

Reverse Sequencing of Labor and Environmental Movements: Taiwan and South Korea

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Sophia University, Yotsuya Campus

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Amidst similarities in colonial heritages, authoritarian rule, geopolitical positions within the Cold-War framework, a breakneck speed of industrialization, and similar levels of grievances over abused labor power and natural environment, Korea's labor and Taiwan's environmental movements began to take shape in the 1970s. Nevertheless Korea's environmental degradation and Taiwan's labor plights did not arouse a comparable level of public passion until one decade later. Why did Korea and Taiwan produce reverse sequences of the rise of labor and environmental movements? This public lecture, based on the book *Leverage of the Weak* (2015, published by the University of Minnesota Press), will address this puzzle.

Hwa-Jen Liu is Associate Professor of Sociology at National Taiwan University, and author of *Leverage of the Weak: Labor and Environmental Movements in Taiwan and South Korea* (2015). She received her Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley and a post-doctoral fellowship at the Fairbank Center of East Asian Research, Harvard University. Her areas of specialty include social movements, late industrialization, historical/comparative, and East Asia. Her most recent research centers on the historical connections between organized labor, small-holding farmers, and environmental movements in Taiwan and South Korea.

Lecture in English / No prior registration necessary

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