Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange

Cover Page for Interim and Final Reports

East European Region

Final Report

Project Number: RG003-U-11

Project Title: Taiwanese Modern Confucians and their Philosophical Contribution to Asian Modernization

Category: Research Grants

Duration of Project: June 2012 – June 2015

Project Director(s): Prof. Jana S. Rošker, Ljubljana University, Slovenia (羅亞娜教授，盧布爾雅那大學，斯洛文尼亞)

Project Co-Director(s): Prof. Lee Ming-Huei, Academia Sinica, Taiwan (李明輝，台灣，中央研究院)

Institute(s): Ljubljana University, Slovenia, Academia Sinica, Taiwan (台灣，中央研究院)

Date Report Submitted: June 30th 2015
Project members at the University of Ljubljana:

Tea Sernelj, PhD candidate, assistant researcher, project coordinator
Matjaž Vidmar, PhD Candidate, junior research fellow
Prof. Nataša Vamplej Suhadolnik, PhD

External collaboration partners:

Prof. Tsai Jung-Tao, National Chiayi University (蔡忠道教授，國立嘉義大學)
Prof. Lin Mingchang, Fuguang University, Yilan (林明昌教授，佛光大學，宜蘭)
Prof. Geir Sigurðsson, Iceland University, Reykjavik, Iceland
Prof. Bart Dessein, Ghent University, Belgium

Description of the progress of the project and the research results from the entire research grant period (June 2012 – June 2015)

The research results of the project are manifesting themselves in the following categories:

A) AUTHORED ACADEMIC MONOGRAPHS (BOOKS)
B) EDITED ACADEMIC MONOGRAPHS (BOOKS, COLLECTIONS)
C) ORGANIZED ACADEMIC MEETINGS
D) VISITING RESEARCH PARTNERS AND SERIES OF GUEST LECTURES FROM TAIWAN
E) INVITED GUEST LECTURES AT/FROM FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES
F) CONFERENCE AND CONGRESS CONTRIBUTIONS
G) ORIGINAL ACADEMIC ARTICLES
H) CHAPTERS IN EDITED ACADEMIC MONOGRAPHS AND COLLECTIONS
I) BOOK REVIEWS
J) PROJECT DISSEMINATION – MUSIC CD WITH TRANSLATIONS OF CLASSICAL CHINESE LYRICS

In all the project related research publications, the project director and the project members have stated the fact that the research work which has led to them was funded by the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for Academic exchange and have expressed their gratitude to the Foundation.

The physical volumes of the project related publications for the period June 2012 – August 2014 were sent to the foundation already. The publication which were published after that period will be brought directly to the foundation in the beginning of July 2015. The exception are two academic monographs that are still in the editing process and will be presumably published in late 2015 and early 2016 respectively (although they were sent to the publisher several months ago already). These are the following two books:

1. ROŠKER, Jana S. Contemporary East Asia and the Confucian Revival. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars, (2015, in print)

The two abovementioned books will be sent to the foundation immediately after they will be published. As already mentioned, all the other publications that have not been delivered to the foundation yet, will be delivered in the beginning of July 2015.

In the following, please find a detailed introduction of the research results, listed in accordance to the above stated categories:

A) ACADEMIC MONOGRAPHS (AUTHORED BOOKS)

A-I) 2012


The project leader has started her work on the abovementioned monograph in 2011, during the time she was applying for the Chiang Ching-Kuo research project. The monograph includes a chapter which has been written in the framework of this project. It introduces Feng Youlan’s 馮友蘭 view on the concept li 理. As Feng belongs to the pioneers and to the 1st generation of Modern Confucians, his work has profoundly and directly influenced the philosophical discourses of the 2nd generation which represents the core of the project contents. The book as a whole (which was published at the end of 2012, i.e. after six months of the duration of the project) can be regarded as a necessary re-interpretation of the ontological background of classical Chinese philosophy. Its significance for the project related topics lies in the fact, that ontology has been regarded by the representatives of the 2nd generation of the Taiwanese Modern Confucian current as the philosophical discipline that would provide clear solutions to the problems they faced, beginning with that of Western modernization, and with the conviction that only through a genuine and clear comprehension of the cosmic substance would modern man be able to find his spiritual home again. In order to achieve the aims of synthesizing Chinese and Western theory, Modern Confucian philosophers have namely mostly focused upon ontological problems which had been introduced by Western systems of thought, in the belief that questions related to the ultimate reality of the cosmos, the substance of being and the Absolute determined the meaning of life and were crucial to the establishment of a new values system compatible with current social conditions and the preservation of an integral cultural and personal identity. The structural mode of comprehension which has also in detail been introduced and analyzed in the present book, has also had a great impact on Mou Zongsan’s epistemology and has therefore formed an important foundation of the elaborated research on this topics, which has resulted in the second monograph published in the scope of the research project (see below).

In 2013, the book has been awarded with the prize for the Extraordinary scientific achievement in the field of humanities by the Slovenian Research Agency (Part of the
A volume of the above described monograph has already been delivered to the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in 2014.


The book (231 pages), which represents hitherto the central and most important result of the research project, has been published in May 2013 in Slovene language at the Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana University. It introduces to the Slovenian students and experts of Chinese studies, philosophy as well as of social or cultural studies the philosophical current of Modern Confucianism (xin ruxue) which was mainly developed during the 20th Century in Taiwan and Hong Kong, but also gained a wide spread popularity in most of the other East Asian societies that were traditionally influenced by Confucian thought, as for example Japan and South Korea. The authoress analyses the most important works of several crucial theoreticians of the new Modern Confucianism who were engaged in efforts to find some reconciliation between “Western” and “traditional Chinese” values, out of which would emerge a theoretical model of modernization that cannot be equated with “Westernization”. Since Modern Confucians viewed modernization mainly as a rationalization of the world, they were trying to find in their tradition the most possible authentic concepts, comparable to the two Western paradigms that were crucial for modernization, namely the concepts of subjectivity and the concept of reason and rationality.
respectively. Following this issue, the book analyses the central values of Confucianism, and interprets them in different Chinese and Taiwanese sociopolitical contexts in order to evaluate their impact upon prevailing contemporary ideologies. The authoress also examines the question about the main elements that provide the amalgamation of traditional Chinese values into the framework of modern and postmodern ideologies and axiological contexts.

