Call for papers

Asia "in care":
The concern for others through the lens of Asian studies
Condorcet Campus, Aubervilliers, France
June 2nd and 3rd, 2021

Please submit your communication proposal before January 31th, 2021 on the website:
https://confcare2021.sciencesconf.org

The multiple challenges facing our contemporary societies raise with great acuity the question of the attention, the care, and the help given to others as well as those that we received from them. They encourage us to reflect on and even reshape, the forms of interdependence and mutual aid that we provide to and receive from others. Many debates are being held about the place given to the responsibilities that each of us assumes and regarding the recognition given to the solicitude that we enjoy. The various forms of interactions that determine our lives presuppose dispositions, activities that have been conceptualized in the notion of care (Zielinski, 2010). However, this notion remains unclear. All too often, we perceive it as being restricted to specific domains mainly related to health and education. However, care is very broad in scope. In France, it has recently given rise to the expression "world in care" (Macé, 2020).

Following in the footsteps of Guilligan's (1986) and Tronto's (1993) founding writings, we consider care to be "the characteristic activity of the human species which includes all that we do to maintain, perpetuate and repair our world so that we can live there as well as possible" (Tronto, 1993). Far from reducing care to an interpersonal relationship, this definition offers a very broad perspective on ourselves and those around us.

The "Asia in care" workshop aims to discuss on the way to approach the different dimensions of care in Asian studies, the way they are observed and analyzed in ancient, modern and contemporary societies, the written, oral, artistic and cultural traces of this concept. We wish to explore this notion from its multiple manifestations. Among other aspects, we propose to try and answer the following questions:
- Who is the object of attention and caring? By whom is benevolence expressed and in what context?
- How do individuals conceive caring for others? How do they respond to it?
- What are the discourses that accompany caring?
- In what type of social organization is caring expressed? What resources does it mobilize?
- Through artistic production, how is concern for others expressed? What narratives does it give rise to?
- Can we identify places or times for specific attention to others or on the contrary significant of a lack of care?
- Are there ancient texts or artistic forms that have helped to define the imagination around caring and benevolence?
- To what extent does the concern for others refer to ethical or moral standards? How are these various norms articulated?
- Is it possible, within a country/geographic area/language, to identify, through artistic expressions, a history of the concept of "care"?
- How have conceptions and practices of caring evolved in the course of social and political transformations between pre-modern times and today?
- What place does the law give to care, to what extent is it an emerging need for legal systems?
- In what ways do ethno-racial hierarchies add to or replace gendered and/or class divisions in the provision of care?
- Across the world, the COVID-19 pandemic is revealing the vulnerability of everyone. Populations that were already marginalized before the pandemic are in a more precarious situation because they often do not benefit from social protection mechanisms. In this context, how can the recognition of vulnerabilities lead us to more egalitarian and inclusive forms of solidarity and a more caring democracy?

We would like to encourage cross-disciplinary approaches of these questions in order to take into account the richness and diversity of studies, systems of thought, concrete experiences and social phenomena through which the notion of care, and its links with the emic concepts in the different cultures of Asia, can be grasped. We expect proposals from all disciplines, in order to confront historical, sociological, anthropological, economic, political, spatial and cultural perspectives. We hope to contribute to the elaboration of new ways of thinking about the situations we are going through.

Key words: care, benevolence, solicitude, help, care, representation, social organization, expression, art, norms, ethics, morals, inequalities, gender, handicap, migration, vulnerability, Asia.

Terms and conditions of participation

The call is open to all researchers, teacher-researchers, and young researchers in the field of Asian studies in France and abroad. Proposals from young researchers are particularly encouraged. People working in the field of care related to Asia who are willing to share their experience and thoughts on this topic may also propose a paper.

These Days will be held at the Condorcet Campus in person for those participants who wish to attend and remotely via a software application. Papers will be grouped into thematic workshops (6 maximum) by the Scientific Council.

Proposals are to be submitted on the website: https://confcare2021.sciencesconf.org
They should include: the title of the paper, an abstract of 350 words maximum, 5 to 7 keywords. The authors will receive by email the answer to their proposal.

If you wish to appear in the same panel as another speaker you know, you can specify this in the "comment" field when you submit your proposal.

This workshop is entirely free of charge.
Provisional calendar

January 31: Deadline for submission of abstracts
March 12: Notification of Abstract Acceptance
April 30: Deadline for submission of papers (to be sent to discussants)
June 2 and 3: Workshop

Scientific committee

- Myriam de Loenzien, socio-demographer, senior Researcher, IRD, CEPED
- Vincent Goossaert, historian, Professor, EPHE, GSRL
- Béatrice Jaluzot, jurist, HDR senior associate Professor, Sciences-po Lyon, IAO
- Corrado Neri, Specialist in cinema and visual culture, HDR lecturer, Jean Moulin University, IETT
- Kanae Sarugasawa, sociologist, post-doctoral Researcher, INALCO, IFRAE
- Cao Vy, Doctoral student in literary history and anthropology, Aix Marseille University, IRASIA

Organizing Committee

- Aurélie Varrel, geographer, CNRS, CEIAS, director of USEA (Asian Studies Support Unit),
- Ana Claudia Fonseca, Deputy Regional Delegate, Ile-de-France Meudon Delegation, Acting Director of USEA
- Myriam de Loenzien, socio-demographer, IRD, CEPED,
- Cao Vy, Doctoral student in literary history and anthropology, Aix Marseille University, IRASIA
- Claire Le Poulennec, General Secretary, CNRS, USEA
- Marielle Morin, Head of International Cooperation, CNRS, USEA
- Malgorzata Chwirot, Communication Officer, CNRS, USEA
- Julien Saint-Sevin, Webmaster, fixed-term contract CNRS, USEA
- Agnès Vérin, manager, CNRS, USEA