**Nomination for AKSE President**

**Prof. Dr. Vladimir Tikhonov (Pak Noja)**

*Profile*:   
Full professor; Department of Cultural Studies and Oriental Languages, Faculty of Humanities, Oslo University, Oslo, Norway  
Research interests: Premodern Korean history/modern Korean intellectual history/Korean socio-political movements' history

*Nominee’s Statement:*  
We are living in both exciting and challenging times to be a Europe-based Koreanist. On the one hand, buoyed by the growing demand for South Korean popular culture, Korean Studies experience unprecedentedly quick growth, especially in terms of student numbers. On the other hand, just as European academia as a whole, Korean Studies face a number of problems. Inequality – between the scholars affiliated with the institutions in the richer states of European Union and these coming from the poorer regions of Europe, and between the fully tenured academics and these in more precarious positions – is one of the most acute issues we encounter. If elected, I pledge to try my best to prioritize the needs and interests of the most vulnerable members of our European Korean Studies community – both in geographic term and in terms of status.

We live in the world where the immanent logic of knowledge and reason is often being superseded by the demands for immediate relevance or, even worse, profitability, or the agendas of the funding bodies. I am originally a student of pre-modern Korean history who ended up researching mostly on modern Korea, and also doing some work on contemporary South Korean society and politics. I consider it my duty, if elected, to ensure proportional and balanced representation of various humanities and social science disciplines in the activities and programs of AKSE.

Academic ghettoization is one danger to which area studies disciplines, Korean Studies included, are typically exposed to. It is sometimes exacerbated by the predominant patterns of funding by state-level funding bodies in the nation states with vested interests in the particular discipline. I consider it important to counter this tendency and make continuous efforts at ensuring that Korean Studies in Europe contribute to European and global academia in general, also theoretically and methodologically.

**Nominations for the two vacant positions of Regular Council Member**

**Dr. Bonnie Tilland**

*Profile*:   
University lecturer; Korean Studies, Leiden Institute for Area Studies (LIAS); Leiden University; Netherlands  
Research interests: South Korean anthropology, gender and media studies

**Ass. Prof. Dr. Andreas Schirmer**

*Profile*:   
Assistant Professor, Head of Section; Department of Asian Studies, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic  
Research interests: Modern Korean literature, Translation studies, Cultural Studies