

2017



Annual Report

ISIS
Institute of
Strategic and
International
Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia

Annual Report
2017



ISIS
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Strategic and
International
Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia



**Institute of Strategic and
International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia**

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 Institute of Strategic and
International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

 ISIS_MY



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► INTRODUCTION

The Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia was established on 8 April 1983 as an autonomous, not-for-profit research organisation. ISIS Malaysia has a diverse research focus which includes economics, trade, regional integration, foreign policy, security studies, nation-building, social policy, technology, innovation and environmental sustainability. It also undertakes research collaboration with national and international organisations in important areas such as national development and international affairs.

ISIS Malaysia engages actively in Track Two diplomacy, and promotes the exchange of views and opinions at both the national and international levels. The Institute has also played a role in fostering closer regional integration and international cooperation through forums such as the Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR), the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS), the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC), the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT), the Network of ASEAN-China Think Tanks (NACT), the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT), and the Silk Road Think Tank Network (SiLKS). ISIS Malaysia is a founding member of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and manages the Council's Secretariat.

As the country's premier think tank, ISIS Malaysia has been at the forefront of some of the most significant nation-building initiatives in Malaysia's history. It was a contributor to the Vision 2020 concept and was consultant to the Knowledge-Based Economy Master Plan initiative. It also produced the first ever National Interest Analysis to be undertaken on Malaysia's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

► MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive
ISIS Malaysia

I am pleased to present the ISIS Malaysia Annual Report 2017. The report features the activities of the Institute and provides information on the projects, published works, presentations as well as media engagement of our research staff.

ISIS Malaysia remains steadfast in its objectives of promoting independent research and serious discussions as well as providing timely policy advice on various issues of concern to the nation and the world at large. This has been well achieved through the many conferences, meetings, roundtable discussions, seminars and workshops that were organised throughout the year, some of which were done in collaboration with other local and foreign institutions. Indeed, the year 2017 has been a very eventful and busy yet fulfilling year for ISIS Malaysia.

ISIS Malaysia was involved in two projects for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) Malaysia in 2017. The first was a study on granting refugees permission to work from the perspectives of Malaysia's national interest and national security. The second was a study on addressing challenges and identifying opportunities for refugee access to employment in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

The Institute was also commissioned by the World Bank group to research on innovation and productivity in Malaysia. Furthermore, ISIS Malaysia was invited as a participant to the ongoing SCHEMA Workshop on Urban Food Systems and Health of the United Nations University's International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH). The workshop was conducted to examine the urban food systems in Malaysian cities.

ISIS Malaysia successfully convened the 31st Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) from 22-24 May 2017. The event, which had the full support of the ASEAN-ISIS fraternity as well as other long-time institutional partners, was declared open by The Honourable Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, on behalf of The Honourable Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia. The 31st APR attracted over 260 participants including ministers, policy makers, security experts, scholars, researchers, journalists and business leaders from the Asia Pacific and Europe.

A forum entitled, "Malaysia's Population in 2050: What Does This Mean Socio-Economically?" was held on 25 April 2017. The forum's notable speakers included Dr Amjad Rabi, Deputy Representative and Senior Social Policy Specialist at United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Malaysia; Dr Muhammed Abdul Khalid, Managing Director and Chief Economist at DM-Analytics, Malaysia; and Mr Chua Choon Hwa, Undersecretary (Policy and Strategic Planning) at the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM) of Malaysia.

A series of events were also organised to commemorate ASEAN's 50th anniversary. First, a symposium was held to kick off conversations on the future of the ASEAN Community. Second, the ASEAN Circle, an initiative by ISIS Malaysia and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), was established to provide a platform for dialogue among relevant stakeholders to enhance the overall understanding and awareness of the three pillars that make up the ASEAN Community. Third, ISIS Malaysia published a book entitled *ASEAN Future Forward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years*. The publication was launched by HRH Paduka Seri Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah, the Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan and Royal Fellow of ISIS Malaysia, on 28 August 2017. The book launch event was followed by a panel discussion on issues relevant to ASEAN and its member states.

On 28 January 2017, ISIS Malaysia was honoured to host the royal visit by HRH The Regent of Kelantan, Dr Tengku Muhammad Fa-iz Petra Ibni Sultan Ismail Petra. ISIS Malaysia Board Members were also present to welcome His Royal Highness.

Through our International Affairs Forum (IAF) series, the Institute was also able to host prominent leaders, policy makers, legislators, diplomats and scholars who spoke on a variety of subjects. These speakers included Dr Cho-Oon Khong, Chief Political Analyst at Shell International; Ms Irma Argüello, Founder and Chair of the Nonproliferation for Global Security Foundation (NPSGlobal); Dr Maria Sultan, Director-General of the South Asian Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI) University; Colonel Forrest Hare, former Air Attaché at the Embassy of the United States in Kuala Lumpur; Dr Anne Speckhard, Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychiatry and of Security Studies at Georgetown University; Mr Boris Michel, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); and Major General Muniruzzaman (Rtd), President and CEO of the Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS). Several roundtable discussions were held on various subjects, featuring speakers from different institutions and countries. ISIS Malaysia also continued to receive visitors from various entities in Malaysia and overseas.

In March and October, Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram delivered his second and third public lectures as the third holder of the Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies. I would like to express my sincere thanks and deep gratitude to Dr Jomo for his intellectual and scholastic contribution as holder of the Chair and to the late Tun Hussein Onn's family and the Noah Foundation for their continuing support and generous contribution to fund the Chair.

Throughout 2017, ISIS Malaysia continued to actively engage and maintain close links with other think tanks and institutions at home and abroad. The Institute jointly hosted in Malaysia several events with think tanks and institutions from other countries. These included the New Members Strategy Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Leadership Network (APLN) for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, held in collaboration with the APLN Secretariat, Seoul; the First Roundtable on the Korean Peninsula: The Korean Peninsula and Regional Security, organised together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea; the Launch of the

Malaysia Scholars on Korea (MASK) Network and Panel Discussion on Searching for a Malaysia-Republic of Korea Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, co-organised with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Malaysia; and the ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue on "Women, Peace and Security – The Role of Women in the Prevention of Violent Extremism", convened with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia and the United Nations. Two long-standing annual events were also coordinated – the Sixth Malaysian-German Security Dialogue, held in partnership with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), and the Tenth ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue, organised jointly with Asialink and the Asia New Zealand Foundation.

Pursuant to the MOU signed with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) in November 2015, ISIS Malaysia received a CASS delegation at its premises and hosted a Roundtable Discussion on "Malaysia's Participation in the Belt and Road Initiative: Managing the Challenges of Implementation" on 16 October 2017.

