

THE CENTRE FOR KOREAN RESEARCH PROUDLY PRESENT



NATIONALISM AND SHARED DEMOCRATIC IDENTITY: EVIDENCE FROM JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA



***Dr. Jiyoung Ko
Bates College***

***Thursday, February 6, 2020
5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.***

***Geog 200, Geography Bldg
1984 West Mall, Vancouver,
BC V6T 1Z2***



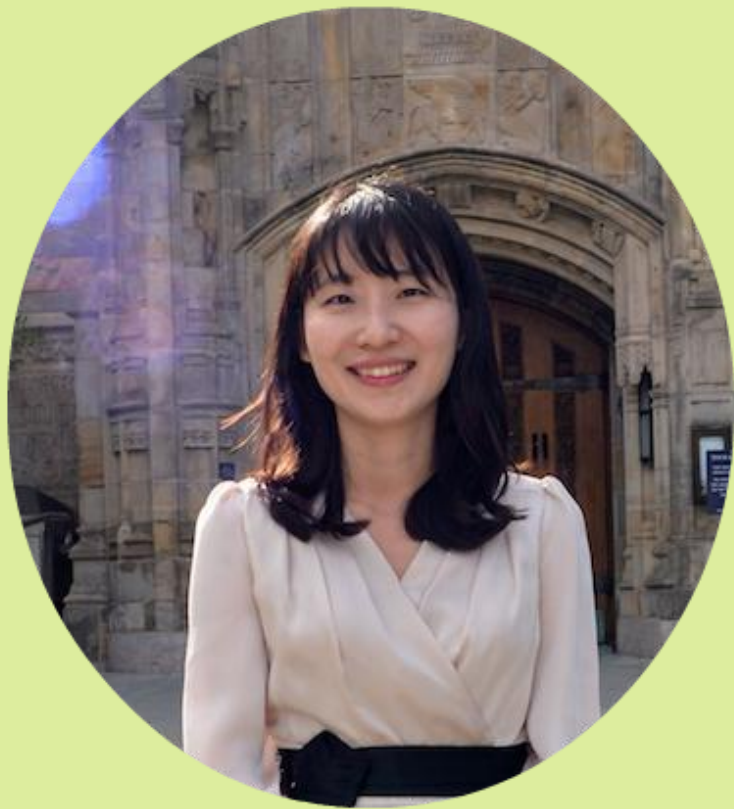
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
School of Public Policy and Global Affairs
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ABSTRACT

Nationalism is known for its deleterious effect in international relations: when nationalistic sentiments are stimulated, people tend to prefer hawkish foreign policy and call for military aggression. Is there any way to mitigate the negative consequences of nationalism? In this paper, based on the Common In-group Identity Model in social psychology, I claim that among democracies, reminding citizens of a shared identity as “democratic citizens” can be a potential way to weaken the negative impacts of nationalism. Using an original survey experiment conducted in Japan, this study shows that citizens’ tendency to favor a hawkish, hardline policy upon stimulation of nationalistic sentiments vanishes when they are reminded that another country involved in a dispute is a democracy. A follow-up survey experiment in South Korea further explores the robustness of these findings. This study provides important implications for the study of nationalism and international conflict while shedding new light on the causal mechanisms of the democratic peace theory.

BIO

Jiyoung Ko is an Assistant Professor of Politics at Bates College. Dr. Ko is an international security scholar with a regional focus on Northeast Asia. Her research explores how nationalism affects a country’s foreign policy behavior and regional security issues like alliance politics and nuclear proliferation in Northeast Asia. She is currently completing her book project that examines how popular nationalism affects the likelihood of international conflict. Dr. Ko received her Ph.D, M.Phil, and M.A. in Political Science from Yale University, and a B.A. and a M.A. in Political Science from Korea University.



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