(Below: the book cover)

A volume of the above described monograph has already been delivered to the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in 2014.

A – III) 2014


Political theory represents an important part of the Modern Confucian discourses. Hence, the present book illuminates some of the crucial problems linked to the traditional Chinese state theories in order to shed light upon the theoretical endeavors of the second generation of the Modern Confucian current, i.e. the Taiwanese Modern Confucian philosophers.

Hence, the present book is rooted in the presumption that the social, institutional and political systems in traditional societies have been culturally conditioned. It deals with the introduction, analyses and interpretation of traditional Chinese idea systems linked to the construction of the state.

The author believes that differences between past and present are not to be sought in the challenges of Eurocentrism from various cultural perspectives, but in recognizing the fact that the classic Chinese state model, has to a certain extent influenced the
present Chinese politics, in which the problems it generates are no longer limited to so-called “non-European” cultures, but also affect Euro-American societies. The need to learn about “different” state systems and ideologies thus also represents a challenge for Euro-American political sciences and philosophies, for they redefine their limits or borders and the very definition of statehood as such.

The book opens with an elaboration of problems and issues defining the methodology of intercultural research. The author believes that research in the field of Chinese philosophy should approach the Chinese cultural and linguistic area through its own language and texts. This approach is of key importance, for it is the only way (at least within a framework posited on an essential scientific methodology) to overcome an absolute dichotomy between the active subject and passive object in cultural research. In the Chinese language, the use of primary sources provides insights into the structure of issues and interpretations that are characteristic of the socialization process, as well as the contents and methodological approaches that form the research subjects.

The understanding of so-called “foreign cultures” is inextricably interwoven with the issue of the diversity of languages, traditions, histories and socialization processes. The interpretation of the various aspects and elements of ‘non-European’ cultures are likewise determined by the geographic, political and economic positions of both the interpreter and the element being interpreted. Intercultural research always includes translation issues, but this is clearly not limited to merely rendering one language into another, but also involves the “translation” or transposition of different discourses. This form of translation involves interpretations of individual textual and speech structures, categories, concepts and values that differ depending on their socio-cultural contexts. For this reason, we often encounter a discrepancy between the etymological and the functional understanding of a given expression. In some cases, the same expression may even be understood completely differently, depending on the general social context of the two different societies in which it appears. The author exemplifies this problem with her concrete study dealing with the cultural conditionality defining different perception and understanding of the term autonomy in Europe and China respectively.

The monograph explores in depth specific features of the traditional Chinese state theories and ideologies, focusing upon the most influential discourses in classical Chinese intellectual history. It mainly deals with Confucianism which represented (after the Han Dynasty, 206 B.C. - 220) the central official state doctrine throughout the entire historical processes of traditional and pre-modern China, but also introduces and analyses other relevant discourses in this field, as for instance the state theories of the main representatives of the Mohist and Legalist school and of the School of names. It also offers an exhaustive introduction of Daoist approaches that were mainly conditioned by the negation of state institutions.

The book begins by laying a theoretical foundation, go on to trace the history of Chinese classical state theories, present evidence of their involvement in a variety of civic associations, and concludes with discussion of classical influences upon the Chinese Modern Confucian movement.

(Below: the book cover)
A CD containing the above described monograph which has been published as an e-book, has already been delivered to the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in 2014.

A – IV) 2015


The book contains two longer essays written by Wang Hui and a study on his work and intellectual influence, written by the project director Jana S. Rošker. It analyses the impact of Wang Hui, who belongs to the most well-known and influential critical intellectuals in contemporary China. It focuses upon his interpretations of the role and function of Chinese scholars in the 20th century, upon his theories regarding the political system of representation, as well as upon his aspirations for Chinese democratization and aims to connect them to the political theories of the Modern Confucian movement.

(Below: the book cover)
A volume of the above described monograph will be delivered to the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in June 2015.

A-V) 2016 (forthcoming)


This book represents the most important research result of the entire three years research project. Already in 2014, it was accepted for publication by the Chinese University Press in Hong Kong. A few months ago, the editorial board of the University of Hawaii’s Press has also expressed their interest to co-publish the manuscript together with the Chinese University Press in Hong Kong. For the purposes of a better distribution, the original publisher has agreed to the joint publication. However, the CUP editing process is rather slow and the book will presumably not come out before early 2016.

The Confucian revival, which manifests itself in the modern Confucian current, belongs to the most influential and important streams of thought in contemporary Chinese philosophy and represents a crucial part of the new prevailing ideologies in P. R. China. Although many books and articles on this topic are available in Chinese, academic studies in Western languages are still few and far between. The present book aims to introduce this stream of thought which has mainly been living and working in Taiwan or Hong Kong in the second half of the 20th century. The philosophers belonging to this current believed that traditional Confucianism, understood as a specifically Chinese social, political, and moral system of thought can, if renewed and adapted to meet the conditions of the modern era, serve as the foundation for an ethically meaningful modern life. Simultaneously, these modern Confucian philosophers (especially Mou Zongsan, Tang Junyi, Xu Fuguan and Fang Dongmei) also aim to provide a spiritual antidote to the alienation which is seen by them as a collateral effect of the capitalistic glorification of competition and the
single-minded pursuit of profit. The scholars belonging to this stream sought to reconcile ‘Western’ and ‘traditional Chinese’ values, in order to create a theoretical model of modernization that would not be confused or equated with ‘Westernization’.

