



Asia – a region that contains nuclear states, the second and third largest economies in the world, the largest global population – is on the move!

The continent which has changed the most in the 21st century is Asia: be it Asia's engagement with the Arctic region, presence in Africa, economic prominence, or geopolitical influence within and outside of the region, increased population movements in and outside Asia, increased risk of climate change, democratization and citizenship issues, nuclear proliferation and security threats to and from some of the Asian countries – all require in-depth analysis for good global governance.

For example, the rise of China in Central Asia has led to many speculations, including a 'New Great Game' with Russia and the United States. On the other hand, new moves from both parties on the Korean peninsula may see a 'new hope' for peace. Sideways, in the context of climate change and 'arctic race', new geo-ecopolitical, and geostrategic dynamics led to the growing interest of non-Arctic states in the affairs of the Arctic. Engagement of countries like China, Japan, Korea and India in the Arctic will significantly influence the evolving dynamics in that region.

Meanwhile, forced migration (e.g. Rohingya issues) and climate change induced displacement, corruption, violation of human rights and citizenship, crisis in Asian mega cities, and rising inequality have huge influence on 'The Move' and hence require much attention from policymakers and academics working on Asia.

In this context, the annual NNC conference 2018 will take place in the High North venue of Tromsø, at UiT-The Arctic University of Norway. Scholars within Asian studies are invited to present their research in the form of a paper or poster. Abstracts for individual papers and panel proposal may involve topics from all Asian Studies disciplines in the broadest possible sense and topics could range from (but are not limited to) Asia in the arctic, migration and refugee issues, changing cities, security (human, food and livelihood), energy, mining and natural resources, history, postcolonial and religious transformation.

Keynote Speakers

The following speakers will inspire our proceedings:

- [Arne Strand](#), Lecturer, Director, Chr. Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway
- [Cholpon Chotaeva](#), Professor, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
- [Gunhild Hoogensen Gjorv](#), Professor, Centre for Peace Studies, Tromsø, Norway
- [Mohammad Salehin](#), Associate Professor, Centre for Peace Studies, Tromsø, Norway

The programme will consist of keynotes and panel debates, while also reserving time for informal discussions and networking. The event will offer good opportunities to meet people in the field, network, and informally exchange views and ideas. The conference is followed by a two day PhD course (see separate announcement below).

Participation

Conference participation is open to scholars and doctoral candidates in the social sciences and humanities. We encourage contributions with emphasis on interdisciplinary perspectives. It is possible for a limited number of participants to attend the conference without presenting a paper, or to attend only the keynote speeches.

Conference Fee and Accommodation:

The conference fee is 250 Euro, which includes accommodation during the conference, as well as lunch and dinners (according to the programme).

Accommodation will be provided at [Comfort Hotel Xpress](#) in Tromsø.

For more information please visit the conference website.

If you wish to attend the conference, with a paper, but do not need accommodation, the fee is 100 Euro, which includes lunch and dinners (according to the programme).

Deadlines:

International researchers working on Asia in any social science and humanities discipline are invited to submit abstracts for papers. Each abstract should not exceed 300 words.

- 27 August 2018: Deadline for submitting abstract (maximum 300 words)
- 11 September 2018: Acceptance of abstracts by Academic Committee
- 15 October 2018: Deadline for paying the conference fee

Please register via the conference website where all practical information about the conference will be available.

Abstracts should be submitted via e-mail to Katrine.herold@nias.ku.dk

www.asiaonthemove2018.com

Organizing committee:



**UNIVERSITETET
I TROMSØ UiT**



Nordic Institute of Asian Studies

- Christine Smith-Simonsen, Director, Centre for Peace Studies, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway
- Geir Helgesen, Director, NIAS – Nordic Institute of Asian Studies
- Katrine Herold, Project Coordinator, NIAS – Nordic Institute of Asian Studies

For further information please contact

- Katrine Herold, Project Coordinator, NIAS, Katrine.herold@nias.ku.dk



PhD Course – Working with Asia on the move

The conference will be combined with a PhD course where doctoral candidates will present and discuss their research projects with senior researchers as well as with fellow doctoral candidates.

