

# Vienna Taiwan Lecture Series

The Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology and  
the Vienna Center for Taiwan Studies are pleased to announce a lecture by

DR ISABELLE CHENG  
University of Portsmouth

## Female marriage migration to Taiwan The state, legislation and the wife-mothers from outside

### ABSTRACT

This lecture examines female marriage migration from China and Southeast Asia to Taiwan. From the perspective of the state, this lecture analyses how the immigrant women are constructed by the state and how the construction is translated into citizenship legislation that aims to assimilate them into chaste wives and good mothers. The focus of this examination is on how the construction of Chinese and Southeast Asian women is differentiated pertinent to Taiwan's self-identity vis-à-vis China, a political and military threat to Taiwan's survival, and Southeast Asia, a region perceived as being lagging behind Taiwan's development. This examination is to be cross-checked by how Chinese and Southeast Asian women individually and collectively react to the differentiated and gendered citizenship legislation. In spite of the government's claim of promoting multiculturalism, this lecture argues that the citizenship legislation is utilized for ethnic nationalism. Nevertheless, immigrant women develop varying strategies with which to negotiate or resist the state's assimilation scheme.

ISABELLE CHENG is a Lecturer in East Asian Studies at the School of Languages and Area Studies of the University of Portsmouth. She is also a Research Associate of the Centre of Taiwan Studies of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). She serves on the Executive Board of the European Association of Taiwan Studies (EATS) since 2012.



Date: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2014  
Time: 18:15  
Location: SIN 1, at the Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology,  
Altes AKH, Campus, Spitalgasse 2, yard 2, entrance 2.3  
<http://campus.univie.ac.at/plan-universitaere-einrichtungen>

Introduction and discussion lead by Dr Astrid Lipinsky – University of Vienna  
The lecture is open to the public without charge or prior registration



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