A volume of the book will be sent to the foundation immediately after printing (presumably in the beginning of 2016).
B) EDITED ACADEMIC MONOGRAPHS AND COLLECTIONS:

B-I) 2013


In the scope of the project, the project director prof. Jana S. Rošker and the project research team member Nataša Vampelj Suhadolnik have edited a monograph on Chinese modernization, entitled Modernization of Chinese Culture – Continuity and Change. The book is in print and has been published by the Cambridge Scholars Press in September 2013.

This international anthology carefully maps the Chinese modernization discourses, highlighting their relationships to other, similar discourses and situating it within historical and theoretical contexts. In contrast to the majority of recent discussions of a “Chinese development model” that tend to focus more on institutional than cultural factors, and are more narrowly concerned with economic matters than overall social development, the book offers several important focal points for many presently overlooked issues and dilemmas. The multifaceted perspective contained in this anthology are not limited to economic, social and ecological issues, but also includes political and social functions of ideologies and cultural conditioned values, representing the axial epistemological grounds of modern Chinese society.

(Below: the book cover)

A volume of the above described monograph has already been delivered to the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in 2014.
This special issue of the journal Asian Studies was dedicated to problems linked to the specific features of Chinese modernization, as viewed through the lens of Modern Confucianism. It contains selected contributions from the international symposium, Contemporary Confucianism and Chinese Modernization, Reykjavik, 7–8 September 2013, which was organized by Geir Sigurðsson, in cooperation with the Northern Lights Confucius Institute and the Chinese Studies Department of the University of Iceland.

It contains original academic articles written by all members and international collaborators of the research project, including its co-director, Prof. Lee Ming-Huei from the Taiwanese Academia Sinica.

It offers a good overview over the main issues that were treated by the Modern Confucian current. In international Sinology, this current of thought has been translated with various, sometimes colourful terms, which range from Neo-Confucianism, Contemporary or Modern Neo-Confucianism, to New, Modern or Contemporary Confucianism. The first group, which includes the term “Neo-Confucianism”, is impractical because it is often confused with the term that, in Western sinology, generally denotes the reformed Confucian philosophies of the Song and Ming periods (li xue 理學 or xingli xue 性理學). A similar confusion can be found in Chinese discourses, which commonly designate this current with one of the following expressions: 新儒學, 現代儒學, 當代儒學, 現代新儒學, 當代新儒學, etc. In our view, the Chinese expression 現代新儒學 is most appropriate, given that in China (as opposed to European sinological discourses), the Neo-Confucianism of the Song and Ming dynasties has never been associated with the concept of New Confucianism 新儒學, and thus the character that signifies “new” in this phrase is not problematic. Instead, for the English translation, given that we are dealing with philosophies, social theories and ideologies that belong to Chinese modernity we have decided to use the term Modern Confucianism in the title of this special issue.

Modern Confucianism arose China at the edge of the previous century and was later developed further by theorists from Taiwan, and, to a lesser degree, from Hong Kong. Unlike the People’s Republic of China, where Confucianism was considered to be the
“ideology of outdated feudalism” and therefore silenced (at least formally) until the 1980s, in Hong Kong and Taiwan, both of which were defined by post-colonial social discourses, a number of intellectuals began opposing the growing Westernization of their societies already in the 1950s. Due to the multilayered cultural, national and political situation in Taiwan, intellectuals from that country played an important role in developing this new philosophical current from the very outset.

However, the last two decades have seen intense research and an increasingly open debate regarding the postulates and discourses of the new Confucianism philosophy also in the People’s Republic. Academic groups such as Research into the intellectual current of Contemporary New Confucianism (Xiandai Xin rujia sichao yanjiu 現代新儒家思潮研究), which was founded in November 1986 by the philosophy professors, Fang Keli 方克立 and Li Jinquan 李錦全, have been especially active and influential in this area. Some Modern Confucian scholars in the PRC (e.g. Jiang Qing 蒋庆) have criticized Taiwanese Modern Confucianism for deviating from the original Confucian principles and being overly influenced by Western liberal democracy. These scholars have proposed Constitutional Confucianism (also known as Political Confucianism, or Institutional Confucianism) as an alternative path for China, within the trilateral parliamentary framework.

Despite these controversies, the revival of Confucian philosophy in the PRC, together with increasing interaction among philosophers in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, have the potential of contributing enormously to the reintegration of Chinese philosophical life after the politically conditioned divisions of the latter half of the 20th century.

Furthermore, Confucian thought, from its origins to contemporary interpretations, offers both new areas of possible convergence or fusion with Western thought, and a platform from which Western philosophy can be constructively criticized. Indeed, the Modern Confucian current primarily grew out of the search for a synthesis between Western and traditional East Asian thought, in order to elaborate a system of ideas and values capable of resolving the sociopolitical problems of the modern, globalized world.

In taking this situation as their point of departure, the authors of the present collection analyze the central values of Confucianism, and interpret them within in order to evaluate their impact on the dominant, contemporary ideologies. The authors also examine the main elements that enable the amalgamation of traditional Chinese values into the framework of capitalistic ideologies and axiological contexts. The present special issue thus not only examines the main Modern Confucian philosophical approaches, ideas and
methods, but also explores the political, social and ideological backgrounds of the current revival and its connections with the ideological foundations of East Asian and, most especially, Chinese modernity.

The contributions to this special issue address four different research areas. The volume opens with a foreword in Chinese by Prof. Lee Ming-Huei, member of the Academia Sinica in Taiwan and an internationally recognized authority on Modern Confucianism. The Chinese text is accompanied by a short abstract and a longer summary in English. In focusing on Modern Confucian political theory, the author explains the significance of the theory of the “Development of Democracy from Confucianism”, as elaborated primarily in the works of the Taiwanese Modern Confucians.

