

AKRI Int'l Cohort

A. K. Rice Institute for the Study of Social Systems

International Cohort

AKRI'S International Cohort (IC):

Exploring AKRI's relationship to its international members and the international GR community

AKRI Dialogues 2024

Mette Charis Buchman, Veena Pinto, Victor Gan & Xumei Wang,

Welcome

The objectives of this session are to:

- explore what it means to have international relationships in and outside AKRI
- contribute to building a more meaningful and relevant IC engagement



Session Structure

Welcome and joining

A brief history of the International Cohort

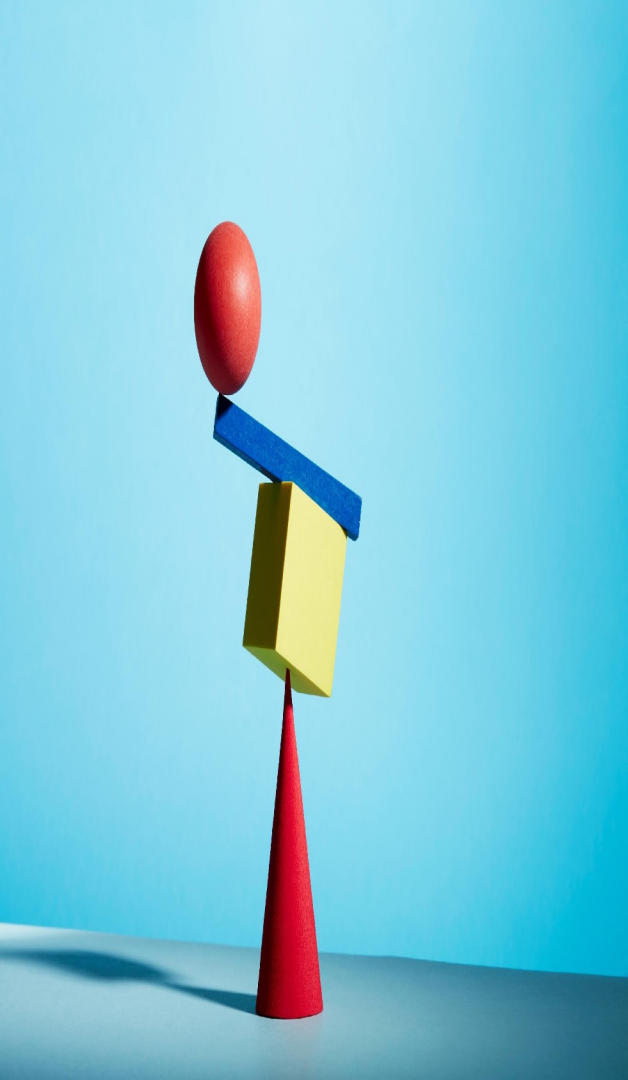
Highlights from topics and themes

Members' & agenda committee's experiences

Small discussion groups

Closing plenary





History Highlights

IC started by a Chinese woman with a desire to find her voice and role in AKRI

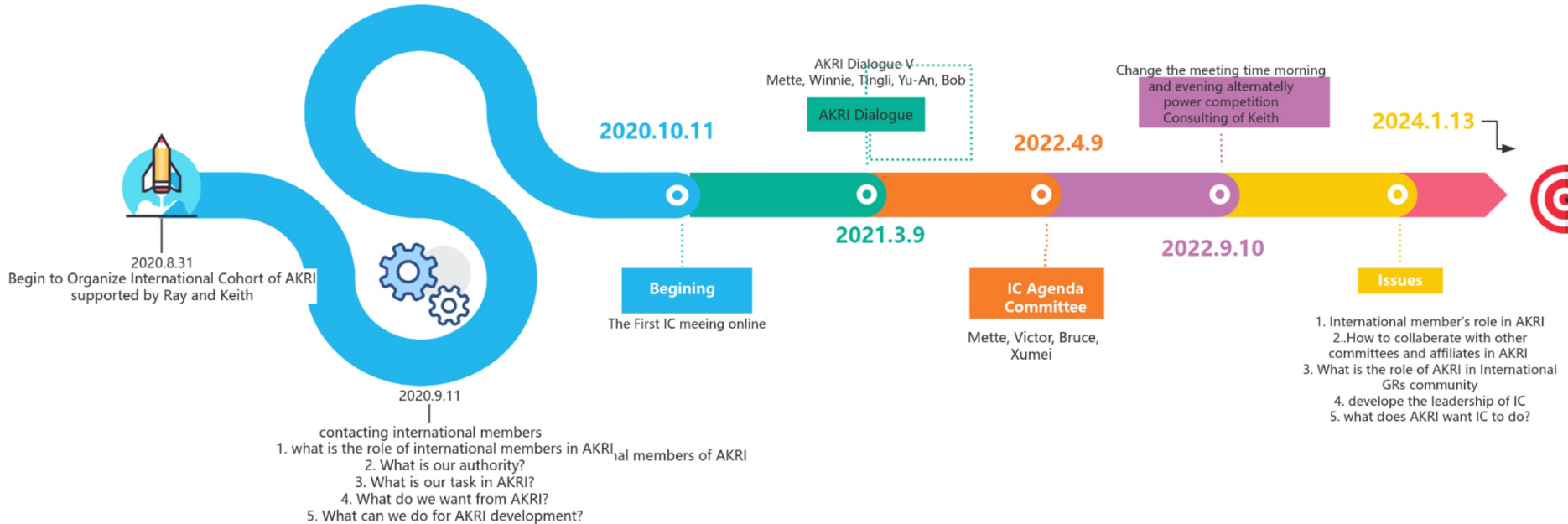
The Agenda Committee comes into being from the desire to replace the China - America focus with a global focus