An ISIS Malaysia delegation visited Beijing and Xi'an from 3-9 September 2017 at the invitation of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA). The main purpose of the visit was to convene the Third China-Malaysia Seminar. The delegation also met with scholars at the China Institute for International Strategic Studies (CISS) in Beijing to discuss Malaysia-China relations and regional issues of concern.

ISIS Malaysia also sent a representative to participate in the 2017 Muslim Youth Exchange Camp for Southeast Asian Countries, organised by Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, from 14-20 May 2017 in Taipei. As in the past, ISIS Malaysia's Chairman and Chief Executive and research staff attended numerous conferences, seminars and colloquia at home and abroad, including the first Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation in Beijing in May 2017, and the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference in March 2017. Research staff also participated in the Roundtable on Climate Change and the Role of ASEAN in Climate Change Politics in Yangon in June 2017; Delhi Dialogue IX on Charting the Course for India-ASEAN Relations for the Next 25 Years in July 2017; and the International Think-Tank Symposium on the 19th CPC National Congress: Implications for China and the World in Beijing in November 2017.

I wish to record here that the accomplishments attained by ISIS Malaysia would not have been possible without the support, assistance and encouragement of the Government of Malaysia and other governments as well as various individuals and organisations, public and private, here in Malaysia and abroad. I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all our friends, associates and supporters for their invaluable assistance and generous contributions that enabled ISIS Malaysia to carry out its activities throughout the year.

I would also like to record my appreciation to the members of the Board of ISIS Malaysia for their full support and encouragement. Last but not least, I thank and commend all staff for their dedication and commitment in ensuring that ISIS Malaysia remains as the nation's premier think tank.

I look forward to continued success and greater achievements in the coming year for ISIS Malaysia.

January 2018

▶ WHO'S WHO IN ISIS MALAYSIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive,
ISIS Malaysia



Dato' Steven CM Wong
Deputy Chief Executive,
ISIS Malaysia



General (R) Tan Sri (Dr) Mohamed
Hashim Mohd Ali
Chairman,
Country Heights Holdings Bhd

► MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



Tan Sri Dr Khoo Kay Kim
Professor Emeritus,
Department of History, University of Malaya



Dato' Rohana Tan Sri Mahmood
Chairman and Founder,
RM Capital Partners & Associates Sdn Bhd



Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Sulaiman Mahbob
Chairman,
Telekom Malaysia Bhd



► MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Munir Abdul Majid
Chairman,
Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd



Tan Sri Ahmad Zaki Ansore Mohd Yusof
Director General,
Implementation Coordination Unit,
Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia



Puan Nooraidah Abdullah
Section Head, International Division,
Ministry of Finance, Malaysia



► MANAGEMENT



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive



Dato' Steven CM Wong
Deputy Chief Executive
Research interests: macroeconomics,
international trade and finance, regional
geopolitics



Ms Elina Noor
Director (Foreign Policy and Security Studies)
Research interests: US-Malaysia relations,
major power relations, cyber warfare and
international law, terrorism and counter-
terrorism, conflict and religion



Mr Firdaos Rosli
Director (Economics, Trade and Regional
Integration)
Research interests: international trade,
economics and public policy



Ms Sohana Enver Azyze
Head of Administration



Ms Tengku Sheila Tengku Annuar Zainal
Director (Public Affairs and Conference
Services)

► TUN HUSSEIN ONN CHAIR IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram
Third Holder of the Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies
Research interest: international political economy



► RESEARCH STAFF



Dr Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori
Senior Analyst

Research interests: political reform and contestation processes in Malaysia and the wider Southeast Asian region



Ms Ainun Jaabi
Researcher

Research interests: agriculture, food security, land use management



Mr Alizan Mahadi
Fellow (on sabbatical leave until 2019)

Research interests: sustainable development, green economy and governance



Mr Bunn Nagara
Senior Fellow

Research interests: ASEAN, Southeast Asian and Pacific Area security, East Asian integration, global power relations, major state interests



Mr Sholto Byrnes
Senior Fellow

Research interests: nation-building in Malaysia, established and emerging democracies in Muslim-majority countries, Southeast Asian and international relations



Mr Calvin Cheng
Researcher

Research interests: inequality and poverty, unemployment, economic growth, fiscal policy

► RESEARCH STAFF



Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel
Analyst

Research interests: security challenges and big power competition in the Asia Pacific, its impact on Southeast Asia and the relationship between ASEAN and big powers



Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika
Analyst

Research interests: global and regional economic integration (ASEAN, APEC), trade and investment, digital economy, domestic economic issues, Malaysia-Indonesia relations



Ms Farlina Said
Analyst

Research interests: preventing and countering violent extremism, cyberspace



Mr Sathish Govind
Senior Analyst (until 31 July 2017)

Research interests: economic development, political economy, trade and investment



Ms Latifah Azlan
Researcher (until 10 July 2017)

Research interests: energy security, climate change, sustainable development



Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid
Senior Analyst

Research interests: technology and innovation, nation-building

► RESEARCH STAFF



Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul
Researcher

Research interests: strategic, economic and social implications of Chinese investments in Malaysia, China's Belt and Road Initiative, geopolitical tensions in Northeast Asia, Southeast Asian politics, international law



Mr Muhammad Sinatra
Analyst

Research interests: Malaysia-Indonesia relations, counter-terrorism in Southeast Asia



Mr Naufal Fauzi
Researcher

Research interests: conflict and security law, cybersecurity and international law, migration issues



Ms Nursalina Fairuz Salleh
Analyst

Research interests: national integration in Malaysia, Malaysian politics



Ms Nurul Izzati Kamrulbahri
Researcher

Research interests: terrorism and radicalisation in the Middle East and Southeast Asia, ASEAN politics



Ms Puteri Nor Ariane Yasmin
Analyst

Research interests: global power relations, forced migration, labour

► RESEARCH STAFF



Mr Shahrman Lockman
Senior Analyst

Research interests: Malaysian foreign policy, Southeast Asia-China relations, the South China Sea, Malaysia-Indonesia relations, Asian military affairs



Ms Tengku Nur Qistina
Researcher

Research interests: Malaysia-Middle East relations, Malaysia at the United Nations



Mr Woo Hon Weng
Researcher (until 8 August 2017)

Research interests: soft power, East Asia geopolitics, East Asian history



Ms Zarina Zainuddin
Analyst

Research interests: Malaysia-Japan relations, East Asia



Ms Joann Saw
Publications Executive

► NON-RESEARCH STAFF



Administration

Seated from left: Mr Zulkifli Arshad, Mr Abdul Halil Musa, Ms Zainun Majid, Ms Yong Nural'Ain LA Shah, Ms Nor Hayati Jelani, Ms Sohana Enver Azyze, Mr Abdul Halid Shafie (standing), and Mr Mohamad Shazli Mohamad Sharif

