

International Conference

“Comparing Fukushima and Chernobyl: Social and Cultural Dimensions of the Two Nuclear Catastrophes”

Place and time:

March 8 – 9, 2012

Goethe University Frankfurt, Campus Westend, IG Farben Building Room IG 311
Grüneburgplatz 1, D-60323 Frankfurt am Main

Information and registration:

izo@uni-frankfurt.de

March 8, 2012

09.00 – 09.30 Registration with coffee and tea

09.30 – 10.00 Official opening, Introduction (Graf, Bohn)

10.00 – 13.00 Panel 1

Panel 1 “Cultural discourse and literary representations: Trauma narratives after the nuclear catastrophes”	
Chair: Lisette Gebhardt (Frankfurt) / Thomas Bohn (Giessen)	
Steffi Richter (Leipzig)	Fukushima and Chernobyl – Two discourses, similar traumata
Tatiana Kasperski (Vilnius)	Chernobyl disaster in Belarusian national narratives: did anything change after Fukushima?
Masami Yuki (Kanazawa)	Language and imagination before and after Fukushima: Japanese literary responses to nuclear catastrophe
Arata Takeda (Chicago)	Literary responses to nuclear disasters: Case studies on Christa Wolf’s <i>Störfall. Nachrichten eines Tages</i> (1987) and Daniel de Roulet’s <i>Tu n’as rien vu à Fukushima</i> (2011)
Stanislaw Konopacki (Lodz)	Presentation of Chernobyl and Fukushima disasters in Polish press – two cultural narratives

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.30 Panel 2

Panel 2 “Technological optimism, technological pessimism: Reactions and ethical reflexions in regard to Fukushima and Chernobyl”	
Chair: Thomas Daiber (Giessen) / Steffi Richter (Leipzig)	
Yasuo Kobayashi (Tokyo)	Ethical Dimensions of “Fukushima”
Raji C. Steineck (Zurich)	Japanese ethics of technology and the catastrophe in North Japan
Astrid Sahm (Minsk)	Some explanatory remarks for specific German reactions to Chernobyl and Fukushima

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 – 17.30 Panel 3

Panel 3 “Controversies about technology and sciences: Historical, political and ideological trajectories in East Asia and Eastern Europe”	
Chair: Melanie Arndt (Potsdam) / Raji C. Steineck (Zurich)	
Andrei Stsiapanau (Vilnius)	The Improvement of the technopolitical regime in Belarus: Interplay of Chernobyl and Fukushima discourses
Thomas Feldhoff (Frankfurt)	From NIMBY to YIMBY: Understanding the nuclear facility siting process in Japan
Michael Kinski (Frankfurt)	Adoption and adaptation of technologies in Japan from the perspective of intellectual history: Early constructs of the 19th century
Iwo Amelung (Frankfurt)	Popularization and the idea of omnipotence of the sciences in 20th century China

March 9, 2012

09.00 - 11.00 Panel 4

Panel 4 “Regional fall-out: Nuclear catastrophe and cultural reactions in neighboring countries”	
Chair: Veronika Wendland (Jena) / Iwo Amelung (Frankfurt)	
Thomas Daiber (Giessen)	Narrating nature and catastrophic experience in Poland
Aliaksandr Dalhouski (Giessen)	Politics and society after Chernobyl: Belarus in comparative and entangled perspective
Arndt Graf (Frankfurt)	Fukushima and the Muslim anti-nuclear movement in Indonesia
Shogo Suzuki (Manchester)	Fukushima and the reaction of the Asian neighbors
Joanna Elfving-Hwang (Frankfurt)	Cultural discourses of environmental disasters in Korea

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00 Panel 5

Panel 5 “Living with nuclear catastrophes: Coping strategies and future visions”	
Chair: Astrid Sahn (Minsk) / Arata Takeda (Chicago)	
Christian Oberländer (Halle-Wittenberg)	Fukushima and its political and social aftermath
Veronika Wendland (Jena)	(Re-)Inventing the Atomograd. Nuclear as a way of life before and after Chernobyl, 1970-2011
Melanie Arndt (Potsdam)	The missing trauma? The disappearance of Chernobyl in Eastern Europe

13.00 – 13.30 Concluding remarks, open research questions and options for future collaboration

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch, end of conference