Dokdo/Takeshima

Territorial Dispute and Social Activism in Japan and Korea

Speakers: Alexander Bukh and Nils Clauss

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Alexander Bukh is a Senior Lecturer in International Relations at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Alexander has published extensively on Japan's national identity, Japan's foreign policy and territorial disputes. His articles appeared in journals such as the *Pacific Review, Asian Perspective, European Journal of International Relations* and the *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*. His current research focuses on territorial disputes and civic activism in Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

Nils Clauss is a Cinematographer and Photographer by trade currently based in Seoul, South Korea. He has shot, directed and edited a number of award-winning music videos, short, feature and documentary films, which have been screened at various international festivals or went viral online. Clauss' commercial work includes shooting, directing and editing for high-profile national and international clients such as ARTE, Burberry, Cheil, Do Ho Suh, Goethe-Institut, Google, GS Caltex, Hyundai, Innocean, !K7 Records, MIT, MTV K, The Munich Chamber Orchestra, Nike, The Official Korean Tourism Organization, Platoon, Samsung, The Swedish Trade & Invest Council, Tamschick Media + Space, Vice, Western Union, Yonsei University and ZDF among others.



The territorial dispute between Japan and Korea over the ownership of Dokdo/Takeshima islets resurfaced in early 2000s and today is one of the major stumbling blocks in bilateral relations. The dispute however is not limited to state to state relations as in both countries there are citizens' groups actively engaged in protesting, lobbying and educating the public. Who are these people however? What do they do in their everyday life? What motivates them to engage in this kind of activism? How do they see the other side? In this talk Alexander Bukh and Nils Clauss will discuss their documentary film that aims to provide some answers to these questions.