

Curriculum Vitae

Sonja Ganseforth

Email: ganseforth@dijtokyo.org

Twitter: @SGanseforth; @regional_japan

ORCID: 0000-0003-4917-0791

Qualifications

2013

PhD: Leipzig University

Faculty of History, Arts and Regional Studies /
DFG graduate school 1261 *Critical Junctures of Globalization*

2009

Magistra Artium: Leipzig University

Arab Studies and Oriental Philology, Japanese Studies,
German as a Foreign Language

01/2014–02/2014

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

02/2006 – 08/2006

Damascus University

04/2005 – 02/2006

Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto

Employment

Since 2020

German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ), Tokyo
Principal Researcher
Head of research group “Future of Local Communities”

2017–2020

German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ), Tokyo
Senior research fellow

2014–2015

Leipzig University, Institute of East Asian Studies, Japanese Studies
Research associate

2012/2013

Leipzig University, Institute of Oriental Studies
Research assistant

2012

Leipzig University, Collaborative research center “*Difference and Integration*” (SFB 586)
Research associate

10/2010–03/2012

Leipzig University, Centre for Area Studies
Research associate

Honorary Office

DIJ employees’ council (since May 2020)

Publications (Selection)

Books

2022

Editorship

[Rethinking locality in Japan.](#)

(co-edited with Hanno Jentsch) Abingdon: Routledge.

2016

Monograph

[Besetzungen. Japanische Entwicklungsräume in Palästina.](#)

(Occupations – Japanese Development Spaces in Palestine)
Bielefeld: Transcript.

Journal articles

2021

“Blue revitalization or dispossession? Reform of common resource management in Japanese small-scale fisheries.”

[The Geographical Journal](#), 00, 1–14.

2020

“Anti-Olympic rallying points, public alienation, and transnational alliances.”

[The Asia-Pacific Journal Japan Focus](#) 18 (5), No. 16.

2011

“Japanese fish markets, Chinese seafood palaces and global sushi: Meeting Theodore C. Bestor.”

[International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food](#)

18 (2), 149–161.

2011

“Ressourcenkonflikte in der Fischerei.”
(Resource Conflicts in Fisheries.)

Geographische Rundschau 7–8, 60–62.

Book chapters

2022

[“Territorialized yet fluid locality: Reform, consolidation, and the more-than-human in coastal fishery cooperatives.”](#)

In Ganseforth, Sonja & Hanno Jentsch (eds.):

[Rethinking locality in Japan.](#) Abingdon: Routledge, 168–186.

2022

(with Hanno Jentsch)

[“Introduction.”](#)

In Ganseforth, Sonja & Hanno Jentsch (eds.):

[Rethinking locality in Japan.](#) Abingdon: Routledge, 1–17.

2021

[“Ambiguity and blurred boundaries: Contextualizing and evaluating heterogeneous sources.”](#)

In Kottmann, Nora & Cornelia Reiher (eds.):

[Studying Japan: Research designs, fieldwork and methods.](#)

Baden-Baden: Nomos, S. 113–116.

2020

“Reclaiming the global countryside? Decline and diversification in Saga Genkai coastal fisheries.”

In Manzenreiter, Wolfram, Ralph Lützel & Sebastian Polak-Rottmann (eds.):

[Japan’s new ruralities: Coping with decline in the periphery.](#)

Abingdon: Routledge, 82–100.

2020

[“The difference between zero and one: Voices from the Tokyo anti-Olympic movements.”](#)

In Holthus, Barbara, Isaac Gagné, Wolfram Manzenreiter & Franz Waldenberger (eds.):

[Japan through the lens of the Tokyo Olympics.](#)

Abingdon: Routledge, 110–115.

2020

[“Olympic leverages: Contending food standards and the struggle for a sustainability legacy.”](#)

In Holthus, Barbara, Isaac Gagné, Wolfram Manzenreiter & Franz Waldenberger (eds.):

[Japan through the lens of the Tokyo Olympics.](#)

Abingdon: Routledge, 124–129.

2015

“Fisch in Japan. Machtverschiebungen im Fischereisektor, Revitalisierungsstrategien und nationale Konsumdiskurse.”

(Fish in Japan. Power Shifts in the Fisheries Sector, Revitalization Strategies and National Discourses of Consumption.) In Sippel, Sarah & Cornelia Reiher (eds.): [Umkämpftes Essen: Produktion, Handel und Konsum von Lebensmitteln in globalen Kontexten.](#)

(Contested Food. Production, Trade and Consumption of Food in Global Contexts) Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 227–246.

2014

(with Jörg Gertel & Rachid Ouaisa)

“Jugend in der Arabischen Welt.”

(Youth in the Arab World.) In Gertel, Jörg & Rachid Ouaisa (eds.):

[Jugendbewegungen. Städtischer Widerstand und Umbrüche in der arabischen Welt.](#) (Youth Movements. Urban Resistance and Upheavals in the Arab World.) Bielefeld: Transcript, 12–29.

2010

“Arturo Escobar.”

In Middell, Matthias & Ulf Engel (Hg.):

[Theoretiker der Globalisierung.](#) (Key Thinkers of Globalization.)

Leipzig: Leipziger Universitätsverlag, 165–178.

Conferences

08/10/2021

Post-Olympics Japan
VSJF/GIGA/Univ. Zürich

From 'No Olympics 2020' to 'NOlympics Anywhere': Reflecting on the anti-Olympic movements in Japan before and after Tokyo 2020/1.
Presentation

28/08/2021

ICAS
Kyoto Seika Univ. (online)

Rethinking Locality in Japan
Book presentation

25/08/2021

EAJS
Ghent University (online)

Sustainable growth discourses and the decline and enclosure of Japanese coastal fisheries.
Presentation

17/06/2021

Japanese-German Center
Berlin JDZB (online)

Recovery Games under the Mask: The Tokyo Olympics through the Lens of Japan Scholars.

