

# 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 LARA MOMESSO  
University of Portsmouth

## A lesson from Taiwan

Revisiting migration for marriage by looking at the lived  
experiences of Cross-Strait Marriage Migrants

### ABSTRACT

In the last decades Taiwan has been affected by the arrival of immigrants from neighbouring countries as a consequence of economic and social changes on a global, regional as well as domestic level. As part of these immigration flows, migration for marriage has been particularly important in the island where, on average, one out of eight marriages has been with a foreigner in the last fifteen years, with a pick in 2003 when 32% of all new marriages were between a Taiwanese citizen and a foreigner.

By focusing on the case of mainland Chinese marriage migrants in Taiwan, the unique condition reserved to this group of spouses in order to assess similarities and differences with other contemporary movements for marriage in the island and in the region will be explored and the understanding of broader logics used to understand migration for marriage in the region could also explain the emergence and evolution of the phenomenon of cross-Strait marriage migration in Taiwan. This presentation draws from ten months of ethnographic fieldwork based on in-depth interviews and participant observation with cross-Strait marriage migrants and their families, civil society organizations' practitioners and government officials carried out in Taipei (Taiwan) between 2010 and 2011.

LARA MOMESSO is a Lecturer in East Asian Studies at the School of Languages and Area Studies of the University of Portsmouth. She received her PhD from the School of African and Oriental Studies, University of London. Her areas of interest include women and migration, contemporary China and Taiwan, and, more broadly, Chinese communities abroad.



Date: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 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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