

IMH-EFEO Lecture Series

“French Historical Research and the Modern Era”

中研院近史所 & 法國遠東學院「法國人文學界反思近現代」系列講座

Speaker / 主講人

Prof. Sebastian VEG

Professor, EHESS / Université de Tokyo

法國高等社會科學研究院 教授

Title / 講題

Knowledge Circles in Colonial Hong Kong, 1945-1997

Date / 日期

Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 2:00 pm

二〇二六年六月十一日（四）下午二時

Venue / 地點

**Conference Room 2, Archive Building, Institute of Modern History
Academia Sinica**

中央研究院近代史研究所檔案館第二會議室

Abstract / 摘要

How and by whom was knowledge produced in post-war colonial Hong Kong? This project investigates how academics, journalists, writers and students produced and circulated knowledge about social, economic, political and historical issues during the colonial era, and how they engaged broader communities of readers. The focus is on the role of institutions within Hong Kong society that served as vectors for the knowledge produced by intellectuals, in particular newspapers, journals, universities, civil society organizations, as well as the reading publics that intellectuals reached through their writings. A variety of ideological and epistemic systems played a role in these institutions, in particular Cold War liberalism, Chinese cultural nationalism, and colonial ideology.

The timeframe is organized around the changing knowledge regimes in three periods. In the post-war years (1945-66) there were two main strands of intellectual activity. Within the colonial establishment, liberal elites formed groups advocating for a higher degree of self-governance, while refugee scholars and journalists from China leveraged US support to advance their own liberal or conservative agendas. In the second period (1966-1979), the moral authority of the post-war humanistic elites was challenged by social movements dominated by various forms of anti-colonial ideas. In the third segment (1979-1997), after governor MacLehose's visit to Beijing, professionals and academics debated the respective merits of the colonial status quo and “democratic reunification” (democratizing both Hong Kong and China). With the gradual rise of social sciences within the academic establishment, public opinion was now construed by different sides as the key to determining Hong Kong's political status.

The talk will be chaired by Prof. CHEN Chien-shou, Associate Research Fellow, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica. 此演講由中央研究院近代史研究所副研究員陳建守教授主持。

The talk will be given in English. Registration is not required.
此為英文演講。自由入座，無須報名

法國遠東學院 臺北中心 謹啟
[École française d'Extrême-Orient, Taipei Center](#)
Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica
Nankang, Taipei 11529, Taiwan
法國遠東學院 臺北中心
臺灣 臺北市 11529 南港區 中央研究院 歷史語言研究所
Tel. : 886 2 26 52 31 77 - Fax : 886 2 27 85 20 35
efeotpe@mail.ihp.sinica.edu.tw
<https://www.facebook.com/efeo.taipei/>