# Negotiating Imperialism

In this study of Japan's imperial historiography in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Birgit Tremml-Werner examines the use of history to promote expansion in the Asia Pacific region. Focusing on historian-diplomat Murakami Naojirō, she highlights the impact of the archive and translation in knowledge creation. Combining empirical examples, including early modern diplomatic missions to Europe, Indigenous Taiwanese history, colonial education, and postwar cultural diplomacy, this work emphasizes how the past is represented in the intertwined environments of history and memory. She argues that the Japanese case also reveals wider questions around the myth-making of nation states and the extent to which 'historiographical violence' has silenced the voices of actors, including Indigenous peoples and women, within the archival record. This title is also available as open access on Cambridge Core.

Birgit Tremml-Werner is Senior Lecturer in Global History at Stockholm University.

Published online by Cambridge University Press

Published online by Cambridge University Press

# Negotiating Imperialism

## *Murakami Naojirō's Archival Diplomacy*

**Birgit Tremml-Werner**

*Stockholm University*



Published online by Cambridge University Press

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009640800

DOI: 10.1017/9781009640817

© Birgit Tremml-Werner 2025

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, with the exception of the Creative Commons
version the link for which is provided below, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

An online version of this work is published at doi.org/10.1017/9781009640817 under a
Creative Commons Open Access license CC-BY-NC 4.0 which permits re-use, distribution
and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial purposes providing appropriate credit to
the original work is given and any changes made are indicated. To view a copy of this license
visit https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009640817

First published 2025

Cover image: Akamon Gate / John S Lander / LightRocket / Getty Images

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*
Names: Tremml, Birgit author
Title: Negotiating imperialism : Murakami Naojirō's archival diplomacy / Birgit
Tremml-Werner.
Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press,
2025. | Includes bibliographical references and index.
Identifiers: LCCN 2025025324 (print) | LCCN 2025025325 (ebook) |
ISBN 9781009640800 hardback | ISBN 9781009640824 paperback |
ISBN 9781009640817 epub
Subjects: LCSH: Murakami, Naojirō, 1868–1966 | Historiography–Japan | Japan–Foreign
relations–1868–1912–Historiography | Japan–Foreign relations–1912–1945–
Historiography | Japan–Territorial expansion–History
Classification: LCC DS882.6 .T74 2025 (print) | LCC DS882.6 (ebook)
LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2025025324
LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2025025325

ISBN 978-1-009-64080-0 Hardback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will
remain, accurate or appropriate.

For EU product safety concerns, contact us at Calle de José Abascal, 56, 1°, 28003 Madrid,
Spain, or email eugpsr@cambridge.org

Published online by Cambridge University Press