



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice

Department of Asian  
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Tracing Japanese Leftist  
Political Activism (1957 – 2017)

The Boomerang Flying Transnational

KEVIN COOGAN and CLAUDIA DERICHs



# Hidden Histories of Japan

Presentation of **Kevin Coogan & Claudia Derichs** (eds):  
*Tracing Japanese Leftist Political Activism (1957–2017)*

Book launch event

**27<sup>th</sup> March 2023**, 14.00-16.00

Sala A, Palazzo Vendramin dei Carmini

**Eugenio De Angelis** in discussion with

**Claudia Derichs**, Visiting Professor from Humboldt University Berlin

*Tracing Japanese Leftist Political Activism (1957–2017)* tells the story of the Japanese Red Army (JRA), a militant left-wing group founded in 1971 which was involved in numerous terrorist attacks. It traces the origins of the group in the Japanese New Left in the 1960s and looks at Red Army groups of the early 1970s in Japan, such as the Red Army Faction, and the United Red Army which became infamous for murdering its own members. The book also examines the JRA's trans- and international

links with other militant groups including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, as well as the networks of intellectuals and fellow activists who supported them.

**Claudia Derichs** is professor at the Institute of Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University Berlin. Trained in both Japanese and Arabic Studies, her work traces connections between (South-)East Asia and the Middle East