

muss, bietet aber auch jeweils für Übersetzer und Dolmetscher in sich abgeschlossene Kapitel.

Dieses in jeder Hinsicht zu empfehlende Grundlagen-Handbuch entstand im Rahmen eines Projekts des Goethe-Instituts. Es soll Lehrkräften, die Übersetzungs- und Dolmetschunterricht erteilen, und solchen, die sich selbst und andere in diesem Bereich fortbilden wollen, als Orientierungshilfe dienen und konkrete Anleitungen und Vorschläge zur Gestaltung von Übersetzungs- und Dolmetschübungen geben.

Christine Berg

### **Michael Reiterer: Asia-Europe: Do they meet?**

Singapur: Asia-Europe Foundation 2002, 271 S., ohne Preisangabe

"In the silent conversation between author and reader that constitutes the process of reading a book, Dr Reiterer's voice resonates with a rare capacity for innovation and an unusual display of imagination. [...] What Dr Reiterer has written down will help to revitalize ASEM and assure its existence on the map of the world we live in." Nach so viel Vorschusslorbeeren von Seiten des Geschäftsführenden Direktors der Asia-Europe Foundation in Singapur, Delfin Colome, ist der Leser freudig gespannt auf die Ausführungen des EU-Kommissionsmitarbeiters Michael Reiterer zum ASEM-Prozess. Reiterer gehört zu den wenigen Diplomaten, die ihre inhaltliche Tätigkeit durch schriftliche Ausführungen in wissenschaftlichen und anderen Publikationen ergänzt und so zu einem besseren Verständnis der entsprechenden Strukturen und Prozesse beigetragen haben.

Die hoch gesteckten Erwartungen kann dieser Band allerdings nicht erfüllen. Er vereint eine Reihe von zumeist bereits an anderer Stelle publizierten und vorgetragenen Papieren zum ASEM-Prozess, die sich insbesondere mit dem dritten ASEM-Gipfel in Seoul (Oktober 2000), der Reform des interregionalen Dialogprozesses und den einzelnen Pfeilern von ASEM (Politik und Sicherheit, Wirtschaft, Kultur) auseinandersetzen. Für Leser, die sich bisher nicht oder nur am Rande mit ASEM beschäftigt haben, dürfte der Band – trotz einiger Redundanzen und teilweise veralteter Informationen – als eine Art übersichtartige Einführung in die Thematik denn auch von Interesse sein. Für "fortgeschrittene" Leser bietet der Band allerdings kaum einen Mehrwert in Bezug auf neue Sichtweisen, Analysen oder frische Vorschläge zur Revitalisierung und größeren Öffentlichkeitswirksamkeit des ASEM-Prozesses.

Patrick Köllner

### **Frank-Jürgen Richter/Pamela C.M. Mar: Recreating Asia - Visions for a New Century**

Singapore, John Wiley & Sons (Asia) Pte Ltd 2002, , 309 p., 37,90 €

"This book is a rich source of insights and perspectives for anyone with an interest in the changing face of Asia", says the chairman and CEO of Coca-Cola, Douglas N.

Draft. "In this book the reader will gain insights into one of the most dramatic economic and social transformations in the history of the world", explains Singapore's Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew. "I commend the contributors, editors and publishers for their efforts in bringing to wider attention the tremendous potential and opportunities in Asia", underlines Australia's Prime Minister John Howard.

"Recreating Asia - Visions for a New Century" did not only receive enthusiastic reviews. To this remarkable book contributed some of the most powerful politicians, businessmen, and scientists of the late 20th and early 21st century. This makes it difficult to make any more comments. So here are just some interesting pieces of background information.

