

# Comparing Fukushima and Chernobyl:

## Social and Cultural Dimensions of the Two Nuclear Catastrophes

**International Conference**  
**March 8 – 9, 2012**  
**Goethe University Frankfurt**

**IG Farben Building Room IG 311**  
**Campus Westend**  
**Grüneburgplatz 1**  
**D-60323 Frankfurt am Main**

## March 8, 2012

09.00 – 09.30	Registration with coffee and tea
<b>09.30 - 10.00</b>	<b>Opening Greetings</b>
Prof. Dr. Arndt Graf	Director, Interdisciplinary Centre for East Asian Studies (IZO)
Prof. Dr. Thomas Bohn	Vice Director, Giessen Centre for Eastern European Studies (GiZo)
Prof. Dr. Dr. Matthias Lutz-Bachmann	Vice President of Goethe University Frankfurt
Mr. Toyoei Shigeeda	Consul General of Japan in Frankfurt
Mr. Vladimir Kharchenko	Ukrainian Consul of Economic Affairs in Frankfurt

## March 8, 2012

<b>10.00 - 13.00</b>	<b>Panel 1</b>	<b><u>“Cultural discourse and literary representations: Trauma narratives after the nuclear catastrophes”</u></b>
		Chair: Lisette Gebhardt (Frankfurt) / Thomas Bohn (Giessen)
Steffi Richter (Leipzig)		“Fukushima and Chernobyl – Two discourses, similar traumata”
Tatiana Kasperski (Vilnius)		“Chernobyl disaster in Belarusian national narratives: did anything change after Fukushima?”
Masami Yuki (Kanazawa)		“Language and imagination before and after Fukushima: Japanese literary responses to nuclear catastrophe”
Arata Takeda (Chicago)		“Literary responses to nuclear disasters: Case studies on Christa Wolf’s <i>Störfall. Nachrichten eines Tages</i> (1987) and Daniel de Roulet’s <i>Tu n’as rien vu à Fukushima</i> (2011)”
Stanislaw Konopacki (Lodz)		“Presentation of Chernobyl and Fukushima disasters in Polish press – two cultural narratives”
11.30 – 11.45		Coffee break
13.00 – 14.00		Lunch (Provided onsite for all participants)

<b>14.00 - 15.30</b>	<b>Panel 2</b>	<b><u>“Technological optimism, technological pessimism: Reactions and ethical reflexions in regard to Fukushima and Chernobyl”</u></b>
		Chair: Thomas Daiber (Giessen) / Steffi Richter (Leipzig)
Yasuo Kobayashi (Tokyo)		“Ethical Dimensions of ‘Fukushima’”
Raji C. Steineck (Zurich)		“Japanese ethics of technology and the catastrophe in North Japan”
Astrid Sahm (Minsk)		“Some explanatory remarks for specific German reactions to Chernobyl and Fukushima”
15.30 – 16.00		Coffee break

<b>16.00 - 17.30</b>	<b>Panel 3</b>	<b><u>“Controversies about technology and sciences: Historical, political and ideological trajectories in East Asia and Eastern Europe”</u></b>
		Chair: Melanie Arndt (Potsdam) / Raji C. Steineck (Zurich)
Andrei Stsiapanau (Vilnius)		“The Improvement of the technopolitical regime in Belarus: Interplay of Chernobyl and Fukushima discourses”
Thomas Feldhoff (Frankfurt)		“From NIMBY to YIMBY: Understanding the nuclear facility siting process in Japan”
Michael Kinski (Frankfurt)		“Adoption and adaptation of technologies in Japan from the perspective of intellectual history: Early constructs of the 19th century”
Iwo Amelung (Frankfurt)		“Popularization and the idea of omnipotence of the sciences in 20th century China”
18.00		Reception for invited speakers at Restaurant Lorsbacher Thal, Große Rittergasse 49-51, 60594 Frankfurt

## March 9, 2012

<b>09.00 - 11.00</b>	<b>Panel 4</b>	<b><u>“Regional fall-out: Nuclear catastrophe and cultural reactions in neighboring countries”</u></b>
		Chair: Veronika Wendland (Jena) / Iwo Amelung (Frankfurt)
Thomas Daiber (Giessen)		“Narrating nature and catastrophic experience in Poland”
Aliaksandr Dalhouski (Giessen)		“Environmental migration as a reflection of societal disposition to the Chernobyl Disaster in Belarus”
Arndt Graf (Frankfurt)		“Fukushima and the Muslim anti-nuclear movement in Indonesia”
Shogo Suzuki (Manchester)		“Fukushima and the reaction of the Asian neighbors”
Joanna Elfving-Hwang (Frankfurt)		“Cultural discourses of environmental disasters in Korea”
11.00 – 11.30		Coffee break
<b>11.30 - 13.00</b>	<b>Panel 5</b>	<b><u>“Living with nuclear catastrophes: Coping strategies and future visions”</u></b>
		Chair: Astrid Sahm (Minsk) / Arata Takeda (Chicago)
Christian Oberländer (Halle-Wittenberg):		“Fukushima and its political and social aftermath”
Veronika Wendland (Jena)		“(Re-)Inventing the Atomograd. Nuclear as a way of life before and after Chernobyl, 1970-2011”
Melanie Arndt (Potsdam)		“The missing trauma? The disappearance of Chernobyl in Eastern Europe”
13.00 - 13.30		Closing of the conference
13.30 – 14.30		Lunch for invited speakers at “Sturm & Drang” on Westend Campus