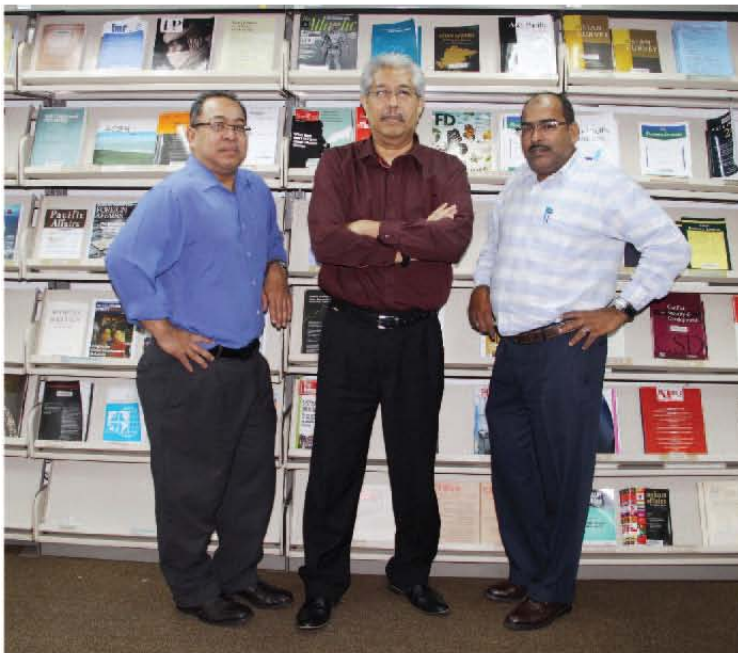
Standing from left: Mr EL-Jeffery Ibrahim, Mr Krishnasamy Mothiah, Mr Abd Razak Ismail, Mr Hassan Hashim, Mr Abu Bakar Mohamed, Ms Siti Zubaidah Abdullah Sani, Ms Kamarul Azira Mohd Dross, Mr Emy Irwan Abdul Rahim, Mr Kamaruddin Ariffin, Mr Mohd Zulkefli Udin, Mr Mohd Ali Yarmamat, and Mr Suhaili Ramli



Public Affairs and Conference Services

From left: Mr Mohd Ali Yarmamat, Mr Zainal Mokhtar Kassim, Ms Harizan Zakaria, Ms Tengku Sheila Tengku Annuar Zainal, Ms Nur Atikah Ishak, Ms Mariah Aziz, Mr Mohamad Hanafi Kamaruddin, Mr Jefri Hambali, and Mr Ahmad Syahir Adnan

► NON-RESEARCH STAFF



Library

From left:

Mr Abd Razak Ismail,
Mr El-Jeffery Ibrahim,
and Mr Abu Bakar Mohamed



Secretarial

From left:

Ms Zainun Majid,
Ms Norazzah Suleman,
Mr Nik Hasmu Musa,
Ms Norshida Hashim,
and Ms Azimah Othman

► EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ISIS Malaysia was actively involved, on its own as well as collaboration with others, in the organisation of numerous conferences and meetings in 2017 – many centred on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in conjunction with its 50th anniversary. This section highlights ten major conferences, a royal visit, two public lectures, a book launch and a series of ISIS International Affairs Forums. A number of roundtable discussions were also held on our premises. Some of these meetings were closed-door discussions with visiting diplomats. Additionally, there were visits by institutions from several countries, including Bangladesh, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, and the United States.

CONFERENCES

Asia-Pacific Leadership Network for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament New Members Strategy Meeting

12-14 March 2017, Kuala Lumpur

Co-hosted by ISIS Malaysia and the Asia-Pacific Leadership Network (APLN), the meeting with new members was designed to forge a common understanding of how the network might best achieve its aims of informing and energising public opinion, especially high-level policy makers, to take seriously the very real threats posed by nuclear weapons, and to do everything possible to contain, diminish and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons. The meeting covered the following aspects:

- Functioning of the APLN
- Special Public Briefing on "Terror Unleashed: An Assessment of Global and National Impacts of a Nuclear Terrorist Attack"
- Dinner Presentation on "Reflection on DPRK: Human Rights and Nuclear Weapons"
- The Second Nuclear Age: The Geopolitical Context
- A Nuclear Ban Treaty: Asia-Pacific Voices and Perspectives
- The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the Review Process



Participants of the APLN New Members Strategy Meeting



From left: Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Prof Ramesh Thakur and Mr Hyungtaek Hong



Dr Fan Jishe (left) and Dr Trevor Findlay



Ms Irma Argüello (left) and HE Amb Toshio Sano

ASEAN 50|50: Projecting the Future of a Community

22 May 2017, Hilton Kuala Lumpur

ASEAN 50|50 was organised by ISIS Malaysia in accordance with ASEAN's 50th anniversary celebration. The Hon Brig Gen Khairy Jamaluddin, Minister of Youth and Sports, delivered the Keynote Address and officiated the event. Two former Secretaries-General of ASEAN, HE Dr Surin Pitsuwan and HE Amb Ong Keng Yong, were among the prominent speakers that day. About 160 participants from 17 countries attended the symposium. Three plenary sessions were convened with the aim of sparking conversation on the future of the ASEAN Community:

- Fifty Years of ASEAN: An Honest Assessment
- ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead, Together?
- ASEAN in the Next 50 Years: Progress or Stagnation?



The Hon Brig Gen Khairy Jamaluddin



Role players of the symposium



HE Dr Surin Pitsuwan



Mr Jusuf Wanandi (left) and
HE Amb Ong Keng Yong



From left: Ms Moe Thuzar, Dk Hani Nadiah Pg DP Hj Sani, Mr Kavi Chongkittavorn and Dr Vannarith Chheang



From left: Ms Rahimah Abdulrahim, HRH Prince Norodom Sirivudh, Mr Danille Fritzgerald O Soria and Ms Farhana Zain



Participants at the symposium

31st Asia-Pacific Roundtable

22-24 May 2017, Hilton Kuala Lumpur

The Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) is a project of the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS), with ISIS Malaysia as the anchor institution for convening the conference. This year's roundtable, titled "The Future of the Asia Pacific: Issues and Institutions in Flux", saw the attendance of over 260 scholars, government officials, policy makers and opinion leaders from across the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe and West Asia.

The 31st APR was officially opened by The Hon Dato' Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department on behalf of The Hon Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, at the Welcoming Dinner on 22nd May. The keynote address outlined ASEAN's progress and many achievements despite its constraints and challenges, and how Malaysia has also charted successful courses through issues and institutions in flux. Malaysia's steadfast, reliable and open foreign policy has contributed to the progress of the nation through cooperation with friends and partners in the region and beyond.

