

TALK / DISCUSSION / GET TOGETHER

UPDATING THE SOCIOLOGY OF GENERATIONS FOR CONTEMPORARY TIMES

Global Lessons for Thinking
about Intergenerational
Conflict and Connections

Keynote:

Prof. Dr. Dan Woodman,
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2024 Feb 21
16:00–18:00

University of Vienna
Seminar room 11
Kolingasse 14–16

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Political, economic, and social changes and crises around the world are often interpreted through the lens of generational conflict, with some arguing that emerging connections between young people across borders is constituting a new 'global generation'. Influential voices counter that a focus on generations obscures continuing differences and inequalities, particularly related to class and geographical location. In other words, generational framing is positioned as a type of 'Northern Theory' that deemphasises important differences within age cohorts and within and between nations.

TALK

KEYNOTE

Grounded in an overview of the sociology of generations and these claims of an emergent 'global generation', this presentation will look at the way the notion of generations is used in different places in the Asia Pacific, including Taiwan, South Korea, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Australia. I will show how drawing on these diverse understandings of generations can orient youth studies researchers to the effects of social change on the nature of intergenerational relationships, including new connections as well as intergenerational tensions, helping the field move beyond simplistic notions of generations in conflict, and beyond simplistic models of the reproduction of inequalities across time.