

# Public Lecture of Vincent Woo Distinguished Visiting Scholar Programme 2014-15

## 胡永輝傑出訪問學人講座二零一四至二零一五

What we know and we don't know about civil wars

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Stathis N. Kalyvas is Arnold Wolfers Professor of Political Science and Director of the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence at Yale University. He is the author of *The Logic of Violence in Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2006) and *The Rise of Christian Democracy in Europe* (Cornell University Press, 1996), and the co-editor of *Order, Conflict & Violence* (Cambridge University Press, 2008). He has received several awards, including the Woodrow Wilson Award for best book on government, politics, or international affairs (2007), the Luebbert Award for best book in comparative politics (2008), the European Academy of Sociology Book Award (2008), the J. David Greenstone Award for best book in politics and history (1997), and the Gregory Luebbert Award for best article in comparative politics (2001, 2009, and 2011). He is the recipient of fellowships and grants from the European University Institute, the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, the United States Peace Institute, and the Folke Bernadotte Academy; and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. He is currently researching various aspects of conflict, both at the micro and macro levels. Recent articles include "International System and Technologies of Rebellion: How the End of the Cold War Shaped Internal Conflict" (with Laia Balcells, *American Political Science Review*, 2010), "Bombing as an Instrument of Counterinsurgency in the Vietnam War," (with Matt Kocher and Tom Pepinsky, *American Journal of Political Science*, 2011), and "Does Warfare Matter? Severity, Duration, and Outcomes of Civil Wars," (with Laia Balcells, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, forthcoming).

### SYNOPSIS

What we know and we don't know about civil wars

Civil wars are the most prevalent form of contemporary war. Currently, civil wars in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Ukraine dominate the news. During the past fifteen years, the comparative study of civil wars has made progress in pinpointing their causes and explaining their dynamics, duration, the ways in which they end, and their long-term impact. I review the most robust findings of this literature and discuss its shortcomings, as well as the future avenues for research.

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## 胡永輝傑出訪問學人講座二零一四至二零一五

### Dr Vincent Woo Wing-fai, BBS

Dr Woo was born in the Shunde municipality of Guangdong Province, China. Having studied in various institutions including Lingnan University in Guangzhou, Dr Woo graduated in 1955 with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the Central South China University of Finance and Economics, Wuhan. After graduation, he worked in the Yellow River Irrigation Committee and Planning Committee and was commended many times for outstanding performance. In 1962, he moved to Hong Kong and assisted his elder brother in real estate investment. In 1969, he founded his own business, the Wing Sheung (Holdings) Limited, which specializes in real estate development. In recent years, his business has diversified into stock investment, kindergarten education, and real estate development in mainland China. Dr Woo is now Managing Director of Wing Sheung (Holdings) Limited and Million Fair Investment Limited.

Since 1976, Dr Woo has been active in public service, including serving as Director (1976) and Chairman (1982) of Po Leung Kuk. He has been appointed as a member of the Po Leung Kuk Advisory Board since April 1983. Dr Woo is currently the Chairman of the Association of Po Leung Kuk Chairmen Limited. In the past three decades, he has been the Chairman of Hong Kong Juvenile Care Centre and Supervisor of Chan Nam Cheong Memorial School, as well as being a member of several other school boards. He has played an important role in providing counseling service to young people in crises. Dr Woo has also spent time and effort in the field of social service in Hong Kong. He was Chairman of the Island Community Chest Walkathon in 1996 and has held the position of honorary chairmanship of a number of ethnic clan associations and the Boy Scout Region Association in Hong Kong. In recognition of his distinguished public and social service, he was awarded the MBE in 1984. The Open University of Hong Kong conferred to him the Honorary University Fellowship and Doctor of Business Administration honoris causa in 2001 and 2010 respectively for his contributions. Dr Woo was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star in 2012.

Dr Woo's enthusiasm in supporting education has led him to give Lingnan University an endowment to establish the Vincent Woo Distinguished Visiting Scholar Programme. The Programme provides funding for the University to invite an internationally renowned scholar to stay at the University for a week each year. During the week, the scholar gives a public lecture, holds seminars with staff and students on campus, and gives advice to various academic departments.

### Acknowledgement

Lingnan University acknowledges with thanks the generous endowment given by Dr Vincent Woo to establish the Vincent Woo Distinguished Visiting Scholar Programme in 1999. The Programme has made possible the visit of Professor Stathis Kalyvas to Lingnan as our 2014 Vincent Woo Distinguished Visiting Scholar. The University is most grateful to Dr Woo and Professor Kalyvas.

### Vincent Woo Distinguished Visiting Scholars

1999	Prof. Yeh Chia-ying	2006	Prof. Cheng Si-wei
2001	Prof. Zhang Zhilian	2008	Prof. Gregory C Chow
2001	Prof. Randall Collins	2010	Prof. G John Ikenberry
2002	Prof. Pai Hsien-yung	2012	Prof. Yuriko Saito
2004	Prof. Daniel W Y Kwok	2013	Prof. Manju Puri
2005	Prof. Alan Walker	2014	Prof. Stathis N Kalyvas
2006	Prof. Mark Easterby-Smith		