There were six plenary and four concurrent sessions, and a special session entitled "Asian Views on America's Role in Asia". Discussions in the plenary sessions addressed "new" major power relations and dynamics in the Asia Pacific; changes in ASEAN; tensions in cyber space in terms of balancing national security, privacy and innovation; economic cooperation in the Asia Pacific; military modernisation in the Asia Pacific; and nationalist, anti-globalisation and anti-establishment politics. The concurrent sessions focused on regional strategic updates – Southeast Asia and Oceania; Northeast Asia; managing challenges and expectations in the Mekong River; and irregular migration.

Some of the high-level role players include Amb Yoshiji Nogami, President, Japan Institute of International Affairs; Amb Bilahari Kausikan, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore; Prof Yoon Young-Kwan, Former Foreign Minister, Republic of Korea; Amb Andrew Golezdzinowski, Ambassador for People Smuggling and Human Trafficking, Australia; Amb Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, India; Dr James Jay Carafano, Vice President, Foreign and Defense Policy Studies, The Heritage Foundation, USA; Dr Sergey Karaganov, Honorary Chairman of the Presidium, Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, Russia; Dr Rafal Rohozinski, Principal and CEO, The SecDev Group, Canada; Ms Mihoko Matsubara, Chief Security Officer for Japan, Palo Alto Networks, Japan; and Ms Kaja Ciglic, Director, Government Cybersecurity Policy and Strategy, Microsoft Corporation.

The 31st APR was successfully convened with the partnership of four sponsors and seven other supporters. New Straits Times Press Berhad, Berita Harian and Bernama were the official media partners.



Welcoming Remarks by
The Hon Dato' Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri



From left: Dr James Jay Carafano, Amb Yoshiji
Nogami and Dr Sergey Karaganov



From left: Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Mr John Brandon, Prof Yoon Young-Kwan and
Amb Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty



From left: Dr Aries Arugay, Dr Philips Vermonte, Dr David Capie and Dr Ha Anh Tuan



From left: Mr Daniel Wu, Ms Mihoko Matsubara, Mr Arun Mohan Sukumar, Dr Rafal Rohozinski and Ms Kaja Ciglic



From left: U Khin Maung Lynn, Dr Christopher Roberts, Dr Yohanes Sulaiman and Mr Kavi Chongkittavorn



From left: Dr Choi Kang, Mr Nicholas Fang, Dr Rong Ying and Prof Akio Takahara



From left:
Mr Jeffrey Schott, Assoc Prof Simon Tay,
Tan Sri Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria and
Dr Deborah Elms



From left:
Dr Pham Tuan Phan,
Dr Lattana Thavonsouk,
Amb Pou Sothirak and
Dr Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa



Pengiran Datin Shazainah PD Shariffuddin chairing Concurrent 4 on
Irregular Migration



Luncheon Address by
Amb Makio Miyagawa



From left: Dr Collin Koh Swhee Lean,
Prof Dr Nguyen Vu Tung,
Maj Gen (Rtd) Gong Xianfu
and Ms Katherine Dixon



From left: Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram,
Dato' Steven CM Wong,
Amb Bilahari Kausikan
and Mr Nico Lange



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa delivering the Closing Remarks



ASEAN Circle Pre-Council Meeting, and the Launching of the ASEAN Circle and the Inaugural ASEAN Circle Dialogue

16 June 2017, MITI Tower, Kuala Lumpur

In conjunction with the ASEAN@50 commemorative year, ISIS Malaysia together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, and Ministry of Tourism and Culture launched the ASEAN Circle. The ASEAN Circle was officiated by The Hon Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry. The Hon Dato' Sri Reezal Merican Nisa Merican, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and The Hon Datuk Mas Ermieyati binti Samsudin, Deputy Minister of Tourism and Culture, were also present and delivered their speeches at the event.

The ASEAN Circle is an initiative by ISIS Malaysia, with the ministries overlooking the three core pillars of ASEAN, to establish a discussion group comprising notable figures from the public and private sectors, media, academia, captains of industry, think tanks as well as civil society.

The objective is to enhance the overall understanding and awareness of the ASEAN Community among the citizens of Malaysia. Members of the ASEAN Circle are expected to meet periodically to discuss and obtain inputs as well as exchange views on issues related to ASEAN. The outcome of the dialogue will serve as a direct feedback by stakeholders for the consideration of the government.

After the launching ceremony, the ASEAN Circle organised its inaugural ASEAN Circle Dialogue on "Mainstreaming the ASEAN Brand". The discussion centred on how the government and other stakeholders can mainstream the ASEAN brand among Malaysians.



The Hon Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed



Delegates at the launching of the ASEAN Circle



Mr Firdaos Rosli



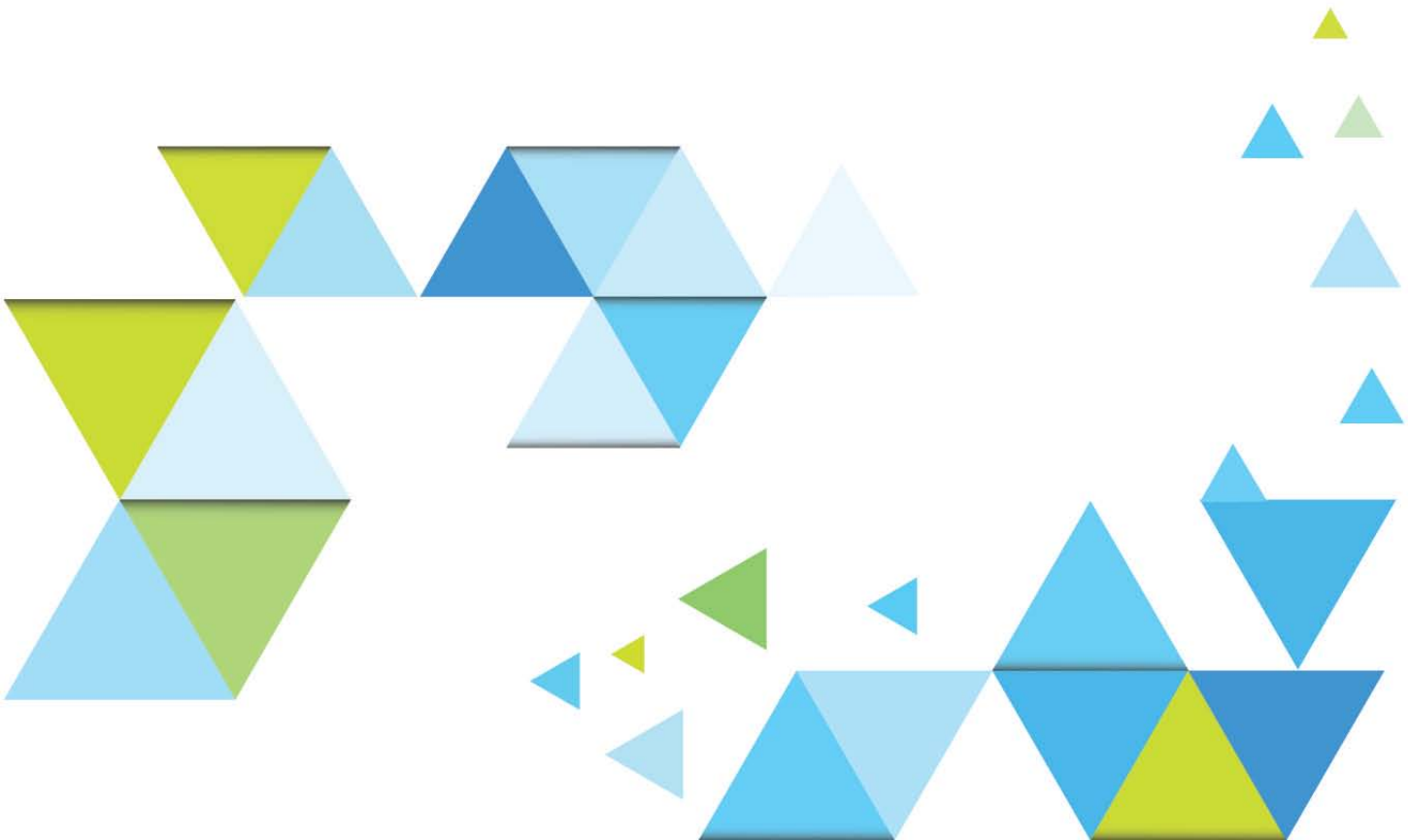
Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Munir Abdul Majid



