

Comparative Asian Research Network
Monthly Lecture Series on Issues and Research in the Asian Region
Organized by the Department of Japanese Studies, CUHK

All are Welcome!!

The Wavering Environmental Diplomacy: The Development of Japanese Climate Change Policy

Date: March 14th, 2012 (Wednesday)

Time: 13:30 - 14:15

Venue: HYS LG04

Speaker: Cheng Fang-Ting

The presentation will be focused on the changing manner of Japanese environmental policy, especially on climate change issues. By domestically ratifying Kyoto Protocol in 2002 without U.S. support, Japan has stressed her role in dealing with global environmental issues. However, to earn U.S. cooperation on climate change and to continue her commitment under Kyoto Protocol seem hard to reconcile with each other, Japan chooses to side with U.S. again while pulling U.S. back to the negotiating tables. By observing recent Japanese climate change policy, neo-liberalism provides a better explanation. It is because that Japanese government has downgraded the importance of pursuing political leadership of forming global climate change regime, although there were some adjustments under DPJ (*Minshutou*). After 311 earthquakes, Japan expressed to review her emission reduction target committed before 2009 Copenhagen meeting, owing to the necessity of increasing the proportion of thermal power generation.

Cheng is currently affiliated with the Faculty of Law, Graduate Schools of Law and Politics, the University of Tokyo (Todai). Ph.D. candidate. She is working on her dissertation which discussing about the regime formation of global climate change from the perspective of environmental security. She is also working for “the Database: World and Japan,” in charge of the document of global environmental issues. She has been living in Tokyo for more than 6 years, earned her M.A. degree (Political Science, 2009) from Todai, and her B.A. from the National Taiwan University (Political Science, 2005)

