of Siena

13:00-14:30	Lunch			
14:30-16:00	[Session 3] Korean Studies in Southern Europe 3: Social Sciences			
	Moderator: Giuseppina De Nicola (University of Turin)			
	• Speaker 1: Justine Guichard (Université Paris Cité),			
	Korean Studies and Social Sciences in France: A Tour of Institutions and Disciplines			
	<ul> <li>Speaker 2: Marco Milani (University of Bologna),</li> </ul>			
	Social Sciences and Korean Studies in (Southern) Europe: Why			
	They Are Marginalized and How to Move Forward			
	Speaker 3: Patricia Chica Morales (Malaga University),      Speaker 3: Patricia Chica Morales (Malaga University),      Speaker 3: Patricia Chica Morales (Malaga University),			
	Spanish Perspectives on Korean Studies: The Case of University of Malaga in Korean Language and Culture Promotion			
	Speaker 4: Jewellord Nem Singh (International Institute of Social			
	Studies (ISS), The Hague),			
	Old and New Industrial Policy in Changing Global Value Chains:			
	Lessons from Korea for International Political Economy (IPE) Scholarship			
16:20-17:50	[Session 4] Roundtable for Curriculum Development in Korean Studies			
	<ul> <li>Moderator: Andrea De Benedittis (University of Naples L'Orientale</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Speaker 1: Youngah Guahk (LUISS University),</li> </ul>			
	Teaching Korean Studies to Non-Specialists: Experiences from a BA			
	Politics Course in Italy and an International Summer Semester in Seoul			
	<ul> <li>Speaker 2: Jong-Chol An (Ca' Foscari University of Venice), Korean Studies in Italy: BA and MA Curriculum.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Speaker 3: Jong-Cheol Kim (Seoul National University),</li> </ul>			
	KF Global eSchool SNU Program and Its Extension to Southern Europe			
18:00	Closing			
	<ul> <li>Wi Seon Kim (University of Naples L'Orientale)</li> </ul>			

### **ABSTRACTS**

### Session 1

## Korean Studies in Southern Europe 1: Humanities

Moderator

Wi Seon Kim University of Naples L'Orientale

#### Research and Education of Korean Art History in France

### Okyang Chae-Duporge University of Bordeaux Montaigne

Korean Art has been marginally taught at the Inalco (Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales), and Université Paris Cité, with no tenured faculty members involved. Upon the arrival at the Bordeaux Montaigne University of the first permanent position professor (maître de conférences) who majored in Korean art history, the research and education of Korean Art History gained some vitality, still far from sufficient though. Now that the interest in Korean art and culture is rapidly growing in France, the research and education of this discipline need to go beyond those of the department of Korean Studies. For example, Paris-Sorbonne University, the only institution having a Department of Far East Oriental art history with its center CREOPS (Paris – Sorbonne's research center on Far East Asia), still does not have a course on Korean art, not to mention the other French faculties of Art and archaeology. More effort should be made to catch up with Chinese and Japanese Art History research and education in French universities.

#### What It Means to Major in Korean Studies in Italy: A PhD Student's Perspective

Lidia Cossu Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Korean Studies now has taken much more attention in the Italian academic field. The PhD students are creating the third-generation wave, which is now considered one of the rising area studies, often inside the Department of Asian and African Studies. The PhD position is regarded more like a professional researcher in Italy, yet it needs to offer more tools and perspective to the newer generation to become Koreanists. This research explores the contemporary PhD student's difficulties and struggles to make a plan for the sustainable programs of the next generation. This presentation intends to create a space where young scholars can openly share their personal experiences in the field, such as publication methodology, research tools, university lectures and administration experiences.