The second section, entitled Modern Confucianism as a New Chinese Ideology, consists of articles by Geir Sigurðsson (University of Iceland) and Bart Dessein (Ghent University). Sigurðsson’s article analyses the debates surrounding Confucianism as a stimulant for economic activity and the recent attempts to rehabilitate Confucianism in the PRC. Bart Dessein’s contribution instead addresses the issue of whether Modern Confucianism can be regarded as a “civil religion with Chinese characteristics”, and focuses on how politico-religious narratives that reiterate China’s Confucian tradition serve to create a sense of belonging and sharedness in a community.

The next section is entitled Philosophical Approaches, and consists of articles by Jana S. Rošker and Tea Sernelj (both from the University of Ljubljana), who explore a number of concepts crucial to Modern Confucian theory. In her essay, Jana Rošker explains how the third generation of Taiwanese Modern Confucian philosophers changed the framework within which traditional Chinese philosophical inquiry had been carried out, and the importance of the concept of immanent transcendence within this process. Tea Sernelj’s article instead focuses on one of the leading representatives of the second generation, Xu Fuguan 徐復觀 (1903–1982), and elucidates some of the key concepts in his philosophical thought.

In the final section, entitled Confucian Values and the Contemporary World, Loreta Poškaitė (Vilnius University) and Monika Gänßbauer Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg introduce some of the multifarious connections within this specific area of inquiry. In her article, Loreta Poškaitė discusses the role of xiao 孝, one of the central Confucian virtues, in contemporary intercultural dialogue, while Monika Gänßbauer explores Zhang Xianglong’s 張祥 龍 idea of a “Special Zone
for Confucianism”, and its controversial significance for experimental areas in contemporary Confucian discourses.

Although the authors of the present collection often hold very divergent views regarding many aspects of the Confucian revival, they all share a complex intellectual culture which enables them to explore the Revival and its manifold issues with variety, subtlety, dynamism and an openness to dialogue with Chinese philosophy. We hope that the collection before you will contribute to the realization of our common goal and that Chinese philosophy will finally assume its rightful place in world philosophy. Because Modern Confucian efforts to revitalize and reconstruct traditional Confucian thought can also be seen as an attempt to counter the dominant ideological trends and preserve Chinese cultural identity, the present collection will hopefully also contribute to the development of theoretical dialogues between “China” and “the West”.

(Below: the book cover)

A volume of the above described monograph will be delivered to the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in early July 2015.

B-III 2015 (Forthcoming):


The collection has been accepted by the review board of the publisher. At the moment, it is in the editorial process. It will presumably be printed towards the end of 2015. The collection contains the following contributions:
A volume of the collection will be sent to the CCK Foundation immediately after printing (presumably by the end of this year).
C) ORGANIZED ACADEMIC MEETINGS:

C-I) 2012

1. **3rd International Conference of Asian studies entitled Language, Thought, Reality**
   This international conference has been organized at the University of Ljubljana by the project director Prof. Jana S. Rošker. It took place at the Faculty of Arts from October 18th till October 20th 2012. (Program available at http://aas.ff.uni-lj.si/datoteke/nid/260/simpozij2012101819.pdf)

   The Conference included two papers on Modern Confucianism, delivered by the project director Jana S. Rošker and the project members Prof. Nataša Vampelj Suhadolnik and Tea Sernelj:


C-II) 2013

1. **1st Symposium on Modern Confucianism at the Iceland University in Reykjavik**
   The Symposium has been co-organized by the project director Prof. Jana S. Rošker (Chief organizer: the external project partner, Prof. Geir Sigurđsson, Iceland University).

   The symposium took place from September 7th till September 9th 2013. In the scope of the present research project, the project co-director, Prof. Lee Ming-Huei has also been invited to attend the symposium and to deliver a key-note speech at the opening day. Beside Jana S. Rošker, the project members Tea Sernelj and Matjaž Vidmar from Ljubljana University have also attended and presented their research in Modern Confucianism.

   *(Below: List of Contributions)*

**Ming-huei Lee, Academia Sinica**

“A Critique of Jiang Qing’s ‘Political Confucianism’”
Geir Sigurðsson, University of Iceland
“Confucianism vs. Modernity: Expired, Incompatible … or Bingo?”

Jana Rošker, Ljubljana University
“The Philosophical Sinification of Modernity and the Modern Confucian Paradigm of Immanent Transcendence (內在超越性)”

Tea Sernelj, Ljubljana University
“Xu Fuguan’s Concept of Anxiety and Its Connection to Religious Studies”

Matjaž Vidmar, Ljubljana University
“Comparative Study of Confucian Elements in Chinese 6th Generation Films and in Taiwanese New Cinema”

Bart Dessein, Ghent University
“Faith and Politics: New Confucianism as Civil Religion”

Ady Van den Stock, Ghent University
“Modern Confucianism and the paradox of unity: Xiong Shili, Mou Zongsan, Tang Junyi”

Monika Gänßbauer, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg:
“A ‘Nature Reserve for Confucianism’? Theses of Zhang Xianglong on traditional Chinese culture”

Tze-ki Hon, State University of New York at Geneseo
“Matching Capitalism with Marxism: The PRC’s Studies of New Confucianism in the 1980s and 1990s”

Loreta Poškaite, Vilnius University
“Confucianism in 20th Century: is it the Product of Western or Chinese Culture?”

Vytis Silius, Vilnius University
“Personal Moral Freedom and Social Responsibility in Modern Confucianism”

Some photos from the Symposium on Modern Confucianism at the Iceland University – speeches by the project director (Jana S. Rošker), project Co-director (Lee Ming-Huei), and other project members: (Bart Dessein, Matjaž Vidmar, Téa Sernelj):
1. Jana S. Rošker:

2. Lee Ming-Huei:

3. Bart Dessein:

4. Téa Sernelj:
5. Matjaž Vidmar:

C-III) 2014

International Conference
CONTEMPORARY EAST ASIA AND THE CONFUCIAN REVIVAL
Ljubljana, October 3rd – 5th

The 2014 STCS (Specific Topics in Chinese Studies) conference was organized by the project director and other project members in connection with the project topic and was dedicated to the intellectual currents of Contemporary Modern Confucianism and their impact on modern East Asian societies.

