CAMPUS ASIA PLUS LECTURE

Cooperation for Environmental Protection in East Asia:

A Tool for Communication and Risk Management?

Dr. Linas Didvalis (Head of the Centre for Asian Studies, Vytautas Magnus University)

Compared to traditional "hard" issues, such as security or economy, international cooperation to resolve environmental issues can be perceived as a very "soft" and unstable reason for countries to achieve closer long-term interaction and to manage risks. As a result, there might be expectations that environmental cooperation is to come only after traditional issues are resolved, and countries start trusting each other as non-threatening and economically beneficial partners. But how much is that the case in the real world? To evaluate this, the lecture will discuss the East Asian regional cooperation field as a case study to determine what reasons convince countries in the region to invest in environmental cooperation and what goals such "green diplomacy" is attempting to achieve. Understanding about that can help us to view environmental cooperation in a different light: not necessarily as a tool to deal with environmental degradation but also as a pretext for countries to maintain communication channels during difficult times and to manage wider risks.



5:00-6:30 PM, May 11, 2022 Room #332, International Studies Hall, Graduate School of International Studies Korea University