## Why Is It Easier to Found a New Institute than Make It Bigger?: Some Thoughts from South German Experience

You Jae Lee University of Tübingen

In the last 15 to 20 years, Korean studies institutes in Europe experienced an unexpected boom. New Korean language courses have been introduced and new Korean studies institutes have been established at universities. The number of students increased so explosively that the institutes became overwhelmed. In turn, the old and new institutes have grown slowly in terms of staff numbers. All efforts to expand professorial numbers have had limited success. Of course, there is a difference between hiring a Lecturer or Maître de conférences and hiring a full professor. In this respect, it is easier to establish a new institute than to go from one professorial position to two. Given these limits to growth, serious consideration needs to be given to how to nevertheless meet growing student demand. One possibility is a solidarity network of small and weak institutes to achieve more through cooperation than individual institutes would ever be able to do.

#### North Korean Studies in Korea: Humanities' Contribution, Challenges, and Its Relationship with Social Science

Hyun Jong Noh Soongsil University

During the Cold War era, researchers studying Communist States and North Korea faced challenges in accessing information due to its secretive nature. Additionally, as many humanities and social theories, including critical social theory, were derived from a capitalist background, researchers studying communist states had to manipulate existing theories and concepts. With the collapse of the Eastern Bloc and the rapid economic transition in China and Vietnam, theoretical innovation on communist states came to a virtual standstill. Consequently, scholars in Korea found themselves compelled to devise unique research techniques to examine the ongoing socialist country, North Korea. Alongside the development of academic freedom and the inter-Korean relationship in 2000, North Korean studies burgeoned, and Korean studies were established at several universities. In particular, there has been an increase in humanities and qualitative research. In this seminar, I will primarily explore the contributions of humanities and social research to North Korean studies. Next, the presentation will address some challenges that could arise when scholars are examining an unfamiliar state and culture without an understanding of socialist system. Lastly, I will briefly discuss the ideal and constructive relationship between humanities and social science.

### Session 2

# Korean Studies in Southern Europe 2: Language Education

Moderator

Soung-U Kim University of Naples L'Orientale

### Korean Studies in Spain and Korean Language Education at the Autonomous University of Madrid

Cristina Bahón Autonomous University of Madrid

The development of Korean Studies in Spain is relatively recent, in comparison with other neighboring European countries, such as Germany or France. The Autonomous University of Madrid was the first university to develop a degree on East Asian studies in 2003. Moreover, it was also the first university to establish an official research center on East Asia: The Center of East Asian Studies (CEAO). Following the Autonomous University of Madrid, the Autonomous University of Barcelona with the Pompeu Fabra University, and the Open Catalonian University developed the first East Asian Studies programs. These universities expanded their programs mainly focusing on Chinese and Japanese itineraries. In this way, Korean Studies in Spain is closely related to the frame established by East Asian Studies (Luis A. Botella and Antonio J. Domenech, 2022). The University of Malaga was the first university to develop a Korean itinerary within the degree on East Asian Studies in 2011. Afterwards, the University of Salamanca launched a degree on East Asian Studies, including a Korean Studies itinerary in 2015. With the help of the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS)'s Seed Program for Korean Studies, the Autonomous University of Madrid has launched Korean language classes as well as a Korean society and culture class since 2015. The number of students enrolling on Korean Studies related classes is increasing year by year thanks to the huge popularity of K-pop and Korean soft power. This presentation will not only present the establishment of Korean Studies in Spain, but it will also briefly introduce Korean language education at the Autonomous University of Madrid.

### Korean Studies in the Balkan Region: A Case of Language Education at Sofia University

Soyoung Kim Sofia University

In 1990, Balkan countries transitioned to democracy and a market economy system, establishing diplomatic relations with Korea and closely cooperating in fields such as economy and culture. Korean language education began with the establishment of diplomatic relations with Korea. Currently, there are three countries that have officially established Korean studies departments at university institutions: Bulgaria, Romania, and Slovenia. Bulgaria established diplomatic relations with Korea in 1990 and opened its first Korean language course at Sofia University in 1992. In 1995, the Korean Studies major was established at the Oriental Language and Culture Center at Sofia University, and since then, it has achieved visible growth, including establishing a master's and doctoral course in Korean studies.