This year the PhD course will take place on board [Hurtigruten's](#) cruise ships. The conference closes Wednesday afternoon, and we board the ship heading to Svolveær late Wednesday evening. All Thursday will be devoted to paper presentations and discussion while sailing for Svolveær, where we will have dinner Thursday evening. After dinner we board a new ship bound for Tromsø, where we will arrive Friday afternoon after one more day of papers and discussions.

ECTS - The course can be taken as a 5 ECTS credit course. (Only) If you wish to receive the 5 ECTS, you have to register with UiT's Course SVF-8058 **by 1st September 2018**.

Please follow this link: <https://fsweb.no/soknadsweb/login.jsf> Choose UiT as institution, then you have to either log in (if you come from a Norwegian institution) or register as guest, when you have done this, please search for course 9305 and sign up.

To receive the credits, doctoral students must attend the conference on November 5-7, and the PhD course on November 8-9; submit and present (5 mins only) a draft paper (max 20 pages); and read and give comments to fellow PhD students' papers. Finally, following the course doctoral students must hand in an essay (5 pages) based on the Asia on the Move curriculum and the feedback received during the course.

Doctoral candidates are also encouraged to present a paper at the main conference. This paper cannot be similar to the paper prepared for the PhD course. Students wishing to present a paper at the conference and to attend the PhD course must submit two abstracts.

Commentators for the PhD Course

- **Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørsv**, Professor, Centre for Peace Studies
 - **Arne Strand**, Lecturer, Director, Chr. Michelsen Institute
 - **Cholpon Chotaeva**, Professor, American University of Central Asia
 - **Geir Helgesen**, Director, NIAS – Nordic Institute of Asian Studies
- More TBA

Fee and Accommodation PhD Course

The fee for the PhD course is 250 Euro, which includes conference fee, accommodation, meals (according to the programme). Accommodation is provided for 4 nights from 5 to 9 November 2018 (5-7 at Comfort Hotel Express and 7-9 on board the cruise ship).

Please register via the conference website where all practical information about the conference is available.

Abstracts should be submitted via e-mail to Katrine.herold@nias.ku.dk

www.asiaonthemove2018.com

PhD course – Guidelines and reading list

The first part of the course consists of your participation in the lectures and sessions that form the conference Asia on the Move. The second part of the course will consist of your individual written work, oral presentations and feedback from and discussion with teachers and course participants. You are expected to have read all papers beforehand and to have prepared comments to them. Finally, if you wish to receive the 5 ECTS, you must hand in an essay (5 pages), following the course, based on the Asia on the Move curriculum and the feedback received.

Deadline for sending the essay is Monday 10 December 2018, please send it to Katrine.herold@nias.ku.dk.

Your presentations

You are expected to prepare and present (5 minutes only) a draft chapter or an article max. 20 pages. What you write will of course depend on where you are in the research process:

- If you are at the very beginning of defining your study you may choose to write about your considerations regarding the formulation of a researchable question. You might do this by drawing on the course texts as well as by drawing inspiration from a selection of monographs while reflecting on the authors' problem formulation, theories and methods used, and knowledge production.
- For those who have come a bit further in the research and whose project is well under way, you can present your research proposal as well as reflect upon methodology, use of theory etc. related to the course texts.

The focus should be on reflection and discussion of theoretical and methodological issues. The point is to discuss aspects of your project that are difficult, or that you are struggling with and where you can benefit from a discussion.

Course readings:

A curriculum will be put together in connection with the conference's plenary sessions.

Deadlines:

- 27 August 2018: Deadline for submitting abstract (maximum 300 words)
- 11 September 2018: Acceptance of abstracts by Academic Committee
- 15 October 2018: Deadline for paying the conference fee and submitting full papers
- 10 December 2018: Deadline for submitting the PhD Course essay

For further information please contact

- Katrine Herold, Project Coordinator, NIAS, Katrine.herold@nias.ku.dk
- Christine Smith-Simonsen, Director, Centre for Peace Studies, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, christine.smith-simonsen@uit.no

