Park Jin (Newcastle East Asia Centre) explained the rapid opening of South Korea's diplomacy through the diplomatic recognition by Russia and China and the simultaneous entry of North and South Korea into the UN. North Korea was seen as the lagging element in this rapid development, impeding the move from the discussion of the modalities of arms control to the substance of arms control.

Charles McGregor (University of Hull) focused on ASEAN and Indochina and stressed the importance of internal as well as external stability. Although he denied the existence of an arms race and the emergence of a regional hegemon, he pointed out the growing influence of China and the incremental increase of

Japanese power.

George Mirsky (IMEMO, Moscow) painted a lively picture of the instability in the new five Central Asian republics and its possible impact on China and the Russian Far East. He considered a war between the Uzbeks and Tajikis a distinct possibility, as well as the disintegration of the Russian Federation and the rise of warlordism in the Far East. After communism he named religion or ethnicity as the only pillars of cohesion. Yakov Zinberg (University of Hokkaido) gave a detailed account on the latest developments of the territorial dispute between Japan and Russia, including the rising relevance of Sakhalin's local government. He was very gloomy as to the possibility of a solution in the near or medium term because no side seemed to be seriously interested in an end to the dispute because of short term benefits in keeping it alive.

Reinhard Drifte

Konferenzankündigungen

Nationalismus und regionale Kooperation in Asien Berlin, 6.-7.Mai 1993

Die Deutsche Gesellschaft für Asienkunde e.V. veranstaltet in Verbindung mit ihrer diesjährigen Mitgliederversammlung eine wissenschaftliche Tagung zu dem Thema "Nationalismus und regionale Kooperation in Asien". Vorgesehen sind ein einleitendes sowie 9 regional- bzw. länderbezogene Referate (Mittelasien, Südasien, Südostasien, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, VR China).

Anmeldung bei der: DGA, Rothenbaumchaussee 32, 2000 Hamburg 13,

Tel. (040) 445891

Probleme auf dem Weg zu Demokratie und Marktwirtschaft: Die Transformationsprozesse in Mitteleuropa und Ostasien Köln, 16.-19.Mai 1993

Das Ost-West-Kolleg veranstaltet in Zusammenarbeit mit der Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, Büro Seoul, eine Tagung, zu der 20 Wissenschaftler, Politiker, Ministerialbeamte sowie Multiplikatoren (Journalisten) aus Deutschland, Polen, der CSFR und Ungarn, 5 Angehörige der Korean-German Association of Social

Sciences und 1 Vertreter der Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung eingeladen wurden. Als thematische Schwerpunkte sind die "Wiedervereinigungsstrategien" Deutschlands und Koreas, Transformationsprozesse in Mitteleuropa und Korea sowie deren internationale Rahmenbedingungen vorgesehen.

3. Internationale Literaturtage Erlangen, 27.Juni - 4.Juli 1993

Die 3. Internationalen Literaturtage stehen unter dem Motto "Neue Metropolen" und sollen Gelegenheit zu einem intensiven Gedankenaustausch mit 25 Autoren aus Afrika, Asien und Lateinamerika bieten, die in den dort explosionsartig wachsenden Großstädten - mehr oder weniger - zu Hause sind. U.a. haben Schriftsteller aus Delhi, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur und Singapur zugesagt. Informationen beim: Projektbüro Interlit 3, Einhornstr. 2, 8520 Erlangen, Tel. (09131) 862426, Fax 862717

Gemeinsame Tagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Völkerkunde, der Österreichischen Ethnologischen Gesellschaft, der Anthropologischen Gesellschaft in Wien und der Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte

Leipzig, 3.-9.Oktober 1993

Nationalism and Ethnicity in Southeast Asia Berlin, 21.-23.Oktober 1993

The conference organized by the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies at Humboldt University will focus on recent global developments within the framework of the general theme without restrictions to current events. Various aspects are suggested: Western and Asian perceptions of nation and national identity in Southeast Asia; historical backgrounds of nationalism and regionalism; recent changes of nationalism, ethnic insurrections and separatist movements; perspectives of unitary states versus federalism; national integration and nationalities' policies, ethnic minorities and autonomy; etc.

Înformation: Prof.Dr. Ingrid Wessel, Südostasien-Institut der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, O-1086 Berlin

Vienna Dialogue on Democracy

The Politics of Antipolitics

July 7-10 1994

After 20 years of discussing the "confidence gap" between citizens and politics in Western democracies, some recent developments are forcing us to rethink the problematic. First, in several "old" democracies, levels of political satisfaction have hit a new low. Second, political disenchantment has spread almost instantly to the "new" democracies of Latin America and Eastern Europe. And third, citizens: "antipolitical" attitudes are being increasingly instrumentalized by "neopopulist" actors.

The first Vienna Dialogue on Democracy (VDD), organized by the Austrian Institute for Advanced Studies, will focus on the last point: the resurgent "antipolitical" cleavage construction seen in the multi-faceted versions of "postmodernized" populism. The conference will discuss these "politics of antipolitics" by concentrating on three partially-overlapping thematic nuclei.

Language

The distinctive medium of democratic politics is language. Democracy contains the promise of "communicative rationality". Clearly, in the real world, the "power of words" is confined by image-based policy styles, by the strategic abuse of arguments, by power and invisible politics, or simply by the lack of time and information. Democratic deliberation, then, is endangered. Are the "politics of antipolitics" further eroding it?

Realism

Politics implies the construction of desirable and feasible states of the future. Thus, based on some notion of political realism, "the art of the possible" has to define the spheres of competence of secularized politics - as well as existing constraints and trade-offs, risks and time horizons. How do "antipolitical" actors, suspected of systematic overpromising, link together the "worlds" of the necessary and the possible?

Linkages

The notion of democracy falsely suggests that the "rulers" and the "ruled" are identical. In modern mass democracies, they unavoidably fall apart, both different and distant from each other. Yet, dependent on electoral support, politicians are forced to symbolically "bridge the gap", to create symbols of community between politicians and citizens. How do "neopopulist" actors, the champions of "identitary democracy", link to their electorate?

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Arend Lijphart

Claus Offe

Guy Hermet

The Vienna Dialogue on Democracy invites original manuscripts which offer new theoretical insights and innovative methodological perspectives on the topics described. Interdisciplinary and comparative analyses are highly welcomed. Papers should be no more than 25 typed pages in length. Each presentation is expected to last 30 minutes, and will be followed by comments from two discussants. Conference proceedings will eventually be published. The deadline for submitting proposals, plus a biographical statement, is October 31, 1993. A preliminary program will be drawn up once the proposals have been received and evaluated. Papers will be due April 30, 1994. It is anticipated, although not yet formally confirmed, that travel and accomodation costs for paper authors will be covered. Address all inquiries or submissions to: