# FORUMS, ROUNDTABLES, LECTURE SERIES AND STUDY VISITS

#### UKM'S FORUMS AND ROUNDTABLE SERIES

### East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

The EAIR Forum aims to provide a platform for Malaysian academics, researchers, and practitioners to interact with world-renowned scholars and experts in International Relations and East Asian Studies on contemporary research and policy issues affecting Malaysia's security and wellbeing as a sovereign nation. To enable as open a debate as possible, the discussion is held under the Chatham House Rule. Past and future speakers include scholars from East-West Center (Dr Satu Limaye), University of the Philippines (Professor Aileen Baviera), ANU (Professor Ian Hall), Kanazawa University (Professor Hiro Katsumata), the University of British Columbia (Professor Paul Evans), the University of Delaware (Professor Alice D. Ba), American University (Professor Amitav Acharya), London School of Economics and Political Science (Professor Jurgen Haacke), Lingnan University (Professor Brian Bridges), Princeton University, Oxford University, and Johns Hopkins University.



### Myanmar's Foreign Policy under President U Thein Sein: Non-Aligned Once More?



# Prof. Jurgen Haacke

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

> 13 August 2015, Thursday 2:00PM – 3:45 PM Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK

It is widely agreed that the guiding principles of Myanmar's foreign policy practice during the Cold War included strategic non-alignment. There is also considerable agreement that Myanmar opted for a form of limited alignment with China under the SLORC/SPDC military regime even while remaining committed to an independent and active foreign policy in rhetorical terms. What is perhaps less clear is whether since 2011 Naypyidaw has once again been unambiguously committed to a non-aligned foreign policy in word and practice. The talk proposes to address this question by revisiting the concepts of alignment and non-alignment, by inquiring into the rationale for a non-aligned foreign policy and by exploring recent developments in Myanmar's foreign relations. In particular, the talk will focus on the nature of current ties with major regional powers in the Indo-Pacific as well as the ways in which Myanmar has sought to manage both the contemporary regional security environment and more specific security-related challenges and pressures. It will be argued that Naypyidaw has not only returned to a foreign policy of non-alignment in practice, but also that this foreign policy orientation is unlikely to change significantly after the November 2015 elections.

### East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

Co-organized by:

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities , UKM Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) & Malaysian Armed Forces Defence College (MPAT)





# Can Asia Challenge Chinese Dominance and Avoid Europe's Past?



# **Prof. Amitav Acharya**

UNESCO Chair in Transnational Challenges and Governance and Professor of International Relations at the School of International Service, American University, Washington, D.C

12 August 2015, Wednesday 2:30PM – 4:30 PM Bilik Senat, Bangunan Canselori, UKM

The spectacular rise of China has kindled fears about an epic power struggle in Asia whereby a Chinese move towards regional hegemony is challenged by the US and its allies, causing a breakdown of Asia's security order in a manner similar to Europe's two "World Wars". But challenging traditional geopolitical thinking — especially neorealism, Amitav Acharya argues that rising powers do not shape regions, but regions shape rising powers. His argument rests on the fact that Asia has seen several other fundamental changes, other than and predating China's recent rise, including expanding economic interdependence, regional multilateral norms and institutions, and domestic political consolidation and openness in key Asian nations. There is also an emerging military equilibrium in Asia brought about not only by the US 'rebalancing' strategy, but also by the defense policies and interactions of others like India, Japan, Australia and ASEAN nations..

### East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

Co-organized by:

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UKM Institute of Malaysian and International Studies







### East Asian Transitions and Its Institutional Dimensions: The United States, China and ASEAN



# Alice D. Ba

Associate Professor of Political Science & International Relations, University of Delaware

8 June 2015, Monday 10:00AM – 12:00 PM Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK

The East Asian system has been undergoing transition. That transition is characterized by adjustments to what has been a US-centric system of arrangements to ones that are more inclusive of China. The creation of regional institutions and new cooperative frameworks has been indicative of these adjustments. At the same time, institutional trends have also been highly contested. This presentation considers institutional trends with attention to both ASEAN and China and also US responses, including US "rebalance policies" and regional reactions to the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

School of History, Politics and Strategy (PPSPS), Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSK) UKM-IDFR East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum Please RSVP to <farizal@ukm.edu.my> by Friday, 5 June 2015







School of History, Politics, and Strategy (PPSPS), Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSK)