# Study on the Relationship between Academic Achievement and Motivation of Italian Students Learning Korean: The Case of the University for Foreigners of Siena

Imsuk Jung University for Foreigners of Siena

In Italy since long time Korean Studies are introduced through a single course and have been enriched by the curriculum of first and second language in BA, MA and Ph.D. degrees, but until 2017 only four universities have been offering those degrees in Korea-related Studies, in particular: University of Bologna, the University of Venezia Ca' Foscari, University of Napoli L'Orientale and the University of Roma La Sapienza. Starting from the academic year 2017/2018, responding to the continuous increasing interest towards Korean and Korean language education in Italy, the University for Foreigners of Siena launched the first courses related to Korean Language and Korean studies and is enjoying great success. Recently the Korean studies have been also launched at the University of Torino. Considering that the number of students intending to major in Korean is rapidly increasing year by year, this present work intends to investigate the aspects of motivation according to the individual characteristics of Korean language learners and to reveal the relationship between the aspects of motivation shown by them and their academic achievement in Korean language and Korean studies, by focusing on the case of the University for Foreigners of Siena. To examine the impact of motivation on academic achievement an academic self-regulation questionnaire, based on the theory of Ryan (2004), with 15 questions has been proposed to 83 Korean language learners twice between 2020 and 2022. The goal of this study is to reveal that the motivation is also an important factor that affects learners' successful academic achievement and then to suggest educational measure so as their vague curiosity about Korean culture can be developed into a solid academic curriculum. The proposals provided in this work might

improve the current weak parts: to strengthen and guarantee the quality of the courses related to Korean studies; and to promote the academic research and activities through the collaboration with various universities and expanding the network between the scholars.

### Session 3

## Korean Studies in Southern Europe 3: Social Sciences

Moderator

Giuseppina De Nicola University of Turin

#### Korean Studies and Social Sciences in France: A Tour of Institutions and Disciplines

Justine Guichard Université Paris Cité

This presentation will address how social sciences are currently represented in Korean Studies education and research in France, a country where a variety of institutions and disciplines coexist in the field. Our tour will start with three Paris-based entities: Université Paris Cité, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), and Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales(INALCO), totaling 20 tenured faculty members (7 historians, 4 linguists, 4 anthropologists, 1 sociologist, 1 geographer, 1 literature specialist, 1 media and communication specialist, as well as 1 political scientist). The existing strengths and weaknesses of this apparently favorable landscape for Korean Studies in general, and social sciences in particular, will be highlighted, also taking into account the situation elsewhere in France.

### Social Sciences and Korean Studies in (Southern) Europe: Why They Are Marginalized and How to Move Forward

Marco Milani University of Bologna

In recent years, the field of Korean Studies has witnessed a significant increase throughout Europe, and especially in Southern Europe. This positive development, that has put on the map of global Korean Studies new countries and institutions, has focused mostly on language education and on humanities disciplines. In this context, Social Sciences have grown in terms of student interest and research achievements but have also remained relatively marginalized in the academic community of Korean Studies. Drawing from experiences from Southern Europe, and more specifically from the Italian case, but also from other examples in the European context - such as the creation of the Social Sciences Korean Studies European Network (SoKEN) - this presentation aims at exploring the most recent developments of Social Sciences in Korean Studies in (Southern) Europe, presenting the main achievements that have been reached and the limitations that these disciplines are facing in the academic community, with the goal of fostering the debate about possible ways to move forward and to create possible synergies with other disciplines.

# Spanish Perspectives on Korean Studies: The Case of University of Malaga in Korean Language and Culture Promotion

Patricia Chica Morales Malaga University

The introduction of Korean studies in Spanish universities is a relatively new development, and it has happened under the umbrella of East Asian studies. This paper will present an analysis of Korean Studies in Spain with a special focus on the University of Malaga (UMA). The UMA has been the pioneer university in opening Korean Studies in Spain at a time when the country focused exclusively on Japanese and Chinese studies. The presentation will review the history of this degree emphasizing the effects of its consolidation in Malaga and Spain, on students but also on citizens and Spain-Korea relations. Other Spanish universities working in Korean studies and associations and other associated academic institutions will also be addressed.

