

# Geir Helgesen

## **Present positions:**

NIAS Director

## **Education:**

1989: MA in Cultural Sociology, Copenhagen University.

1993: Ph.D. in Cultural Sociology, Copenhagen University.

## **Advisory appointments:**

Editorial Board, Asian Politics & Policy. Wiley-Blackwell Publishers.

## **Membership:**

Danish Association of Foreign Policy.

Asia Dynamic Initiative, Copenhagen University, Steering group member.

China Security Network, Denmark.

## **Recent academically relevant experience:**

2000–07: Leading coordinator of EPCReN – Eurasia Political Culture Research Network.

2002–09: Consultant to Danish companies with activities in Korea.

2003–09: Consultant to DR, Danish Radio on Korean affairs.

2004–09: Elected staff member of the NIAS' board.

2010–12: Leading coordinator of a Nordic – East Asian Network on cross-cultural understanding.

## **Guest Lectures on Korean political affairs:**

2002–07: Turku University, Turku, Finland.

2005–10: Center for East and South East Asian Studies, Lund University, Sweden.

2007: University of Iceland, Reykjavik.

2008: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo

2008: Gothenburg University, Sweden.

2007–10: Center for Global Studies, University of Georgia, USA.

2011: Trondheim University (NTNU), Norway.

2011: Aarhus University, Denmark.

## **Papers Read at International Conferences:**

2003: Educational Unit, The Financial Sector, Dk.: How to deal with East Asian cultures?

- 2005: Swedish Institute of Foreign Affairs, Stockholm. Concerning Korean unification.
- 2005: East-West Center & University of Hawaii: Education or Indoctrination? East-West perspectives.
- 2005: Conference organized by the Uri Party, Korea, on Korean unification.
- 2008: Chatham House, Conference on Human Rights situation in North Korea.
- 2009: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Como conference: Cooperation with the DPRK: obstacles, preconditions, cross-cultural aspects and the human dimension
- 2009: Europe and East Asia. New perspectives on Europe's approach to North Korea. The European Commission, Brussels.
- 2010: Chatham House, II. Conference on Human Rights in North Korea.
- 2010: Yonsei University, Korea, Conference on East – West Relations.

**Other Educational & Academic Activities:**

- 2002-8: Course instructor for the Confederation of Danish Industries (DI) concerning Korea/East Asia and cross-cultural business matters.

**Academic Publications:**

- 2002: "Imported Democracy: the South Korean Experience" in Kinnvall & Jönsson: Globalization and Democracy in Asia. Routledge, London and New York.
- 2002: Democracy, Human Rights, and the Sunshine Policy: Psychological, Political, and Cultural Prospects for Korean Reunification. Eds: H.S. Aasen, U. Kim and G. Helgesen. The Rafto Foundation, Bergen.
- 2002: Good Government, Nordic and East Asian Perspectives. G. Helgesen and Uichol Kim. NIAS Press and DUPI, Copenhagen.
- 2003: "The Role of Culture in the Korean Crisis" (in Danish) Kontakt/International Magasin, No.4, Copenhagen.
- 2003: "Korea Insights" Special issue of NIAS Nytt/Asia Insights No.1, 2003 (G.H. editor)
- 2003: "The Need for a New Moral Education. Basic Challenges in the Era of Globalization" in: Bell, Daniel and Chaibong Hahm: Confucianism

for the Modern World. Cambridge University Press, New York.

2006: Politics, Culture and Self. East Asian and North European Attitudes, ed. with S.R. Thomsen, Copenhagen: NIAS Press.

### **Commissioned Government Consultancies and Reports:**

2003/4: Team leader of a project focusing on the current situation in North Korea with special emphasis on areas where Danish and European aid would be effective. (Task commissioned by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Report available at: [www.foreignministry.dk](http://www.foreignministry.dk) )

2005/6 Member of the evaluation team for the East Asian institutes in Sweden. Task commissioned by the Swedish Ministry of Education. (Report: see Högskoleverkets web-page: <http://www.hsv.se> )

2005: Carried out an evaluation of the Nordic cooperation at the 2005 EXPO in Aichi, Japan. (Report: "The Joint Nordic Participation at EXPO 2005" issued by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

2006/7: Team leader of a project focusing on recent developments in North Korea: Report delivered to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Assisting Development and Change.

2008: Hosting a North Korean sustainable energy delegation on behalf of the Foreign Ministries in Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Bringing the delegation to relevant energy facilities in the three Nordic countries, and chairing a conference on the topic at the premises of the Danish government.

2011: Team leader on a report on prospects for closer collaboration between the Nordic countries in developing educational and scientific links with counterparts in the Shanghai Area. Commissioned by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

### Consultancy for private organizations:

2007/8: Evaluator on developments in North Korea for Bertelsmann Transformation Index 2007: Towards Democracy and a Market Economy.

## General Public Information:

1989 – 2011: Articles about the development in Korea in Danish, Norwegian and Swedish as well as Foreign Press, and numerous interviews. Lectures at Nordic People's High Schools, Vocational schools and primary and secondary schools about Korean and East Asian culture, politics and societies. Participation in Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and Icelandic TV and Radio programs covering the situation in Korea, South and North from a political culture perspective.