It took place from October 3rd till October 5th 2014 at the Scientific Research Center of the Slovene Academy for Science and Art (ZRC SAZU).
Website: http://aas.ff.uni-lj.si/stcs

The aim of the STCS conferences, organized by the Department of Asian and African studies at Ljubljana University is to encourage and advance the study of specific topics related to China and East Asia through the exchange of information across disciplinary lines and to strive to create and maintain a multidisciplinary space for the fruitful exchange of ideas on different types, images, and categories of East Asian cultures. The 2014 conference is dedicated to the intellectual currents of Contemporary Modern Confucianism and their impact on modern East Asian societies.

In the 21st century, Asian societies redrew the map of progress: the balance of economic power, if not the political one, is shifting from the Euro-American to the Asian region. This shift leaves us facing many problems linked to transformations of
material and ideational paradigms, defining not only the development of Asian societies, but also strongly influencing international relations. Strategic solutions to these problems need to consider broader perspectives within the context of particular cultural backgrounds. They are not limited to economic and ecological issues, but also include political and social roles of ideologies and culturally conditioned values, representing the axial epistemological grounds on which rest the most characteristic and enduring institutions of these societies. One of the central recent theoretical concerns in this area is connected to various developmental trends of the East Asian Confucian revival. The intellectual current of Contemporary Modern Confucianism was mainly developed during the 20th century in Taiwan and Hong Kong, but also gained a wide spread popularity in most of the other East Asian societies that were traditionally influenced by Confucian thought, as for example Japan and South Korea. It forms the most influential and important stream of thought in contemporary East Asian theory and represents a crucial part of new dominant ideologies in the P.R. China. It is defined by a search for synthesis between Western and traditional East Asian thought, aiming to elaborate a system of ideas and values, suitable to resolve social and political problems of the modern, globalized world. Thus, the contents of the conference are not only focused upon the main Modern Confucian philosophical approaches, ideas and methods. They furthermore also aim to illuminate the political, social and ideological backgrounds of the so called Confucian revival on the one hand, and its inherent connection to the ideological foundations of East Asian modernity on the other. In the last few years, scholars involved in Asian studies have paid increasing attention to different developmental patterns and their causes in this research field. Therefore, the main purposes of the conference were to:

- open a dialog between scholars of different disciplinary lines and to offer a platform for the presentation and discussion of recent academic elaborations in the theory and practice of this important intellectual movement;
- highlight the significance of Confucian revival in the making of contemporary East Asian cultures and ideologies; - revise recent historical approaches in related topics that have been prevalent in the study and research of East Asian modernization;
- elaborate existing theories, interpretations patterns and methods of investigation regarding the classical Confucianism; - create new common methodological grounds of the Confucian revival and other related aspects of East Asian traditional cultures;
- form new research approaches and joint methods in contemporary and future Asian studies;

Over 50 researchers from Europe, USA, PR China, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan
have attended the conference which was carried out in two parallel sessions. An academic monograph – collection of the best contributions has been accepted for publication and is currently in the editing process by the Cambridge Scholars Publishing. It will be sent to the CCK Foundation immediately after the publication (presumably by the end of 2015 or in early 2016).

The conference program which contains all abstracts and the three keynote speeches will be delivered to the Foundation in early July 2015.

(The program cover page)

The conference program which contains all abstracts and the three keynote speeches will be delivered to the Foundation in early July 2015.

Some photos of the conference:

The keynote speakers:

1. Prof. Lee Ming-Huei, Academia Sinica, Taiwan R.O.C. (The co-director of the project)
2. Prof. Bart Dessein, Ghent University, Belgium:

3. Prof. John H. Berhtrong, Boston University, USA:

4. Prof. Jana S. Rošker, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Some of the panels – speakers and audience:
Welcome reception

Excursion
Cultural program
https://youtu.be/Ew5_Et0h7qI
https://youtu.be/iRgKMw4Y2xo

THE HERMIT
Classical Chinese Lyrics in English Translation

Piano: Dejan Bredan
Contrabass: Mojmir Wolf
Accordion: Boštjan Bala
Percussion: Tea Isazdj
Translation and vocals: Jana S. Reiker

PROGRAMME:

蘇東坡: 元滿
Sun Dongpo: Full Moon

張九齡: 願為一
Zhang Jiuling: Lonely Seagull (The Perception of an Encounter, firstly)

李白: 梅花
Li Bai: 萧破晓 Night

李清照: 月下斷
Li Qingzhao: 月下斷

孟浩然: 春曉
Meng Haozan: Morning in Spring

張九齡: 願為三
Zhang Jiuling: The Hermit (The Perception of an Encounter, firstly)

張九齡: 願為二
Zhang Jiuling: Lovely Spice (The Perception of an Encounter, secondly)
C – IV) 2015

1. Slovene national symposium “From Politics to Culture – Various Aspects of the Contemporary Taiwanese Society”
Ljubljana, SEM, April 15th 2015

The project member Prof. Nataša Vampelj Suhadolnik has organized the national symposium entitled “From Politics to Culture – Various Aspects of the Contemporary Taiwanese Society” which took place in Ljubljana in the scope of the “Month of Taiwanese Culture” on April 15th 2015.