### Old and New Industrial Policy in Changing Global Value Chains: Lessons from Korea for International Political Economy (IPE) Scholarship

Jewellord Nem Singh International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague

The Korean developmental state is probably the most popular, if not widely studied exemplar of how industrial policy can successfully deliver structural transformation in the developing world. Within the fields of International Political Economy (IPE) and Development Studies, the Korean experience of strategic state intervention—and the political conditions that enabled Park Chung Hee to undertake a risky development strategy—is regarded as the benchmark of state activism. In this paper, I intend to draw out the important aspects of the Korean experience and how it informed contemporary debates of state capitalism. I outline specifically the three main lessons from 20th century Korea, namely (a) the important role of state autonomy in pursuing strategic policy choices supporting industrialization, (b) the transformation of Korean statebusiness relations from a mutually beneficial alliance during the 1970s/1980s towards a globalized business model in the era of neoliberal globalization, and (c) the significance of sectoral perspectives and promotion of key industries in studying industrial development (alluding to Hirschman's classic unbalanced development model). Afterwards, I review the so-called post-developmental welfare state literature, which examines the transformative politics in Korea in response to growing inequalities and the 'retreat of the state' in development discourse. Finally, I conclude with some of my thoughts on how the Korean state-business relations is changing in response to the new context of geopolitical-strategic competition between China and the US. In so doing, I examine the implications of the evolving Korean model of growth towards Development Studies and Political Economy scholarship.

#### **Session 4**

### Roundtable for Curriculum Development in Korean Studies

#### Moderator

Andrea De Benedittis University of Naples L'Orientale

#### Teaching Korean Studies to Non-Specialists: Experiences from a BA Politics Course in Italy and an International Summer Semester in Seoul

Youngah Guahk LUISS University

The presentation is based on my experience of teaching courses in Korean Studies, specifically covering the fields of politics, culture and society, since 2009. This includes experiences of teaching in both Europe – in the Netherlands (Maastricht) and in Italy (Rome) - and in Korea itself. At Maastricht University this involved a course in area studies that was simply called "Korea" and gave students the opportunity to focus on particular aspects of contemporary politics and society. In the case of teaching in Korea, this included the offer of an introductory course entitled 'Korea: History, Culture and Society in the context of the International Summer Semester at Sungkyungkwan University over a period of seven years, starting in 2013, that usually attracted 100+ students from around the world. Finally, since 2019, I teach a course on 'Asian Culture and Politics: Korea and the neighboring countries' at LUISS University in Rome. One interesting observation in this regard is how over time the interest of students in Korea has increased significantly, also in Europe, leading to increasing numbers of universities to establish optional courses for advanced BA students who are keen to learn more about Korea. In this context, this presentation will share my experience with regard to the establishment and development of non-degree/optional courses focused on contemporary Korean culture, politics, and society.

### Korean Studies in Italy: BA and MA Curriculum

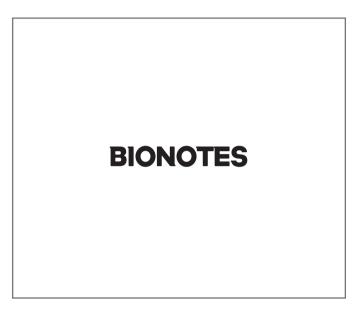
Jong-Chol An Ca' Foscari University of Venice

This paper deals with the status of Korean Studies in Italy. It deals with the leading Korean Studies programs in Napoli, Rome, Venice, Siena, Turin, and Bologna. Korean Studies had developed since the 1990s but became more stabilized as a program since the 2010s. This paper will deal with achievements and future works to be fulfilled from both humanities and social sciences perspectives.

