



Call for Papers
**Korea and East Asia:
Transformation of Socialist Systems**
Vienna, February 13-14, 2009

Almost two decades after the collapse of socialist systems in the Soviet Union and subsequently in Eastern Europe, the issue of their transformation remains as important and controversial as ever. Which approaches to privatization, institution building, external economic cooperation and regional political alliances have yielded the best results, which ones have performed below expectations? Are the results of the various transformation processes a new type of post-socialist society, or do they more and more resemble the Western model of a democratic market economy? How can the results of transformation be assessed against the background of security and human rights? In Asia, especially China, Vietnam, Laos and North Korea, too, socialist societies have developed significantly since 1990. However, neither the direction nor the depth of their change has been as significant as in Europe. Is there an East Asian mode of socialist transformation, or is such a transformation still outstanding? How do the experiences made in Asia differ or coincide with the ones in Europe, and what could be the reasons? Which effects of socialist transformation can be expected for regionalization? What can be said against this background about the future of North Korea, the nuclear issue, and Korean unification? How is the question of transformation discussed in the affected societies? These are some of the major questions we will explore during the conference.

Thanks to the generous financial support by the Academy for Korean Studies and the Modern East Asia Research Centre of Leiden University, we will be able to cover the hotel costs and meals during the conference and currently offer a travel subsidy of 250 US\$ for European and 710 US\$ for non-European paper presenters. We expect to be able to raise these amount depending on the availability of other sources of funding.

If you are interested to participate, please submit a letter of intent with a proposed title and 300 word abstract of your paper to the conference secretary, Ms. Sabine BURGHART (sabine.burghart@univie.ac.at) until Oct. 1st, 2008. Selected paper presenters will be notified on Oct. 31st, and the final papers (20+ pages) are due by January 15th, 2009. We plan to publish the revised papers in a conference volume later in 2009.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you in Vienna. With my sincerest regards,

Prof. Dr. Rudiger Frank
Chair of East Asian Economy and Society, East Asian Institute
Acting Director, Vienna School of Governance
University of Vienna
ruediger.frank@univie.ac.at

