The University of Cambridge Department of East Asian Studies is pleased to announce the following lecture in its series of East Asian seminars.

Please note that this talk is not in the faculty.
Time: 5:00pm, Tuesday 9th October 2012
Venue: Auditorium Lounge, Robinson College

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Social Consequences of an Over politicized Civil Society in South Korea

Prof. Dongno Kim
Yonsei University, Korea
Tuesday, 9th October 2012, Auditorium Lounge, Robinson College, 5:00 p.m.

Unlike Western Europe, civil society in South Korea emerged after (not before) political democratization in the late 1980s. Despite its short history, civil society developed very rapidly, its prosperity being attributed to the high level of trust the Korean people bestowed upon it as they picked NGOs as the most reliable social organization in Korea. It reached its apex in the general election of 2000 when the organization Solidarity of Civil Society for the General Election issued a list of 85 corrupt candidates, about 70% of whom eventually failed to be elected. The current situation of Korean civil society shows dramatic turnover. NGOs pay little attention to the change of political system, no longer waging large-scale resistance against the state. The public is withdrawing its support for NGOs and has very little trust in them. Why did this dramatic change happen? This is the main question this talk is going to address.