

tigen uns hier wie dort. Man wünschte sich vom Autor mehr dazu. Auf ein solches Buch müssen wir noch warten. Es würde sich sicher lohnen.

Werner Pascha

Anna Wiemann: Networks and Mobilization Processes: The Case of the Japanese Anti-Nuclear Movement after Fukushima

München: Iudicium, 2018. 297 S., 50 EUR

During the last years, the Japanese triple disaster of March 11 — the earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima nuclear catastrophe — has been an important topic for scholars from Japanese studies and the social sciences around the globe. Scholars have for example written about the role of civil society in the reconstruction process in Tōhoku (Aldrich 2012), citizen scientists monitoring food (Kimura 2016, Sternsdorff 2018) and protests against nuclear power (Brown 2018). Seven years after the disaster, these publications not only address the events immediately following the disaster, but also the changes that occurred in the agenda of social movement actors, mobilization strategies and their success, public opinion, the Japanese government's policies and their impact. Anna Wiemann's timely book contributes to this growing body of literature on civil society actors and social movements in the aftermath of the triple disaster in Japan.

Wiemann's book introduces the vivid and plural anti-nuclear movement in post Fukushima Japan and argues that past co-operations and experiences of social movement organizations and other civil society actors have to be taken into account when trying to understand social movements and networks after disruptive events such as the triple disaster of March 11. She shows, on a meso level, how these trajectories have affected mobilization processes, organizational structures, networking, action repertoires and the impact of two anti-nuclear networks. The network e-shift was founded in March 2011 and comprises mainly environmental and anti-nuclear organizations (CSOs) that existed before the Fukushima catastrophe and few organizations that were just founded after 3.11. Its main goal is the phasing-out of nuclear energy. E-shift provides know-how and expertise to any interested organization or individual activist and is involved in advocacy-oriented activities and other activities that empower citizens. The other network, Shienhō Shimin Kaigi (SHSK, English: Citizen Conference to Promote the Nuclear Victims Support Act), a nuclear victim organization was founded in 2012 and emerged as a second-generation-network out of the informal co-operation of citizens, especially mothers' groups, nuclear victim support organizations and environmental organizations. Many of the member organizations were founded after 3.11. SHSK is a single-issue network that focuses on making nuclear victims' voices heard in the implementation process of the Nuclear Victims Support Act, enacted in June 2012.

In five chapters, Wiemann introduces (1) a relational approach to social movements, mobilization and networks, (2) her methodology, (3) the network e-shift, (4) the network Shienhō shimin kaigi and (5) a comparison of the two cases with a focus on network mobilizing processes. I particularly enjoyed the parts of the two case studies where Wiemann analyzes the two networks' "access to policy-makers" and how it changed after the 2012 election that re-established the LDP as the ruling party.

The well-researched and empirically-rich book is grounded in extensive fieldwork conducted in 2013 and 2014. Wiemann conducted interviews with network members, politicians and scholars, attended meetings and other events of the movement like symposia, film screen-

ings, talks and question-and-answer sessions and analyzed their publications. In the book, many quotes from interviews with movement members make for interesting insights into the motivations of activists for joining the movement, the internal problems and organizational structures.

The strength of the book is that Anna Wiemann has captured the plurality of social movement organizations and networks in the anti-nuclear movement, shows their organizational structures and networking activities with other organizations, networks, politicians and society, but also addresses conflicts and problems between organizations in the respective networks. It makes an important contribution to the study of social movements and civil society in Japan by taking into account the historical trajectories of civil society organizations, social movements and their networks. This perspective counters the misperception that in Japan, a civil society did not exist before the Kobe earthquake in 1995.

However, as a reader I would have appreciated it if the author had taken the time to revise the PhD thesis this book is based on into a more accessible book format. More information on the contribution of the findings from the case study to the larger debates on social movements and civil society in post Fukushima Japan and its historical trajectories would have provided further support to the book. Nevertheless, Wiemann's book is an important contribution to social movement studies and Japanese studies and will be of interest to everybody who is interested in dynamics in Japan's society after 3.11., the perspectives of concerned citizens in post-Fukushima Japan, and the alternatives they suggest to government policies. It will also be valuable to those who are more generally interested in social movement theory.

Cornelia Reiher

Byung-Yeon Kim: Unveiling the North Korean Economy. Collapse and Transition

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017. 329 S., 28,99 GBP

North Korea might be the most highlighted and, at the same time, the most reclusive country in the world. Nevertheless, the recent summit of U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un on June 12, 2018 marks a significant change in North Korea's international relations. Media coverage around the world expresses curiosity about the consequences of this summit and is engaged with deciphering Kim's intentions. International relations heavily influence the economic performance of a country and the normalization of the relationship with the U.S. is not unrelated to economic benefits by North Korea. Through "Unveiling the North Korean Economy. Collapse and Transition" by Byung-Yeon Kim, we can glimpse at the recent state of the North Korean economy. However, the investigation of the North Korean economy is heavily based on indirect methods due to limited contact and statistical data. This applies to Kim's analysis as well. Despite his precise calculation of the performance of North Korea's economy and quantitative surveys of North Korean refugees and Chinese entrepreneurs, his analysis reflects limitations to reveal the real economic lives of the North Koreans. However, his analysis is comprehensive enough to show how dynamic the North Korean economy actually is.

The book consists of three chapters. Chapter 1 presents models of socialist economies and their inefficiencies. As a leading researcher of transition economics, Kim sets a premise that the economic performance of a nation profoundly correlates with the stability of its political