

American Committee on Asian Economic Studies

Greetings from the American Committee on Asian Economic Studies.

In this newsletter: leading lights of the economics profession take up the cause of global integration; our contribution to that cause via the Asia Economics Blog; and via our session at the upcoming ASSA meeting.

The mission of building a more globally diverse and inclusive economics profession motivated the founding of our organization. Believing in this mission as we do, we welcome recent initiatives of the International Economic Association under President Dani Rodrik to [diversify economics globally](#). In his [message](#) on the IEA website, Professor Rodrik characterizes the economics profession as "quite insular", going on to say that "Research networks and publications on the frontier of the field remain remarkably closed to researchers based in lower income nations and ideas emanating from regions considered peripheral." IEA panel discussions on this issue are linked to [here](#).

ACAES has a 40 year history of pursuing inclusion through conferences and its journal on Asia. Under our journal sponsorship, editors were committed to working with Asian authors to develop their first-hand research insights into publications of high caliber. Sadly, in 2020 we lost the journal to a takeover by a publishing company that did not appreciate our sense of mission (story on [our blog](#) and in [our newsletter](#)). But a new vehicle for pursuing the mission has taken hold in the form of the Asia Economics Blog. Within this forum, we remain committed to helping develop good research ideas and bringing visibility to cutting edge work on Asia. The brevity of a blog format forces a concise articulation of research purpose and a focused statement of empirical findings. Achieving this can move authors along the way to successful journal submission. We welcome entries by Asian economists in this spirit. The blog

also publishes analysis of current events, book reviews, and webinar announcements. Please check out our most recent [post by Jerry Schiff](#) on why Asian economies are not likely to meet recent growth forecasts and a [review by Bill Bikales](#) of the highly acclaimed book by Isabella Weber, "How China Escaped Shock Therapy".

Further to the theme of bringing visibility to research on Asia, [our session](#) at the upcoming Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting features work on "Covid and Recovery in Asia". Although we will miss the comradery of an in-person event again this year, online accessibility will considerably enhance the reach of the conference to Asian economists.

On a personal note, I'm now coming to you from Los Angeles after six years in Manila. I look forward to a return to Asia after the pandemic subsides and the region is well vaccinated, ideally teaching my forthcoming textbook, [Macroeconomics for Emerging East Asia](#), in a live classroom.

Yours truly,

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