Panel discussion

04/06/2021

Nippon Connection (online)

3.11 – 10 Jahre danach: Alles „Under Control“?

(3.11 – 10 years later: Everything “under control”?) Panel discussion

22/04/2021

Climate Change, Energy, and Sustainability in the Pacific Region. DIJ Tokyo (online)

Transnational Renegotiation of Sustainability Discourses in Japanese Fisheries.

Presentation

22/03/2021–26/03/2021 AAS (online)	<i>The Political Ecology of Japanese Fishery Reform.</i> Presentation
05/03/2021 Annual Intl. Conference of Japanese Studies (online) Ateneo de Manila Univ.	<i>Spectacle and disaster – Opposition against the Tokyo 2020+1 'Recovery Games.'</i> Presentation
06/11/2020 <i>Coastal Transitions: Blue Economy</i> New Haven, USA (online)	<i>Blue growth discourses and the enclosure of contracting Japanese coastal fisheries.</i> Presentation
02/09/2020 AAS-in-Asia Kobe (online)	<i>New marinalities of Japanese fishing villages.</i> Presentation
13/08/2020 <i>Asia's New Ruralities</i> University of Vienna (online)	<i>Remaking rurality in Japanese fishing villages.</i> Presentation
30/11/2019 地域漁業学会第61回大会 Nagasaki University	<i>Seafood as culture: Rethinking the meaning of revitalization in coastal fisheries.</i> Presentation
08/11/2019 VSJF Ruhr University Bochum	<i>Anti-Olympic movements in Tokyo and the struggle for the city.</i> Presentation
19/10/2018 <i>What is the 'Local'?</i> DIJ Tokyo	<i>Contesting multi-dimensional boundaries in fishery cooperatives.</i> Presentation
02/10/2018 Transregional Academy NUS, Singapore	<i>Occupying infrastructures: Contested development in Palestine.</i> Presentation
27/09/2018 World Social Science Forum, Fukuoka	<i>Knowledge and Power in Palestinian Development Politics.</i> Presentation
28/07/2018 Rural Sociological Society (RSS), Portland, OR	<i>Rural livelihoods and global commodity chains in shrinking Japanese fisheries.</i> Presentation
30/06/2018 Asian Studies Conference Japan (ASCJ), ICU, Tokyo	<i>Fish as Cultural Commodity: The Transformation of Coastal Fisheries in Japan.</i> Presentation
24/06/2018 SASE Doshisha University, Kyoto	<i>Japanese Companies in the Restructuring of Global Seafood Production Networks.</i> Presentation
29/04/2018 Anthropology of Japan in Japan (AJJ), Meiji University	<i>Multi-dimensional boundaries in fishery cooperative communities.</i> Presentation
26/01/2018 New Cultural Geography University of Freiburg	<i>Lebewesen, Nahrungsmittel oder kulturelles Konsumprodukt? Fisch in japanischen Revitalisierungsprogrammen.</i> Presentation
10/12/2017 AJJ Doshisha University, Kyoto	<i>Fishing for Culture? Re-Educating Fishers as Self-Marketing Entrepreneurs.</i> Presentation

02/11/2017 VSJF University of Vienna	<i>Institutional Change in Japan's Peripheries. Rural Areas between Decentralization, Deregulation, and Dependency.</i> Panel organization and chair
01/09/2017 EAJS Univ. Nova de Lisboa	<i>Survival at the Margins. Precarious Livelihoods in Rural Japanese Fishing Communities.</i> Presentation
03/09/2015 Japan Anthropology Workshop (JAWS) Boğaziçi Univ., Istanbul	<i>From Animal to Functional Food. Converting Fish into High-tech Commodities.</i> Presentation
26/08/2015 Japanologentag LMU Munich	<i>Die alten Männer und das Meer. Krisenbewältigungsstrategien in der japanischen Fischerei.</i> (The old men and the sea. Crisis coping strategies in Japanese fisheries.) Presentation
08/05/2015 GRK 1261 Final Conference Leipzig University	<i>Japanese Seafood Companies as Portals of Globalization.</i>
02/12/2014 100 Year Anniversary Institute of East Asian Stud. Leipzig University	<i>Die Frage von sozialer Nachhaltigkeit in der japanischen Küstenfischerei.</i> (The Question of Social Sustainability in Japanese Coastal Fisheries.) Presentation
25/11/2014 Agrifood XXI University of Sydney	<i>Social Sustainability in Japanese Fishing Communities.</i> Presentation
26/09/2014 DAVO Congress University of Cologne	<i>Raumbesetzungen in einem japanischen Entwicklungsprojekt in Palästina.</i> (Occupying Spaces in a Japanese Development Project in Palestine.) Presentation
28/08/2014 EAJS University of Ljubljana	<i>Asian Peacemakers? Positioning Japan in the Middle East.</i> Presentation
29/01/2014 International Seminar Amity Univ., Lucknow	<i>Neoliberal Development Politics in Palestine.</i> Presentation
07/06/2012 Inter-Asian Connections III University of Hong Kong	<i>From Anti-imperialist Peer to Neo-colonial Power? Japan's Role in West Asia.</i> Presentation
21/03/2012 Middle East Research Competition Tunis	<i>Regional Upheavals, Contested Spaces and Japanese Development Projects in Palestine.</i> Presentation
24/02/2012–26/02/2012 Realigning Power Geometries in the Arab World Leipzig University	<i>Contested Palestinian Spaces amidst Regional Upheavals.</i> Workshop
25/08/2011 EAJS Tallinn University	<i>Contested spaces in the Japanese fishing sector.</i> Presentation