Assoc Prof Dr Farish Ahmad Noor



Mr Bunn Nagara



Sixth Malaysian-German Security Dialogue

11-12 September 2017, Hotel Majestic, Kuala Lumpur

In this security dialogue, security experts from both countries addressed current issues, such as refugee policy, the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the threat of cyber attacks, and the future of ASEAN and the European Union (EU). Discussions and analysis focused on:

- Resettling Migrants – Reconfiguring Social Peace and Public Security in Newly Cosmopolitan Societies
- Formal Strategies and Laws – Reconciling Values, Harmonising Practices via Integration or Assimilation?
- Anti-Terrorism: Reviewing Stock Measures – Filling Gaps in Public Awareness and Policing
- Counter-Terrorism: Understanding Radicalisation and Energising Deradicalisation Programmes
- Navigating between Cyberespionage and Cyber Security – What Next?
- Strategic and Security Implications of BRI in a Multipolar World
- What Lies Ahead for the EU and the ASEAN Community?

This annual event was co-organised by ISIS Malaysia and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS).



Dato' Steven CM Wong (left) and Mr Wolfgang Hruschka



From left: Mr Benedict Göbel, Datuk Hasanah Abdul Hamid and Ms Aegile Fernandez



From left:
Prof Dato' Dr Shamsul Amri Baharuddin,
Dato' Steven CM Wong and Dr Christine Hegenbart



DCP Dato' Ayob Khan bin Mydin Pitchay (left)
and Lt-Gen Dato' Suhaimi Hj Mohd Zuki



From left:
Mr Patrick Rüppel, Mr Sholto Byrnes
and Dr Roy Anthony Rogers



Participants of the Sixth Malaysian-German
Security Dialogue

The First Roundtable on the Korean Peninsula: The Korean Peninsula and Regional Security

26 September 2017, The Westin, Kuala Lumpur

The First Roundtable on the Korean Peninsula was convened by ISIS Malaysia together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (ROK). The closed-door meeting focused on two important concerns:

- The strategic and security developments in the Korean Peninsula, particularly the nuclear capability of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Seoul's policy towards the former, and
- Malaysia-ROK relations and the regional strategic and economic environment, including US-China relations, South China Sea issues, ASEAN and regional trade arrangements.



Opening Remarks by HE Dr Yu Hyun-seok (left) and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa



From left: Dr Geetha Govindasamy, Dr Shin Beom-chul and Mr Ahmad Hisham Idris



From left: Dr Hoo Chiew-Ping, Mr Lee Jung-woo and Dr Tan Er-Win



Mr Gareth Pidgeon (left) and Mr Lum Wan Liang

Roundtable Discussion on “Malaysia’s Participation in the Belt and Road Initiative: Managing the Challenges of Implementation”

15-19 October 2017, Conference Room, ISIS Malaysia

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) in November 2015, ISIS Malaysia hosted delegates from CASS for a two-day roundtable discussion.

Session One highlighted the latest updates and pressing issues facing the two countries. Session Two examined possible solutions and recommendations in maximising the benefits of Malaysia’s involvement in the Belt and Road Initiative from the perspectives of:

- Diplomatic, Political and Security Relations,
- Economics and Business Relations, and
- People-to-People Relations.

Session Three deliberated on the domestic, political and economic developments in Malaysia and China. The roundtable ended with a session on “Follow-Up/Future Cooperation”.



From left: Assoc Prof Dr Zhong Feiteng, Prof Dr Li Xiangyang and Dato’ Steven CM Wong



Prof Dr Wang Yuzhu



Dato' Abdul Majid Ahmad Khan



Dr Ngeow Chow Bing



From left:
Assoc Prof Dr Zhong Feiteng,
Assoc Prof Dr Sheng Minghui
and Dr Yang Yuan



Participants of the roundtable discussion

Tenth ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Dialogue

20-21 November 2017, Pullman Kuala Lumpur City Centre Hotel and Residences

This year's ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue comprised six sessions over two days and a reception at the residence of the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia. The closed-door event was organised in partnership with Asialink from the University of Melbourne and the Asia New Zealand Foundation.

The first panel, comprising government officials, highlighted issues to be discussed at the dialogue through the lens of their respective governments. The second panel touched on the 50th anniversary of ASEAN and future of the regional organisation. The third session considered how players like ASEAN, Australia and New Zealand perceive possible changes and the state of leadership by China and the United States in the region. The fourth deliberated on how the region might move forward on regional economic integration and agreements. The fifth addressed domestic dynamics and their impact on inter-state relations in the region. The final session of the AANZ Dialogue centred on the convergence between technology, foreign policy and security.