### KF Global eSchool SNU Program and Its Extension to Southern Europe

Jong-Cheol Kim Seoul National University

In response to the growing global interest in Korea, Seoul National University Global eSchool Program has been at the forefront of providing diverse courses in Korean studies to international students since 2011. With generous support from the Korea Foundation, this initiative has successfully delivered over 160 accredited courses to 24 universities spanning 15 countries across Asia and Europe in the past 13 years. Throughout this period, various educational formats have been explored to pioneer a novel model for real-time online lectures, culminating in the current efforts to seamlessly integrate education, research, and international exchanges. The ultimate goal is to establish a sustainable and thriving Korean studies program that extends beyond Korea's borders. While past partnerships with universities in Southern Europe have been limited, there is now a deliberate effort to expand collaborative initiatives with prestigious institutions in this region. In light of the increasing prominence of Global Korean Studies, this presentation proposes a network-based cooperation model as a promising approach to fostering regional collaboration.



Andrea De Benedittis, after graduating from the University of East Naples, spent an extended period of study at South Korean (KyungHee University, Korea University) and Chinese (Beijing University of Foreign Studies, Jilin University) universities at which he furthered his studies in Ancient Korean History. He completed his doctoral studies (survo) at Korea University and received his doctorate from Sapienza University discussing a thesis on the analysis of iconographies of Koguryo wall paintings. He has taught Korean Language and History at Ca' Foscari University where he was awarded the teaching prize in 2016, and since 2021 he has been an associate professor at the University of East Naples, where he is in charge of the Korean Language curriculum. He has been a visiting professor in South Korea at Ehwa University, Hanyang University and KyungHee University. In his studies, he has dealt with various issues concerning the ancient history of Korea, in particular: the military command of Lelang, the genesis of the book Parhaego, the origin of the Yongsangang basin Tombs, the analysis of the iconographies of the Koguryo wall paintings, features of the Hwarang of Silla. Over the years, he has also been active in translating Korean literature and has been awarded the KLTI International Korean Translation Award and the MiBact National Translation Award.

**Cristina Bahón Arnaiz** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of East Asian Studies and a Research Member at CEAO (Center of East Asian Studies) at the Autonomous University of Madrid. She is currently a team member of one Horizon EU research programme, and two national R&D projects, funded by the Spanish government. Her research interests are modern Korean literature and literary translation, Korean culture and society, as well as Korean as a foreign language (KFL). She has received three fellowships at the Literature Translation Institute of Korea (LTI Korea). She has a Ph.D. in Korean Studies, focused on Korean linguistics and literature.

**Giuseppina De Nicola** is a Koreanist and an anthropologist. She holds a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at Seoul National University. She is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Korean Studies Program at the University of Torino. She has been a Visiting Lecturer, Visiting Researcher in South Korea, and Vicepresident of the Association of Korean Studies in Europe (2019-2021). She is the author of essays and journal articles such as: Korean Society and Family System (2018); Squid Game. Analysis of the Dramaturgical Structure of the Series (Season 1) (2022); "Kohyang" Remembering where I am from: The concept of a place of origin in the elaboration of collective and individual memory in South Korea (2016); Recollections, imagery and dream in South-Korean family photographs at the dawn of the 21st century (2020).

**Hyun Jong Noh** is a Senior Research Fellow at the Soongsil Institute for Peace and Unification. He also serves as a lecturer in the Department of Sociology at Seoul National University. He earned a doctoral degree in Sociology from Seoul National University in 2021. His research interests include North Korean society, inter-Korean relationships, and comparative historical research, with a focus on former socialist countries

**Imsuk Jung** is a professor of Korean language and literature and the technicalscientific coordinator of the CLASS center at the University for Foreigners of Siena. She holds Ph.D in Linguistic (XXIV cycle) from University for Foreigners of Siena and completed the KLTTP (Korean Language Teachers Training) Program) from LEI (Language Education Institute), Seoul National University. From 2010 to 2017 she was a visiting Professor of Korean language, Literature and Philology at the University of Venice Ca' Foscari and University of Rome La Sapienza. She is currently the referent for the Double master's degree launched with the Department of Korean Studies and the Department of Korean Language Education of the Busan University of Foreign Studies (BUFS). She is also the responsible of various research projects, including "Asian Community and Europe" (Eurasia Foundation from Asia), "Establishment of Professorship of Korean studies" (Korea Foundation), and "Seed Program" (Academy of Korean Studies). Recently (starting from June 2023), she has been selected for a new international research project named "Establishment of Korean Studies Research Center at the University for Foreigners of Siena: Enhancing Korean Studies through a Joint Research and Development", granted by Academy of Korean Studies, and became the director of the New Research Center of Korean Studies "Yun Dongju" (CeSK).