East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

5 February 2015, Thursday 2:00 – 3:45 PM Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK

### **Prof. Paul Evans**

Institute of Asian Research and Liu Institute for Global Issues
The University of British Columbia, Canada

# "Dilemmas in Getting China Right: Canadian Policy and the Evaporating Middle Power Role"

Dealing with global China is not easy for any country. Since coming to power in 2006, the Harper government has moved through three phases in revising an engagement strategy that had been in place since 1970. A combination of factors--Conservative ideology and philosophy, changes in Chinese behaviour and the scale of the relationship, and shifts in public attitudes--have produced a series of complications that have limited the scope and imagination of what previously was a robust middle power role. The presentation will focus on the the evolution of Canadian policy and the hard choices now facing the government related to the China factor in foreign investment, national security, and international governance.



School of History, Politics, and Strategy (PPSPS), Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSK)



East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

# ASEAN'S LEADERSHIP IN EAST ASIAN COMMUNITY BUILDING

**Featuring** 



**Dr. Hiro Katsumata**School of International Studies, Kanazawa University

5 January 2015, Monday | 2:00 – 3:45 PM Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK



School of History, Politics and Strategy (PPSPS), FSSK

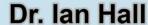
presents

UKM's East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

on

# INDIA'S UNAVOIDABLE ENTANGLEMENTS IN EAST ASIA





Senior Fellow, Department of International Relations, The Australian National University (ANU)

> 9 December 2014, Tuesday 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK

Please RSVP to <farizal@ukm.edu.my> by Friday, 5 December 2014



School of History, Politics and Strategy (PPSPS), FSSK

UKM's East Asia and International Relations (EAIR) Forum

on

# THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AS A COMPLEX MARITIME SECURITY DOMAIN

Featuring



# Professor Aileen Baviera The Asian Center, University of the Philippines

31 October 2014, Friday | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK

Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:right">farizal@ukm.edu.my</a> by Wednesday, 29 October 2014





School of History, Politics, and Strategy (PPSPS) • Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSK)

# Strategic Studies and International Relations (SSIR) Program School of History, Politics, and Strategy (PPSPS)

cordially invites you to

### UKM'S EAST ASIA AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FORUM on

"East Asia and the United States: A View from Washington"

Featuring

### Dr. Satu Limaye

Director, East-West Center in Washington

#### 25 August 2014, Monday | 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Bilik Mesyuarat FSSK, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities (FSSK) National University of Malaysia (UKM), 43600 Bangi, Selangor Darul Ehsan *Please RSVP (before 21 August, Thursday) to kuik@ukm.edu.my* 

#### About the speaker:

Dr. Satu Limaye is Director of the East-West Center in Washington and a Senior Advisor at the CNA Corporation. He is the Founding Editor of the *Asia-Pacific Bulletin*, an editor of *Global Asia*, and a member of the international advisory council of *Contemporary Southeast Asia*. His research interests include Asia-Pacific international relations, U.S.-Asia defense and security relations, and India's foreign policy. Dr. Limaye is formerly a Research Staff Member of the Strategy and Resources Division at the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) and the Director of Research and Publications at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS). He has been an Abe Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy and a Henry Luce Scholar and Research Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA) in Tokyo. He is a magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Georgetown University and received his doctorate from Oxford University (Magdalen College) where he was a George C. Marshall Scholar. He can be contacted at LimayeS@EastWestCenter.org

#### Synopsis:

The U.S. rebalance to the Asia-Pacific has raised great expectations in the region and elicited skepticism. But U.S. engagement in the region remains robust in the context of growing challenges to trust and stability. Satu Limaye will review key U.S. relationships, features of U.S. engagement and challenges facing the U.S. in its relations with the Asia-Pacific.

### Strategic Studies and International Relations (SSIR) Roundtable

The SSIR Roundtable offers an avenue for small-group discussion between visiting experts and SSIR students on emerging international issues. Past speakers include Professor Lee Moosung of Myongji University (on regional conflicts in East Asia), Professor Vivian Louis Forbes of the University of Western Australia and the Maritime Institute of Malaysia (on the complex geopolitics of the South China Sea), Professor Arthur Ding of the National Chengchi University (on Taiwan's security and external policies), Rear Admiral Dato' Fadzilah bin Mohd Salleh of the Attorney General's Chambers and the Royal Malaysian Navy (on Malaysia's maritime boundaries) and Dr. Claire Lee Seungeun of the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (on the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park and the Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park).