From left:
Ms Jenny McGregor,
Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
and Mr Simon Draper



From left:
Emeritus Prof Roberto Rabel,
Prof John Blaxland,
Dr Lattana Thavonsouk
and Mr Shahriman Lockman



From left: Dr Tracey Epps, Prof Tania Voo
and Ms DK Nur Qamarina



From left: Mr Muhammad Sinatra, HE Dr Wilfrido
V Villacorta and Prof Daw Carole Ann Chit Tha



Participants of the Tenth AANZ

The Launch of the Malaysia Scholars on Korea Network and Panel Discussion on Searching for a Malaysia-Republic of Korea Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

5 December 2017, The Westin, Kuala Lumpur

The establishment of the Malaysia Scholars on Korea (MASK) Network is pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the two parties signed in November 2016 that aims to promote research activities, facilitate information and knowledge exchanges, and foster better understanding and cooperation between the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Malaysia.

Members of the MASK Network consists of scholars from renowned universities in Malaysia, such as the University of Malaya, National University of Malaysia (UKM), International Islamic University Malaysia, Monash University in Malaysia, and researchers from ISIS Malaysia.

In conjunction with the launch of the MASK Network, a panel discussion was convened. The discourse on the advantages and disadvantages of a bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership between Malaysia and the ROK was particularly timely as relations are approaching its sixth decade.



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa



HE Dr Yu Hyun-seok



Dr Kim Hyung Jong (left) and Dato' Steven CM Wong



Dr Hoo Chiew-Ping



Dr Tan Er-Win



Participants of the launch of the MASK Network

ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue on “Women, Peace and Security – The Role of Women in the Prevention of Violent Extremism”

6-7 December 2017, JW Marriott, Kuala Lumpur

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, the United Nations and ISIS Malaysia co-organised the ASEAN-UN Regional Dialogue on “Women, Peace and Security – The Role of Women in the Prevention of Violent Extremism” (AURED IV). The Dialogue sought to discuss the role of women in the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) in the ASEAN region as well as to build on recent PVE initiatives in the region.

The event was officially opened by YBhg Dato' Seri Ramlan Ibrahim, Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia; HE Le Luong Minh, ASEAN Secretary-General; Mr Miroslav Jenča, United Nations Assistant-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; HE Amb Rezlan Jenie, Executive Director, ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR); and Dr Miwa Kato, UN Women Asia Pacific Regional Director.

AURED IV is the latest in an annual series of ASEAN-UN regional workshops on political-security cooperation, since the ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership was adopted by the leaders of ASEAN and the United Nations Secretary-General in November 2011.



Role players of AURED IV



YBhg Dato' Seri Ramlan Ibrahim
delivering his Opening Remarks



Dialogue in session

ROYAL VISIT

Royal Visit by HRH Dr Tengku Muhammad Fa-iz Petra Ibni Sultan Ismail Petra, The Regent of Kelantan Darul Naim

28 January 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur

The Regent of Kelantan, HRH Dr Tengku Muhammad Fa-iz Petra Ibni Sultan Ismail Petra, graced ISIS Malaysia with his presence early this year. His Royal Highness was welcomed by Chairman and Chief Executive Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, ISIS Malaysia Board Members and Management as well as the research staff. The visit was to establish a rapport between HRH and ISIS Malaysia.

During the visit, HRH indicated a keen interest on issues pertaining to Malaysia's economy, socio-cultural situation as well as current key global and regional issues. HRH was also briefed on: (i) the history, activities and milestones of ISIS Malaysia by Dato' Steven CM Wong; (ii) the current climate of key national socio-economic indicators by Mr Firdaos Rosli; (iii) terrorism and radicalisation in Malaysia by Ms Elina Noor; and (iv) big-power competition in the South China Sea by Mr Thomas Daniel. This was followed by a discussion and an exchange of thoughts between HRH and ISIS Malaysia's researchers.



HRH Dr Tengku Muhammad
Fa-iz Petra Ibni Sultan Ismail Petra



HRH Dr Tengku Muhammad Fa-iz Petra
Ibni Sultan Ismail Petra with the Board
Members and Management of ISIS Malaysia

PUBLIC LECTURES

Sustainable Development in Malaysia?

1 March 2017, Hotel Majestic, Kuala Lumpur

The Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies was established in 2013 to honour the contributions made by the late Tun Hussein Onn, ISIS Malaysia's first Chairman. The chair is based at ISIS Malaysia and is funded by the Noah Foundation.

Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram, third holder of the Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies, delivered a public lecture entitled "Sustainable Development in Malaysia?". The lecture highlighted how Malaysia had not seized the opportunity to champion the biodiesel industry and stressed the necessity for the nation to fully embrace sustainable development. A concerted effort is needed to further strengthen the country's research capacity, particularly at a time where public and private funding for research have slowed down considerably. Puan Rozia Hanis Hussein, daughter of the late Tun Hussein Onn, gave the introductory remarks.

Members of the late Tun Hussein Onn's family, the Noah Foundation and ISIS Malaysia Board Members as well as invited guests of the Institute were present at the lecture.



Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram



Puan Rozia Hanis Hussein



Q&A Session



Audience at the public lecture



Representatives of the late Tun Hussein Onn's family and the Noah Foundation with Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram (centre) and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa (second from left)

Malaysia Sendirian Berhad: Public vs Private

21 October 2017, Le Méridien, Kuala Lumpur

As third holder of the Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies, Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram presented his final public lecture on "Malaysia Sendirian Berhad: Public vs Private". The lecture explored the changes in Malaysia's State Owned Enterprise (SOE) since pre Independence. Following Malaysia's policy of privatisation in the early 1980s, the role and range of SOEs grew even more. However, in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis of 1997-1998, the role, scope and governance of SOEs have significantly changed. Prof Dr Jomo concluded by offering suggestions for the way forward. Dato' Haris Onn Hussein, son of the late Tun Hussein Onn, delivered the introductory remarks.



Representatives of the late Tun Hussein Onn's family and the Noah Foundation with Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram (fourth from left) and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa (fourth from right)



Dato' Haris Onn Hussein



Prof Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram

BOOK LAUNCH

ASEAN FutureForward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years

28 August 2017, Sheraton Imperial, Kuala Lumpur

In conjunction with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of ASEAN, ISIS Malaysia launched its latest publication entitled *ASEAN FutureForward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years*. The edited book, which received full support from the ASEAN Secretariat and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, is a compilation of essays by various authors from Southeast Asia and beyond on issues affecting ASEAN's future in a rapidly changing landscape. The publication was launched by HRH Paduka Seri Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah, the Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan and Royal Fellow of ISIS Malaysia.

The book launch event was followed by a panel discussion on "Visualising ASEAN's Next 50 Years". The discussion, moderated by Dato' Steven CM Wong, featured four of the book's authors, namely Dato' Sri Nazir Razak, Chairman of CIMB Group, Prof Koh Kheng Lian, Emeritus Professor at the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Law, Dr Aries Arugay, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Philippines-Diliman, and Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika, Economics, Trade and Regional Integration (ETRI) Analyst at ISIS Malaysia. Elaborating further on their pieces in the book, the speakers discussed issues that will develop and emerge in the next 50 years.