At this symposium, three of the project members have delivered their guest lectures, linked to the project topic:

ROŠKER Jana S. The Taiwanese Philosopher Mou Zongsan and the Modern Confucian revival


SERNELJ Téa: Xu Fuguan’s Axiology of Aesthetics

The program of the symposium is available at the
2. International Symposium  
Bridges between Asia and Europe: Buddhism in Contemporary Societies  
University of Ljubljana, March 12\textsuperscript{th} – 14\textsuperscript{th} 2015

Intellectual and theoretical connections to certain Buddhist philosophies are of immense importance for the work of many Modern Confucian philosophers. To shed more light upon these connections, the project director Jana S. Rošker and the project member Téa Sernelj have organized an international symposium on Buddhist studies in Ljubljana. Over 50 participants have attended the symposium at which 16 speakers delivered their papers. Three project related contributions were presented in the scope of the symposium by different project members and international co-operators:

1. Bart Dessein, Ghent University: Time, Temporality, and the Characteristic Marks of the Conditioned: Sarvastivada and Madhyamka Interpretations  
2. Jana S. Rošker, University of Ljubljana: The Fusion of Modern Confucianism and Buddhism: Mou Zongsan’s Journey from Double to Fundamental Ontology  

Program available at  
http://aas.ff.uni-lj.si/datoteke/nid/394/buddhistsymposiumprogram_1.pdf

Some photos from the symposium:
**D) VISITING RESEARCH PARTNERS AND SERIES FROM GUEST LECTURES FROM TAIWAN**

**D-I) 2013**

Visit by collaborators and external project partners from the Foguang University in Yilan 宜蘭佛光大學, the National Chiayi University 國立嘉義大學 and the Vienna University in Austria (Januar 13 – 20, 2013)

*From left to right: Prof. Lin Mingchang 林明昌教授, Foguang University 佛光大學, 宜蘭), Tea Sernelj, PhD candidate and project member, Ljubljana University, Prof. Tsai Jung-Tao 蔡忠道, National Chiayi University 國立嘉義大學, Prof. Jana S. Rošker, project director, Ljubljana University, Prof. Liu Rong-Yi 劉榮義, Dean of the College of Humanities and Arts 人文藝術學院院長 at the National Chiayi University 國立嘉義大學, Matjaž Vidmar, PhD candidate and project member, Ljubljana University, Prof. Raoul David Findeisen, Vienna University*

*Visiting the Rector of Ljubljana University. From left to right: Prof. Tsai Jung-Tao 蔡忠道, National Chiayi University 國立嘉義大學, Prof. Jana S. Rošker, Head of the Department of Asian and African Studies, project director, Ljubljana University, Prof. Radovan Stanislav Pejovnik, Rector of Ljubljana University, Prof. Liu Rong-Yi 劉榮義, Dean of the College of Humanities*
and Arts 人文藝術學院院長 at the National Chiayi University 國立嘉義大學, Prof. Andrej Černe, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Ljubljana University, Prof. Mitja Saje, Chair of Chinese studies, Ljubljana University

D-II) 2014

After delivering the keynote speech at the International Conference on the Confucian Revival in contemporary East Asia (Ljubljana, 3-5 October 3015), the project co-director, Prof. Lee Ming-Huei has delivered a series of lectures on Modern Confucianism at different prominent universities in Central and Eastern Europe, including:

1. Ljubljana University, Slovenia (5. October)
2. Zagreb University, Croatia (6. October)
3. Vienna University, Austria (8. October)
4. Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic (10. October)

Photos from Prof. Lee Ming-Huei’s guest lectures:

1. Ljubljana:
2. Zagreb:

3. Vienna:

4. Bratislava:
E. INVITED GUEST LECTURES AT/FROM FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES:

a) Delivering guest lectures at foreign universities

In the scope of the research project on Modern Confucianism, the project director Jana S. Rošker and the project collaborator Nataša Vampelj Suhadolnik have during the period June 2012 – June 2015 delivered a series of guest lectures at the following European and Taiwanese universities and research institutions:

E-I) 2012


ROŠKER, Jana S. Mou Zongsan and the Modern Confucian Movement in Taiwan (In German: Mou Zongsan und die moderne konfuzianische Bewegung in Taiwan). [Guest lecture at the Vienna University, Taiwan Research Center, Wien, December 2012]. Wien, 2012. [COBISS.SI-ID 50677346]

E-II) 2013


ROŠKER, Jana S.. The urgent need for the re-conceptualization of Chinese studies and the search for new sinological methodologies: a critical evaluation. [Charles University, Prague, November 14-17, 2013]. Prague, 2013. [COBISS.SI-ID 53259362]

E-III) 2014

ROŠKER, Jana S.. Intercultural methodology in Sinology: some new approaches in investigating classical Chinese philosophy. [vabljen lecture at the Department of Sinology at the Vistula University, Warsaw, Poland, December 8th, 2014]. Warsaw,
2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 56367458]

ROŠKER, Jana S. Kua wenhua yanjiu de fangfalun yu neizai chaoyue gainian = Intercultural methodology in philosphy and the notion of immanent : [invited lecture at the Academia Sinica, Taibei, Taiwan 21. 08. 2014]. Taibei, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 55235170]


VAMPELJ SUHADOLNIK, Nataša. Chinese Art Collections in Slovenia : [guest lecture at the Hong Kong Club, Hong Kong , 17. 7. 2014]. Hong Kong, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 55125346]


VAMPELJ SUHADOLNIK, Nataša. Identification, categorization and digitization of Chinese art objects and other materials in Slovenia : [guest lecture at the University Museum and Art Gallery, the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong , 19. 7. 2014]. Hong Kong, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 55123810]


Guest lectures in 2015 will be delivered this summer, after the submission of the present report.
b) Invited guest lectures from foreign universities

In 2015, the project director and her research team hosted two prominent professors of Chinese (and Modern Confucian) studies in Ljubljana.