The Committee challenges boundaries (time, task and territory)

A space to interact and learn from people around the world using the GR framework and lens

Speakers invited to foster a global GR engagement

Trajectory



Conference Debriefing

White Supremacy Conference
South Africa Conference
Leicester Conference
Tavistock China Conference
Race and Power Conference
Variations of Very Asian+ Conference
China and the World Conference
Networks of Desire Conference

Sessions from across the world

Large Group Identity - Mette Buchman
GR in Japan - Bernard Gertler
US-China tensions - Winnie Fey
Colonisation - Xumei Wang and Winnie Fey
GR in Taiwan - Ming-Hui Daniel
GR in Israel, OFEK - Joab Kirsh
Lithuania - Erika Ruschhoff & Jolita Kasalyniene
Trauma and GR - Nick Bartlett & Yu-An Wang
International Social Dreaming - Vivian Gold
GR and Art - Alan Ruiz
GR Debriefing - Seth Hawkins and Neil Neidhardt
International GR Organizations - Ray Bakaitis

Agenda Committee Dynamics

Tensions around decision making

- Who decides and what are the decision processes? (authoritarian or democratic, by consensus or majority vote, etc.)

Continuous negotiation around boundaries

- Task, Time and Territory (What is our purpose, our relationship to AKRI? When to meet?)

Competition

- Between genders and cultural identities

Navigating cultural differences

- Language, emotions, authority relations, family histories, etc.



Survey Results

of Respondents: 7 (4 female / 3 male)

57 % AKRI members ; 43% Others

Expectations were met: 72 %

IC Session timings : 72% Fine ; 14% Challenging ; 14% Not Known

“to have experiential learning regarding international systems psychodynamics”

“I enjoy having spaces that extend beyond my “bubble,” my usual environment. I expected to see, hear and share with people outside of the American context”

“Enjoyed post conference reflections” ; “continue to learn within a group relations context even if I have - for whatever reason - not been able to attend the conferences”



Small Group Discussion

Questions for exploration:



- What are the dynamics of international relationships within a national organization?
- Is it possible to be international in a national organization?
- What are the conscious and unconscious processes that make international collaborations a challenge?
- What is the International Cohort 'holding' for AKRI?
- What could be its future?

Terima-kasih
Kyaayjuutainpartaal dhanyavaad
Dhan'yabāda merci efcharistó
shukraan-lak Đakujem gracias Děkuji Ačiū
고맙습니다 Köszönöm Obrigado Grazzi D'akuju
Shukria spasibo Tānan Hvala-vam
ಖอบຄຸນຄະ Dзякуй Paldies ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ်
Arigatou Hvala-ti धन्यवाद Kiitos tak 多謝
Teşekkür-ederim thank-you Tack 谢谢
Dank-je motshakeram Danke ευχαριστώ Dzaikuj asante
Дякую Khob-khun-ka Спасибо Blagodarya-ti doh-je
Aitāh Khop-chai dhanwaad ຂອບໃຈ cām-on
Faleminderit Благодаря-ти Salamat
Dziękuję Dankie شكریه Mulțumesc Xìè-xiè Grazie
Хвала-вам takk ありがとうございます
धन्यवाद