

## Invitation to the GIGA Forum

# Isolation or Opening? North Korea under Kim Jong-Un

### Speakers:

Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Frank (University of Vienna)

Dr. James E. Hoare (London)

### Chair:

Prof. Dr. Patrick Köllner (GIGA)

**Date: Wednesday, 12 February 2014, 18:00-19:30**  
**Venue: Neuer Jungfernstieg 21, Hamburg, Room 519**

With the recent execution of his uncle, the young leader Kim Jong-un has put a brutal and very public end to the conflicts within the North Korean elite. In the third generation, the Kim family now rules in North Korea. Many still regard the country as the embodiment of Stalinism and command economy.

Since the end of the Cold War, however, diverse and rather profound economic and societal changes have taken place. Where has North Korea been heading in terms of domestic and foreign policy since Kim Jong-un came to power? Does the young dictator really not tolerate senior political leaders or is he just a puppet of the really powerful within the Communist Party? And what does the recent purge reveal about Pyongyang's relationship with its big neighbour, China?

In cooperation with the German-Korean Association Hamburg (DKGH) and the German Asia-Pacific Business Association (OAV), the GIGA has organised a high-quality GIGA Forum. Speaking at the event will be Rüdiger Frank, a professor of East Asian Economy and Society at the University of Vienna and one of the most renowned North Korea specialists worldwide, and James Hoare, who as a British diplomat was chargé d'affaires and HM consul general at the British Embassy in Pyongyang.

The event will be held in English, but questions can also be asked in German. Following the event, a Korean snack will be served.

<http://www.giga-hamburg.de/giga-forum>