HRH Paduka Seri Sultan
Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah
delivering the
Royal Address





Book launch ceremony



Dato' Sri Nazir Razak



Prof Koh Kheng Lian



Dr Aries Arugay



Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika



Panel discussion

ISIS INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FORUMS

Topic

Mapping the Geopolitical Context and Scenarios in Shell

Speaker

Dr Cho-Oon Khong, Chief Political Analyst, Shell International

Date

16 January 2017



Dr Cho-Oon Khong

Topic

Terror Unleashed

Speaker

Ms Irma Argüello, Founder and Chair, Nonproliferation for Global Security Foundation (NPSGlobal)

Date

13 March 2017



Ms Irma Argüello

Topic

Developments in South Asia

Speaker

Dr Maria Sultan, Director-General, South Asian Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI) University, Islamabad

Date

3 April 2017



Dr Maria Sultan

Topic

Privateering in Cyberspace: Should Patriotic Hacking be Promoted as National Policy?

Speaker

Col Forrest Hare, Air Attaché, Embassy of the United States in Kuala Lumpur

Date

20 April 2017



Col Forrest Hare

Topic

The Strategic Dimensions of the Global Seaborne Navigation and International Trade of the South China Sea?

Speaker

Dr Rawindaran Nair, Director, Fundamentals of Liner Shipping programme, Lloyd's Maritime Academy; External Tutor, Economics of Sea Transport module, Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers, London

Date

30 May 2017



Dr Rawindaran Nair

Topic

Structural Transformation and Income Inequality in Southeast Asia: What Does Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand's Development Tell Us?

Speakers

- Dr Andy Sumner, Reader in International Development, Kings College London
- Dr Arief Anshory Yusuf, Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Development Goals Study, Padjadjaran University, Indonesia

Date

6 June 2017



Dr Andy Sumner



Dr Arief Anshory Yusuf

Topic

Breaking the ISIS Brand: Trajectories of Terrorism and Social Media Recruitment

Speaker

Dr Anne Speckhard, Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychiatry and of Security Studies, Georgetown University

Date

18 July 2017



Dr Anne Speckhard

Topic

Humanitarian Action in Increasingly Volatile Environments

Speaker

Mr Boris Michel, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Date

25 August 2017



Mr Boris Michel

Topic

South Asia: Mapping the Strategic Landscape

Speaker

Maj Gen Muniruzzaman (Rtd), President and CEO, Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)

Date

30 August 2017



Maj Gen Muniruzzaman (Rtd)

Topic

Presentation on Sulu and Mindanao

Speakers

- Dr Ofelia Durante, Director, Ateneo Research Center, Ateneo de Zamboanga University, The Philippines
- Ms Rosemain "Dadang" Abduraji, Executive Director, Tumikang Sama Sama (TSS), The Philippines

Date

19 September 2017



Dr Ofelia Durante



Ms Rosemain "Dadang" Abduraji

Topic

The United States and Southeast Asia under the Trump Administration

Speaker

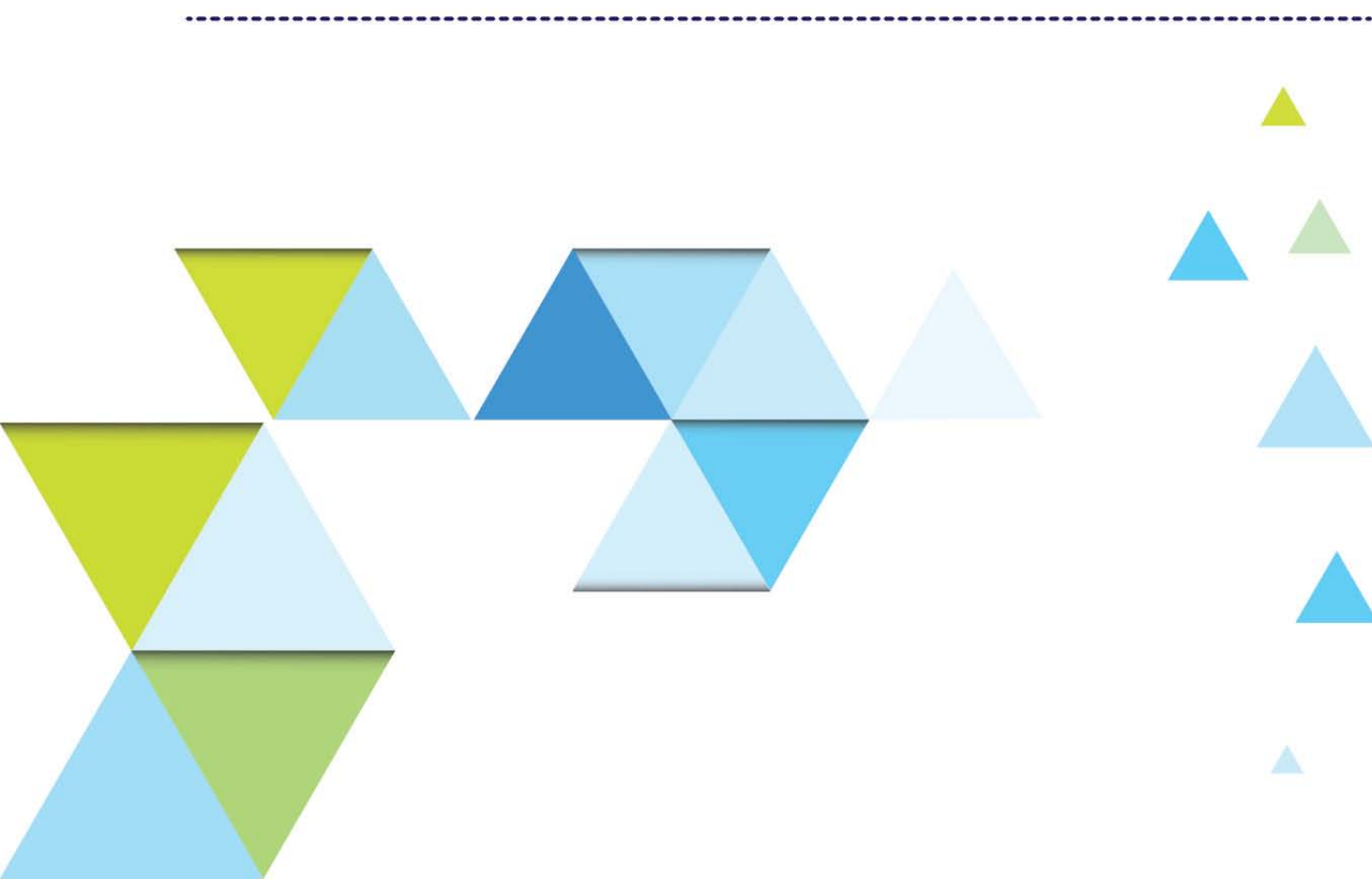
Dr Satu Limaye, Director, East-West Center, Washington, DC, USA

Date

29 September 2017



Dr Satu Limaye



ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Topic

The 2017 Jakarta Gubernatorial Election: Game Over?