The book was edited entirely by Pamela Mar, who joined the World Economic Forum as regional manager Asia after graduating from Yale and the London School of Economics. She selected the authors and did most of the organizational work, because it is part of the internal policy of the Forum that regional managers cannot rely on clerks. This ensured the high quality and might also have helped to attract a variety of impressive personalities. Of course, she was backed by the director of the World Economic Forum, Frank-Jürgen Richter, who served as the co-editor. Nevertheless, it is an impressive example of how even a young person in the right position can influence international relations, since the purpose of this book is not solely to entertain readers. According to John Howard it is even a political document: "I look forward to our governments and businesses working together to realize these benefits." (p. XIII)

Therefore, Pamela Mar divided the book into four parts. In the first and most up-to-date chapter the authors analyse the challenges and impacts of globalisation. Jusuf Wanandi, publisher of the Jakarta Post, evaluates the danger of terrorism. Kim Min-Seok, President of South Korea's most popular retail chain Sung Joo International, focuses on security issues. The ideas of Mahathir bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, President of the Philippines, contribute in their comprehensive articles, can be easily imagined. Their respective opinions, especially about the influence of the United States of America, have already been widely published – and reviewed many times. So it is recommended to switch directly to more sophisticated comments.

While Shi Guangsheng, as Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation one of the driving forces behind China's accession to the WTO, fathoms the possibilities of international cooperation to achieve common prosperity, Siemens-CEO Heinrich von Pierer seems to be certain that Asia will remain the world most dynamic and innovation-friendly region during the next decades. He therefore spots five decisive areas: "The drive to perform and the desire to learn (as the basis), population development and demography (as the driver), enthusiasm for technology and the power of innovation (as the engine for growth), reform and economic policies (as the climate for success) as well as networks and systems of relations (as stabilizers)." (p. 71, 72)

A similar kind of optimism but more responsibility in their perceptions show the CEOs of VIA Technologies, the Taiwanese Chen Wen-Chi, and of NTT DoCoMo, the Japanese Keiji Tachikawa: "We are now living in an age of change that can be

witnessed only once in centuries. Going forward, individual demands are expected to become more diverse and personal, while business will have to provide more value-added services to survive in an increasingly globalized economy. On the other hand, trans-boundary social problems, including environmental concerns and crime, are likely to become a pressing issue in many countries and regions." (p. 144) In the latter situation, adds Hong Kong SAR boss Thung Chee-Hwa, "a good government does two things: first, it responds quickly to the vagaries of the moment and deploys resources in a timely manner to solve the problems of the day; secondly, and perhaps more importantly, it does not lose sight of the bigger picture, of the trends and driving forces that will shape economic development in the long run." (p. 170)

However, in the best written article Manuel V. Pangilinan, president and chief executive of Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, describes how in a remote province a satellite-based public calling station was inaugurated: "Everyone was there - all the residents and the local officials - and when her daughter answered, her voice coming crisp and clear from Chicago, the entire street erupted in applause. In that electrifying moment the small town knew its future would be different; its life would be changed forever." (p. 154)

Thus, how do these famous authors interpret the challenges of the future? A final outlook representing all authors would not have been useful. Instead, most authors come to their individual conclusions, for instance Edward Neloe, president and CEO of the Indonesian Bank Mandiri: "The transformation of the country's political, social and economic environment has required companies, including state-owned firms, to be more transparent and accountable. I am convinced that consistent implementation of good corporate governance will strengthen the foundations for future growth for our bank and for Indonesia." (p. 206, 207) But also the conclusion of Malaysia's Minister of Youth and Sports, Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, does not come as a surprise: "While the world now struggles to come to terms with the meeting of many different civilizations, Malaysia has long been in the vanguard. Since our independence 44 years ago, we have actively pursued a collaboration of civilizations as a way of life." (p. 271)

So better go back to the introduction, where the editors "are betting on an Asia that is an equal opportunity territory, is enabled by clear-sighted leaders with vision and focus, has transparent governance frameworks and solid governing institutions, is tightly integrated economically and globally at ease, remains respectful of national traditions and cultural distinctions. Is this too ambitious an agenda?" (p. XXI) Definitely, but it is still worth reading and thinking about.

Alexander Häntzschel

### **Aurel Croissant: Von der Transition zur defekten Demokratie. Demokratische Entwicklung in den Philippinen, Südkorea und Thailand**

Wiesbaden: Westdeutscher Verlag 2002, 330 S., 34,90 €

In seiner jüngst erschienenen Monografie beschäftigt sich Aurel Croissant mit der Konzeptionalisierung und der Empirie so genannter defekter Demokratien. Den