1. March 23rd 2015
ROGER T. AMES (University of Hawai’i): Confucian Role Ethics and a Narrative Understanding of Person

For more information see http://aas.ff.uni-lj.si/projects/predavanje-prof-rogerja-amesa (in Slovene)

Prof. Ames, who is an internationally well known expert in Chinese philosophy and belongs to the most important scholars in this field, has at the Ljubljana University delivered the following guest lecture:

ABSTRACT
In the introduction of Chinese philosophy and culture into the Western academy, we have tended to theorize and conceptualize this antique tradition by appeal to familiar Western categories. Confucian role ethics is an attempt to articulate a sui generis moral philosophy that allows this tradition to have its own voice. This holistic philosophy is grounded in the primacy of relationality and a narrative understanding of person, and is a challenge to a foundational liberal individualism that has defined persons as discrete, autonomous, rational, free, and often self-interested agents. Confucian role ethics begins from a relationally constituted conception of person, takes family roles and relations as the entry point for developing moral competence, invokes moral imagination and the growth in relations that it can inspire as the substance of human morality, and entails a human-centered, a-theistic religiousness that stands in sharp contrast to the Abrahamic religions. (Below two photos from the lecture):
Prof. Wang Hui belongs to the most prominent contemporary Chinese intellectuals. The US magazine Foreign Policy named him as one of the top 100 public intellectuals in the world. From May 1996 to July 2007, he was the executive editor of the influential magazine Du shu (*Reading*). In Ljubljana, he delivered the following guest lecture:

**ABSTRACT**

Contemporary Chinese society has entered a complex era, and the views of intellectuals as a group have become ambiguous. In modern history, the reflections of China's intellectuals have centered on how China can modernize and the reasons for its failure to modernize. In the 1980s, intellectual critiques focused on a reevaluation of Chinese socialism, which was denounced as anti-modern in its very methods. In reality, though, the clarity of this thinking came from the clarification of social questions. For intellectuals, modernization was on the one hand a search for wealth and power along the path to the establishment of a modern nation-state; on the other hand, it was the process of reevaluating their society and tradition against the yardstick of Western society and its cultures and values.

**For more information on the guest lecture, see**
http://aas.ff.uni-lj.si/projects/predavanje-prof-wang-huija-%E6%B1%AA%E6%99%96-s-pekinske-univerze-qinghua-%E6%B8%85%E5%8D%8E%E5%A4%A7%E5%A D%A6 (in Slovene). (Below a photo of the lecture):
CONFERENCE AND CONGRESS CONTRIBUTIONS:

F-I) 2012

International Conference Confucius – Mensch, Macht und Mythos (Dec. 4th 2012, Vienna University)

In the scope of the research project, the project director Jana S. Rošker has attended the International Conference entitled Konfuzius: Mensch, Macht und Mythos, which has been organized in Vienna on December 4th 2012. At the conference, she delivered the following plenary speech:


(Bellow the symposium venue):

The speech has been published in:

ROŠKER, Jana S. Modern Confucianism and the Chinese Theories of Modernization. In. WANG, Jing (Editor), KAMINSKI, Gerd (Editor), TRAPPL, Richard (Editor). Konfuzius: Mensch, Macht und Mythos, (Berichte des Österreichischen Instituts für China- und Südostasienforschung, Nr. 66). Wien: ÖGCF, 2013, str. 21-36. [COBISS.SI-ID 51997538]

(Below the book cover)
The project director Prof. Jana S. Rošker and the project member Tea Sernelj, PhD candidate, have presented papers on Taiwanese Modern Confucianism at the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy in Athens, Greece. The congress took place from August 5th till August 10th 2013.

Titles of the two project related contributions:


Prof. Jana S. Rošker's presentation:

Discussion on the paper on Taiwanese Modern Confucianism: Prof. Jana S. Rošker and Prof. Cheng Chung-Ying 成中英, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa
F-III) 2014

In 2014, Jana S. Rošker was the invited keynote speaker at the *The international conference in commemorating 2565th anniversary of Confucius & the 5th Congress of the International Confucian Association* in Beijing. The opening of the conference was at the Great Hall of People and the welcome speech of the opening was delivered by the president of PR China, Xi Jinping. At the same occasion, the project director Jana S. Rošker delivered the following keynote speech at the inaugural plenary session:

The symposium *Bridges between Asia and Europe: Buddhism in Contemporary Societies*, which was organized by the project director, took place in March 2014 in Ljubljana. The project director delivered the opening welcome speech (see the photo below) and the following paper:

ROŠKER, Jana S. *The fusion of modern Confucianism and Buddhism: Mou Zongsan's Journey from double to fundamental ontology:* [keynote lecture at the International Symposium *Bridges between Asia and Europe: Buddhism in contemporary Societies*, Ljubljana, 12. 3. 2014. Ljubljana: University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Asian and African Studies, 2015. [COBISS.SI-ID 57031522]

**F – SUMMARY 2012 – 2015: ALL PROJECT RELATED CONFERENCES THAT WERE ATTENDED BY THE PROJECT DIRECTOR AND OTHER SLOVENE MEMBERS:**

**Project director:**


ROŠKER, Jana S. *The philosophical sinicization of modernity and the modern Confucian paradigm of immanent transcendence:* [prispevek na mednarodnem simpoziju "Contemporary Confucianism and Chinese modernization", Northern Lights Confucius Institute and Chinese Studies Department, University of Iceland, Reykjavík, 7-8 September 2013]. Reykjavík, 2013. [COBISS.SI-ID 52678498]

ROŠKER, Jana S. *Sino-CEE intercultural exchange through the lens of the Confucian revival:* [prispevek na 1st China-Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) conference on cross-cultural dialogue, education & business, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of...


