



# The European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan – A CCK Foundation Overseas Center (CCKF-ERCCT)





The CCKF-ERCCT embodies scholarly professionalism and dedication, providing a platform for European and Taiwanese scholars to engage in academic dialogue and cooperation to the long-term benefit of Taiwan studies in Europe and beyond. The work of the center is seen as contributing to the mutual understanding of the people of Taiwan and mainland China. It subscribes to the principles of academic professionalism and cultivates human empathy, all of which are indispensable characteristics of serious scholarship.

Prof. Dr. Gunter Schubert CCKF-ERCCT Director





#### I. The CCKF-ERCCT – An Introduction

The European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan (ERCCT) was established on 1 June, 2008. It is jointly financed by the University of Tübingen and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange in Taiwan. The center's main objective is to promote postgraduate social science research on contemporary Taiwan, most notably in the areas of politics and law, economics, society and cross-Strait relations.

## Major CCKF-ERCCT activities:

- inviting young scholars from Europe and Taiwan, at both Ph.D. and postdoctoral levels, to visit and work at the center as ERCCT Research Fellows on a long-term or short-term basis
- helping young scholars to develop and complete their projects by holding regular discussions on research progress
- organizing public lectures and workshops on contemporary Taiwan by well-known experts and emerging scholars from both Europe and Taiwan, who are invited as ERCCT Visiting Scholars
- continuously expanding the center's international network and partnership structure
- providing the international scholarly community with information on trends and developments in the Taiwan studies field





## II. Programs

## Visiting Scholars

Each semester, the CCKF-ERCCT invites **ERCCT Visiting Scholars** from both Taiwan and Europe to come to Tuebingen. In addition to working on their own projects, our guests take part in the weekly Taiwan Colloquium, where they advise the center's research fellows on their theoretical and methodological approaches and comment on their empirical data.

# Short Term Resident Fellow Program

Since 2016, the CCKF-ERCCT has been running a **Short Term** Resident Fellow Program: two Ph.D. students or postdoctoral researchers from Europe and/or Taiwan are invited each year to join the CCKF-ERCCT in Tübingen for a period of between six months and one year. During this time, the fellows present their ongoing research at the Taiwan Colloquium and take part in the center's academic activities. Invited short-term resident fellows receive a monthly allowance and a travel grant.





# Visiting Fellows Program

Each semester the CCKF-ERCCT invites up to 2 PhD or postdoctoral students from the ERCCT partner institutions to work at the Center as **ERCCT Visiting Fellows** for one month. They are provided with office space, a stipend, a free round trip air ticket, accommodation and health insurance. During their stay at the CCKF-ERCCT, Visiting Fellows take part in the center's academic activities, most notably, the regularly held Taiwan Colloquium, where they present their ongoing Ph.D. or postdoctoral research to the other fellows. The application deadline for the winter term is 15 July and fo summer terms it is 15 February. More information can be found online!

## ERCCT Tutorial System

During their fieldwork in Taiwan, all ERCCT Residents are entitled to take part in the tutorial system that is under the joint administration of the ERCCT and its partners. In addition to providing office space, the Taiwanese host institution assumes responsibility for assisting the visiting ERCCT fellows to obtain access to scholars and institutions relevant to his/her research field, and for helping the fellows to become integrated, as far as possible, in the academic activities of the partner institution.





#### III. Activities

# Taiwan Colloquium

Each semester, the <u>Taiwan Colloquium</u> brings together CCKF-ERCCT staff, Research Fellows, Visiting Scholars and graduate students of the Department of Chinese and Korean Studies to discuss the state of ongoing research projects at the Center, new research proposals, recently published scholarly articles and other academic topics of interest. Here, ERCCT fellows receive regular input concerning their work, which is crucial for helping them to make constant progress. Visiting Scholars introduce new projects and discuss the theoretical and methodological problems they face.

The Taiwan Colloquium has evolved into a lively academic platform for frank and confidential exchange and is highly valued by all the participants.









# Young Scholars Workshop

Since 2013, the **CCKF-ERCCT** Young Scholars Workshop at our center has been an event of international importance. During one week in July, selected PhD and postdoctoral students from Europe and Taiwan present their research and obtain feedback from their peers and other invited scholars. Hosted in the beautiful Black Forest, the workshop offers an excellent opportunity to set up new professional connections and to make new friends.











## Taiwan Documentary Film Festival

Every year, the CCKF-ERCCT organizes a <u>Taiwan Documentary Film Festival</u>, which aims to familiarize the local public with Taiwanese culture and society and to raise awareness of the island nation. The year 2016 marked the eleventh festival event. During the festival, well-known Taiwanese film-makers are invited to the center to showcase their work, to the accompaniment of vibrant discussions with an interested and well-informed audience. Past directors include Tsai Tsung-Lung, Mayaw Biho, Ho Chao-Ti, and Shen Ko-Shang, who presented memorable films to our guests, including "The Other Side 對岸異鄉人", "Malakacaway 倒酒的人", "The Gangster's God 炸神明", and "Baseball Boys 野球孩子".













## Special Events

The previously mentioned events constitute the core of our main activities, but a number of special events are also regularly organized.

Being primarily a Research Center, CCKF-ERCCT has hosted major *international scientific workshops* on contemporary Taiwan. The most recent of these took place in December 2015 under the heading "Assessing the Presidency of Ma Ying-jeou". Scholars are also given the opportunity to participate in book launch events and in many further activities.

In addition to the Taiwan Documentary Film Festival, a number of events have been staged with the aim of promoting Taiwanese culture. At the 2014 *Taiwan Spotlight Festival*, for example, we did not only present Taiwanese films, but also organized other activities, including a literature reading series, academic discussions and a photography exhibition. We also held *individual film screenings* (for example, Wawa no Cidal in April 2016) in local cinemas and organized Taiwanese *musical concerts*, the most recent in cooperation with Hohaiyan in December 2016.





## IV. People

The CCKF-ERCCT is under the directorship of <u>Prof. Dr. Gunter Schubert</u>, who also holds the Chair of Greater China Studies in the Department of Chinese and Korean Studies at the University of Tübingen. Daily operations are handled by the Managing Director, <u>Stefan Braig</u>, currently assisted by <u>Sascha Zhivkov</u>, André Beckershoff and Sun Li.







#### **How to Contact Us**

Interested in visiting the center? Thinking of conducting research here? Need more information? Don't hesitate to contact us!

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