Jewellord (Jojo) Nem Singh is the Principal Investigator of a five-year research programme Green Industrial Policy in the Age of Rare Metals: A Transregional Comparison of Growth Strategies in Rare Earths Mining (GRIP-ARM) funded by the European Research Council Starting Grant No. 950056 (2021-2026). He is an Assistant Professor (tenured) at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague and a Research Fellow at the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), The Netherlands. Nem Singh is the author of Business of the State: Why State Ownership Matters for Resource Governance (Oxford University Press, Forthcoming) and The Politics of Designing and Negotiating Industrial Policy in the 21st Century (Routledge, Forthcoming), as well as 40 scientific papers, book chapters, edited collections, and special issues within the field of political economy and development studies.

Jong-Cheol Kim is a research fellow at the Seoul National University Asia Center in South Korea. Since 2011, he has been leading the KF Global eSchool SNU Program, overseeing the coordination of over 160 accredited courses to 24 universities in 15 countries across Asia and Europe. Additionally, he has served as the Secretary of the ICAS International Book Prize Korean Language Edition since 2016. He received his PhD in Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Jong-Chol An is an associate professor in the Department of Asian and North African Studies at Ca' Foscari University of Venezia. He is a historian specializing in Korean foreign relations, and Korean law and society. He is working on a manuscript related to the origins of the Korean judiciary. Publication: "Making Mission Compatible with Democracy: James Earnest Fisher and His Activities as a Missionary and a US Government Official in Korea, 1945-1948," Korea Journal 60/4 (Winter 2020): 115-142.

**Justine Guichard** is associate professor of Korean Studies at Université Paris Cité. She obtained a Ph.D. in political science from Sciences Po and Columbia University in 2014. Her research deals with contemporary Korean law and society, with a longstanding interest in constitutional politics and a new focus on faits divers, scandals, and affairs. She is the author of Regime Transition and the Judicial Politics of Enmity: Democratic Inclusion and Exclusion in South Korean Constitutional Justice (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016)

**Lidia Cossu** is a PhD candidate at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice studying in the Department of Asian and North African Studies. She holds an MA in Korean Language and Literature and researched the publication of the post-war poetry anthology and literary theory and movements of the post-war literature to nominate a new generation. Now, she is working on her dissertation project exploring the Cultural Cold War in South Korea. Her primary interests are the national and international Oratorical contests conducted by the Korean and American information agencies.

Marco Milani is Assistant Professor at the Department of Arts, University of Bologna. Previously, he has been Lecturer at the School of East Asian Studies, University of Sheffield, Postdoctoral Fellow at the Korean Studies Institute and Lecturer at the School of International Relations, University of Southern California. He also held teaching positions at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and had been visiting research fellow at the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies (South Korea) and at the Leiden Institute for Area Studies (Netherlands). He has published numerous articles and book chapters on North and South Korea's foreign policy, contemporary Korean history and inter-Korean relations. He is co-editor of the book on South Korea's foreign policy titled The Korean Paradox: Domestic Political Divide and Foreign Policy in South Korea (Routledge, 2019). His research interests include: History and International Relations of East Asia, North and South Korean foreign and security policy, Inter-Korean relations, Contemporary Korean cultural production, Media and Communication in Korea and East Asia.