ROŠKER, Jana S. Contemporary East Asia and Confucian revival = Gendai higashiaijia to jugaku no ribaiharu. V: 1st international Symposium with Toyo University, Department of Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana. Constructing international and interdisciplinary perspective: [programme and abstracts]. Ljubljana: Faculty of Arts, 2014, str. 5. [COBISS.SI-ID 56819810]


ROŠKER, Jana S. Cultural and philosophical interaction between China and Korea: the case of Jeong Yak-Yong: [vabljeno predavanje na mednarodnem simpoziju "Medieval Korean Literature", Ljubljana, Januar 17, 2014. Ljubljana: University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Asian and African Studies, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 53771618]

ROŠKER, Jana S. Intercultural hermeneutics in the light of traditional and modern Chinese cognition theories: [vabljeno predavanje na mednarodnem simpoziju Intercultural communication between China and the rest of the world, Helsinki, Finland 5.- 6. 6., 2014. Helsinki: The Education for Diversities Research Group, Department of Teacher Education, University of Helsinki: Confucius Institute, University of Helsinki, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 54812002]


ROŠKER, Jana S. Yangming xue: [vabljeno predavanje na Di wu jie qingnian xuezhe yanxi ying, National Taiwan University, Taipei, 7. 7. 2014. Taipei: National Taiwan University, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 54988642]

ROŠKER, Jana S. Yanjiu Dongya ruxuede yixie fangfa wenti: [vabljeno predavanje na mednarodni konferenci Dongya ruxue yanjiu hui, National Taiwan University, Taipei, 10. 7. 2014. Taipei: National Taiwan University, 2014. [COBISS.SI-ID 54988386]

ROŠKER, Jana S. Classical Chinese epistemology and the beauty of moral cultivation: [prispevek na International conference De (Virtue) and mei (Beauty) in Chinese philosophy, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy, March 25th-27th, 2015. Venice: Ca' Foscari University of Venice, 2015. [COBISS.SI-ID 57177442]


ROŠKER, Jana S. Tajvanski filozof Mou Zongsan in moderni preporod konfucijanstva: prispevek na akademskem simpoziju "Od politike do kulture: različni vidiki moderne in..."
ROŠKER, Jana S.. The fusion of modern Confucianism and Buddhism : Mou Zongsan's Journey from double to fundamental ontology : [prispevek na International Symposium "Bridges between Asia and Europe: Buddhism in contemporary Societies", Ljubljana, 12. 3. 2014. Ljubljana: University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Asian and African Studies, 2015. [COBISS.SI-ID 57031522]

Other Slovene project members:

a) Téa Sernelj


b) Matjaž Vidmar


c) Nataša Vampelj Suhadolnik – since this project members has worked in the framework of the research project only in the function of co-editor of various publications and co-organizer of academic meetings, most of her conference contributions are not directly related to the research topic.
In the three years of the project duration, the project director and other project members have published over 20 original academic articles connected to the project research topic:

**Project director:**


ROŠKER, Jana S. Xiandaihua lilun zhongde kua wenhua duihua : xifang zhexue dui Dongya ruxuede yingxiang. *Guowai sheluingexue wenzhai*, ISSN 1009-3923, 2013, [No.] 10, str. 61-64. [COBISS.SI-ID 54665058]


ROŠKER, Jana S. Ji Kang's essay "Music has in it neither grief nor joy" (Sheng wu ai le lun) and the structure (li) of perception. *Philosophy East & West*, ISSN 0031-8221, 2014, vol. 64, no. 1, str. 109-122. [COBISS.SI-ID 53761378]

ROŠKER, Jana S. Kokoši s tremi nogami in konji, ki niso konji : teorije in paradoksi antičnih kitajskeh nomenalistov = Three leg chickens and white horses that are no horses : theories and paradoxes of ancient Chinese nominalists. *Anali PAZU HD*, ISSN 2386-0219, 2015, letn. 1, št. 1, str. 57-81. [COBISS.SI-ID 57559394]


**Other Slovene project members:**

a) Téa Sernelj


b) Matjaž Vidmar


c) Nataša Vampej Suhadolnik


VAMPELJ SUHADOLNIK, Nataša. Lai zi Siluoweniya de tianwen xuejia Liu
**H) CHAPTERS IN EDITED ACADEMIC MONOGRAPHS AND COLLECTIONS (SUMMARY 2012 – 2015)**

**Project director**


Other Slovene project members:

a) Téa Sernelj


b) Nataša Vamplej Suhadolnik


I) BOOK REVIEWS (SUMMARY 2012–2015)

Project director


Other Slovene project members:

Téa Sernelj

THE HERMIT

Classical Chinese Lyrics in Slovene, German and English

Translation

The CD was issued in the process of the project dissemination. It was introduced to international public as a cultural program at the International Conference CONTEMPORARY EAST ASIA AND THE CONFUCIAN REVIVAL Ljubljana, October 3rd – 5th (http://aas.ff.uni-lj.si/stcs), organized by the project director.

(Below: the concert program)

THE HERMIT

Classical Chinese Lyrics in English Translation

Piano: Dejan Berčič
Contrabass: Mojmir Wolf
Accordion: Božjan Baša
Percussion: Tea Sernelj
Translation and vocals: Jana S. Rešker

PROGRAMME:

月光小夜曲: 月光小夜曲
Su Dangao: Full Moon

漢九齋：鷗鷺風
Zhang Jiuling: Lonely Seagull (The Perception of an Encounter, firstly)

李白: 夜思
Li Bai: Sleepless Night

李白: 月下獨酌
Li Bai: Lüebzhe

孟浩然: 春曉
Meng Haozan: Morning in Spring

漢九齋：鷗鷺風
Zhang Jiuling: The Hermit (The Perception of an Encounter, firstly)

漢九齋：鷗鷺風
Zhang Jiuling: Lovely Spice (The Perception of an Encounter, secondly)
The central aim of the CD is to raise awareness of the beauty and significance of traditional Chinese culture, the preservation of which belonged to the central and most important Modern Confucian efforts.

It is a collection of seven translated classical Chinese poems that were set to modern Western jazz music. It came to life as a step towards good neighborhood, regardless of whether those neighbors are living next-door, or thousands of miles away.

Translation and melody: Jana S. Rošker
Musical arrangement and recording: Dejan Berden

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRgKMw4Y2xo

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ew5_Etoh7qI

(Below: the CD cover)

The CD which also contains a booklet with original poems and their translations, will be delivered to the foundation in June 2015.