

CALL FOR PAPERS

2018 International Symposium on *K. Marx in the 21st Century* -- Bicentennial Anniversary of K. Marx's Birth

Date: December 22 (Sat.) and 23 (Sun.), 2018

Venue: Satta Hall, Hosei University, Tokyo, Japan

2-17-1 Fujimi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8160, Japan

<http://marxinthe21stcentury.jspe.gr.jp/>

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"Karl Marx" -- Dead or Alive in the 21st Century? "

The International Symposium on *K. Marx in the 21st Century* will be held at Hosei University in Tokyo, Japan, on December 22-23, 2018. The year of 2018 is the bicentenary anniversary of K. Marx's birth. This great thinker's name has been incorporated into modern world history. Even today, we still suffer from antagonisms and critical tendencies that can be comparable to what K. Marx regarded as the results of capitalist economy. So, the name of this revolutionary intellectual giant in the 19th Century arouses uneasiness both in every field of politics, economics, social thought, and philosophy, and in social and political movements.

Among the debates to which Marx's life and work has given rise, one fundamental question is this: Have Marx's ideas on the problems of modern economic system and society already become outmoded? If it is the case, can Marx's theory and ideas be renewed on the grounds of accumulated knowledge, and using advanced analytical tools? In general, what is the message of this bearded man for people who live more than a century after his death? These problematics will provide the central thematic focus for our 2018 conference.

K. Marx was not a prophet. He was a man who wished to ground his ideas in the materialistic view of history and declared his willingness to receive any scientific criticisms to his theory. On the occasion of the bicentenary of his birth, seven major academic societies engaging Marxian studies in Japan are jointly organizing an international symposium on "K. Marx in the 21st century" in Tokyo. Prominent international researchers will discuss Marx's ideas, focusing on both historical and theoretical approaches. Attention to history is crucial, because Marx's ideas were formulated in the 19th Century and gave rise to "Marxism," which influenced intellectuals and social and political movements in the 20th Century. Theoretically, we should examine his ideas in the dual context of the system he intended to establish and of new 21st century developments. In 2017, a preliminary symposium on the 150th anniversary of K. Marx's *Capital* was held in Tokyo; the proceedings of that event (appearing soon on our webpages) will provide one point of departure for what we anticipate will be critical analyses and reappraisals undertaken on a broader basis in "*K. Marx in the 21st Century*."

We look forward to the participation of leading Marxian researchers overseas as well as in Japan in proposing answers to the question that will guide our 2018 symposium.



Dr. Tetsuji Kawamura

President of the Japanese Society for Political Economy
Chairman of the Executive Committee of *K. Marx in the
21st Century Symposium*

Proposals and Paper Submission

The symposium's thematic fields:

The general scheme of the symposium covers the following three major sub-categories:

- (1) Historically and objectively investigating K. Marx's theories and thoughts
- (2) Recapturing past impacts and experiences of K. Marx and Marxism
- (3) Identifying features of Marx's theories and thoughts and those of the successors or the alternatives to them in the 21st century of ours.

The Executive Committee is arranging a special plenary session on the third field listed above. This will be open to the interested public with simultaneous translation from English to Japanese. Other presentations are contained in the parallel sessions (in English or in Japanese possibly with simultaneous translation in English).

Proposals and Deadline:

Paper proposals must be 400~1,000 words in length, with preference given to those corresponding to one of the three fields listed above. Proposals should be sent, in the period March 1-March 31, 2018, to this email address: marxinthe21stcentury.jspe@gmail.com

Applicants will be notified about the decision regarding their proposals no later than May 31, 2018. Those whose proposals are accepted must send their full papers to the above email address by October 31, 2018; this will permit timely posting of these papers on the conference website. The organizing committee will consider symposium papers for publication in academic journals or edited books.

Registration & participation fee

Participation fee is US\$100.00 (+ reception party fee: US\$50.00). The registration deadline is July 31, 2018
—Procedures and payment methods will be announced on the web page: <http://marxinthe21stcentury.jspe.gr.jp/>

The Executive Committee: Why in Japan? Who are we?

Since their rather late arrival in Japan in the early 20th Century, the ideas of K. Marx have nourished generations of scholars and activists. During the long history of applying K. Marx's ideas to Japan's capitalist economic system and society, Japanese scholars have made unique contributions to Marxian studies. Just as Marx himself regarded the investigation of political economy as the key to analyze the structure and movement of modern society, Marxian investigations in Japan have centered on political economy, even while informing explorations of wide-ranging aspects of social relations.

Building on this long tradition of Marxian studies in Japan, the Executive Committee for the international symposium on *K. Marx in the 21st Century* is an initiative of the Japan Society of Political Economy (JSPE) and of the Japanese Society for the History of Economic Thought (JSHET), together with leading academic societies of Marxian studies in Japan – the Institute for Fundamental Political Economy (IFPE), the Japanese Society for the Study of Materialism (JSSM), the Japanese Society for the Study of Credit Theory (JSSCT) and the Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Marx-Engels-Forscher (AMEF). A scientific committee, including leading overseas scholars, is being assembled to advise the Executive Committee on the selection of proposals and on publication possibilities.

The Executive Committee of K. Marx in the 21st Century Symposium

Chairman: Tetsuji Kawamura (President of JSPE: Hosei Univ.)

JSPE: Kiichiro Yagi, Makoto Itoh, Yasuo Gotoh, Hiroshi Ohnishi; JSHET: Koji Daikoku, Susumu Takenaga;

IFPE: Nobuyo Gotoh, Takeo Nakatani; JSSM: Sadaharu Oya, Norimasa Watanabe;

JSSCT: Yukihiro Maehata, Akira Matsumoto; AMEF: Izumi Omura, Akira Miyagawa

Administration Members

Atsushi Shimizu (Secretary General), Takeo Hidai, Kei Ehara, Yosuke Kobayashi, Tomoyuki Niida

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