**Okyang Chae-Duporge** is currently associate professor at the Bordeaux Montaigne University. She got a PhD in Art History at the Paris IV-Sorbonne University and taught Korean art history at Inalco and Paris-Diderot University. She published Lee Ufan, Untouched Space (2017) at Éditions Cercle d'Art in Paris and Trésors de Corée - Bulguksa et Seokguram (2016) with Kang Woobang at the same editor. She won the France-Korea Cultural Prize of 2017. In 2022-23, she was a visiting fellow at Seoul National University Asia Center. She is currently working on the Korean decorative painting of the late Joseon, relying mainly on the Lee Ufan collection at the Guimet museum in Paris.

**Patricia Chica** holds a PhD from the University of Malaga (Economics and Business Program) and is a member of the East Asian Studies Department of the Department of Historical Sciences at the University of Malaga (UMA) (https://asiaoriental.uma.es/patricia-chica-morales/). Her doctoral thesis allowed her to define three main fields of research: Korean studies, gender studies and development cooperation. Patricia has taught in several seminars and courses on gender and women in Korea. She is a member of the Academy of Korean Studies research project at UMA Path to Equality: Korean Studies Network on inclusiveness (AKS-2021-INC-22500025) and has led for three years the project "Feminist UMA, the Korean wave".

Soung-U Kim is a ricercatore RTDB at Università di Napoli L'Orientale. With a PhD in Linguistics (SOAS UoL) on the grammar of Jejuan (제주어), he has been researching aspects of Jejuan grammar such as converbs, clause linkage and egophoricity, Korean linguistic nationalism and language endangerment, or the metapragmatics of Korean politeness from a multimodal perspective (with Dr. Lucien Brown, Monash). He is the curator of the language documentation corpus of Jejuan conversations on the open-access Endangered Languages Archive FLAB.

**Soyoung Kim** is a guest professor in the Department of Korean Studies. She has been working at Sofia University since the Department of Korean Studies was opened in 1995. She received her Doctoral degree in Comparative Linguistics from Sofia University in 1998. She served as the Head of the Seed project and Core project at the Academy of Korean Studies for 10 years. In addition to her research on Korean language education, she has translated and published more than ten Korean and Bulgarian books. She also collected materials on the Korean Peninsula in Bulgaria and wrote a catalog of materials, a collection of photographs, and translations of important materials.

Wi Seon Kim, after her master in Western History obtained in Korea, kept studying history and philology in Italy. She received her PhD in history and philology from the University of Ferrara in 2015. Her dissertation dealt with the analysis of a work, written by a Fifteenth-Century Florentine manuscript seller, which conveyed a political critique against the local government freshly singled out. Since 2021, she has been assistant professor in Korean Studies at the University of Naples "L'Orientale". Her research interests include perceptions and roles of Korean women within History, Literature and Cinema and the history of the Korean printing press. She aims to apply the philological and historical research methods which she learned in Italy to Korean studies.

You Jae Lee studied history, Korean studies, philosophy and political science in Berlin (FU Berlin, HU Berlin), Seoul (SNU) and in Erfurt. He received his PhD in history, focusing on the topic of Christian missions during the colonial period. He has been a junior professor since 2010 and a full professor (W3) of Korean Studies at Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen since 2018. His research focuses on colonialism, the Cold War, diaspora, and everyday history. He has been director of the 10-year-project AKS Strategic Research Institute since September 2021. He is Pl of Civis KF e-School consortium for Korean Studies, which includes Univ of Aix-Marseille, Univ of Bucharest, Univ of Sapienza Rome and Univ of Stockholm, in addition to Univ of Tübingen. Recently he published the book "Glück Auf! Life Stories of Korean Miners in Germany". He is currently preparing four anthologies on German-Korean transnational history from the beginning to the present.

Youngah Guahk is a lecturer of Asian Affairs at Luiss University in Rome, Italy. A native speaker of Korea, she is a trained political scientist who received the title of Dr. rer. pol from the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany. Her doctoral research focused on sustainable cities and the corresponding political transformation of local governments in South Korea. Over the past decade she has been teaching in various institutions from different countries and taught courses related to Korea and Korean politics, culture and society to diverse groups of international students. Dr. Guahk has research interests and has published in political institutions in Korea, including on the Korean National Parliament, the role of local government and on public and cultural diplomacy.





