

THEORIZING COLLECTIVE ACTIONS

August 21, 2023

Co-organizers:

The American Political Science Association
The Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong
The Centre for Public Affairs and Law, City University of Hong Kong

Venue: LI 5405, Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Academic Building

Objectives

Much of the collective action literature is built upon a specific time and place. Theories and concepts born out of the American civil rights movement in the 1960s, for example, continue to influence how we think about recruitment, dynamics and outcomes of collective action. The rise of digital information technologies in the 2000s has contributed to developing another strand of literature emphasizing the digital networks connecting seemingly atomized individuals. However, the emergence and development of many socio-political conflicts in contemporary Asia do not always fall into these ideal types. In recent years, the subfields of conflict studies and social movements have also gathered more scholarly interest in the generalist political science journals and the APSA annual meetings.

This workshop seeks to bring together 18 Asia-based social scientists to (1) critically examine whether mainstream theories and concepts developed in a particular time and space apply to cases that we study and (2) explore ways in which we, as Asian scholars, studying East and Southeast Asian politics and society, can make novel contributions to theory development in collective action research. We hope this workshop will provide a venue where scholars think theoretically about their research projects and refine their theoretical contributions to the literature.

This is a closed-door, work-in-progress workshop. Participants are thus free to publish their articles in the venues they see fit.

Format

This is an in-person workshop. We will devote 40 minutes each to each participant's article-length manuscript, with 10-minute breaks after two sessions. We expect participants to read the papers before the workshop (**manuscript submission deadline: July 22**). Therefore, *there will be no research presentations; all 40 minutes will be spent on giving constructive feedback on the work we have already read.* We suggest both participants and discussants read **at least two more papers (in addition to the assigned paper)** and join the discussion, so that we can have a fruitful discussion for each session. Feedback should focus mostly on conceptualization and theory development, although empirical and methodological critique is encouraged.

We will invite 17 political scientists and one sociologist working on collective action in East and Southeast Asia. This will be a panelist-only workshop to foster academic dialogue and research publication.

List of Presenters

Renaud Egreteau

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Stephan Ortmann

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Surachanee Sriyai

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Dirk Tomsa

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La Trobe University

Kai Yang

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Department of Government and International Affairs
Lingnan University

Kevin Agojo

PhD student
Department of Public and International Affairs
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Joyce Liang

Research Associate
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List of Discussants

Edmund Cheng

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Diego Fossati

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