Speakers

- Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika, Analyst, Economics, Trade and Regional Integration (ETRI), ISIS Malaysia
- Mr Muhammad Sinatra, Analyst, Foreign Policy and Security Studies (FPSS), ISIS Malaysia

Date

17 February 2017



Topic

Roundtable meeting with The Hon Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Ministry of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia

Date

3 March 2017



Topic

Malaysia's Population in 2050: What Does This Mean Socio-Economically?

Speakers

- Dr Amjad Rabi, Deputy Representative and Senior Social Policy Specialist, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Malaysia
- Dr Muhammed Abdul Khalid, Managing Director and Chief Economist, DM-Analytics, Malaysia
- Mr Chua Choon Hwa, Undersecretary (Policy and Strategic Planning), Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM) Malaysia

Date

25 April 2017



Dr Amjad Rabi



Dr Muhammed Abdul Khalid



Mr Chua Choon Hwa

Topic

The inaugural Malaysia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (MANCPEC) Roundtable on "Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Post-2020 Agenda"

Date

2 May 2017

**Topic**

Drug Addiction in Malaysia: Treatment, Rehabilitation and Their Effectiveness

Date

12 May 2017

**Topic**

Building Partnerships to Enhance Health and Criminal Justice Outcomes among Pre-Incarcerated, Incarcerated and Soon-To-Be Released Prisoners in Malaysia and Southeast Asian Countries

Date

5 June 2017



Topic

Conflict in Southern Thailand and Southern Philippines

Speaker

Prof Zachary Abuza, National War College, Washington, DC, USA

Date

13 July 2017



Prof Zachary Abuza (left)
and Mr Shahrman Lockman

Topic

The Second MANCPEC Meeting on "APEC Beyond 2020"

Date

15 September 2017



Topic

Countering Violent Extremist (CVE) Baseline Assessment Project

Speaker

Dr Gwendolyn Bevis, Technical Director, Management Systems International Inc, Virginia, USA

Date

29 November 2017



Topic

Jokowi's Global Maritime Fulcrum, Civil-Military Relations in Indonesia and Australia-Indonesia Defence Cooperation

Speaker

Ms Natalie Sambhi, Research Fellow, Perth USAsia Centre, Australia

Date

12 December 2017



VISITS FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS



Malaysian Armed Forces Defence College (MPAT),
11 January 2017



Command and Staff College, Saudi Arabia,
13 February 2017



US Military Attaché Corps,
15 February 2017



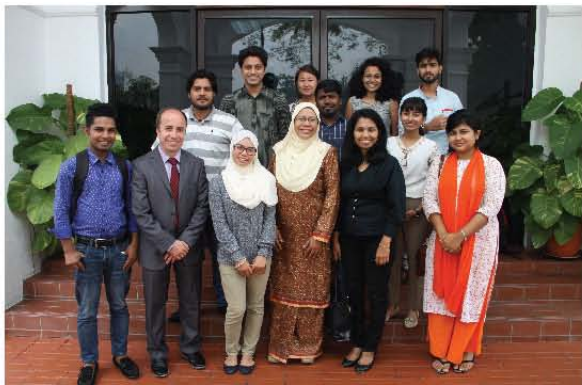
Australian High Commission,
24 February 2017



Centre des hautes études de l'Armement Nationale (CHEAr), France,
27 February 2017



Delegation of high-ranking officers,
People's Republic of China,
11 April 2017



Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre
for Women (ARROW),
3 May 2017



Senior Civil Servants, National Management Course,
National School of Public Policy (NSPP), Pakistan,
16 May 2017



China Center for Contemporary World Studies (CCCWS),
People's Republic of China,
8 June 2017



American University, Washington, DC, USA,
7 July 2017



Institute of World Economics and Politics,
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS),
People's Republic of China,
14 July 2017



British High Commission,
17 July 2017



China Institute of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR), People's Republic of China,
19 July 2017



The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA),
25 July 2017



National Defence College (NDC), Bangladesh,
17 August 2017



China-ASEAN Research Institute, Guangxi University,
People's Republic of China,
14 September 2017



Malaysia-Thailand Think Tank and Scholar Network (TMTT) (Malaysia Chapter),
28 September 2017



Ms Karin Hulshof, Regional Director, East Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),
1 November 2017



Korea University, Republic of Korea,
3 November 2017



Malaysia Programme, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore, 9 November 2017



Helene Quilter, Secretary of Defence and Chief Executive, Ministry of Defence, New Zealand, 14 November 2017



Chatham House led by James Hannah, Assistant Head of the Asia-Pacific Programme, 23 November 2017



Persatuan Sains Politik Universiti Utara Malaysia (PSPUUM), College of Law, Government and International Studies (COLGIS),
28 November 2017



University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus,
29 November 2017



Curtin University, Australia,
12 December 2017

► RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

This section lists the research output of ISIS Malaysia — projects, published works, presentations and media engagements.

PROJECTS

The Institute routinely undertakes research and consultancy projects at any one time. Some of the projects, which started in the previous year, were continued in 2017.

Granting Refugees Permission to Work from the Perspectives of Malaysia's National Interest and National Security

The study sought to determine whether granting refugees and asylum seekers permission to work, through their registration in a national database, was a feasible solution to managing the refugee problem in Malaysia. It aimed to explore the risks and benefits of granting refugees and asylum seekers permission to work from the perspectives of Malaysia's national interest and national security. The study concluded that, on balance, the Government should consider regularising registered refugees and asylum seekers and granting them permission to work.

The study for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) Malaysia began in August 2016, and the Final Draft was submitted in April 2017.

Innovation and Productivity in Malaysia

The research paper, commissioned by the World Bank group, aimed to serve as the background paper for a study on Malaysian productivity. The paper focused on investigating innovation in Malaysia, including the progress, challenges faced, related policies and supporting institutions. The project kicked-off in December 2016 and was finalised in April 2017.

Addressing Challenges and Identifying Opportunities for Refugee Access to Employment in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand

The report was commissioned to outline government concerns and advocacy opportunities relating to refugee employment access in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. ISIS Malaysia was chosen to undertake research in Malaysia on economic and national security considerations, community perceptions, relevant demographic and societal considerations, regional and international commitments, as well as advocacy considerations. Additional work – in terms of research, data collection and evidence-building – needed to contribute to advocacy efforts on refugee access to employment in Malaysia was also explored.

The study for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Office in Bangkok began in June 2017, and the Final Draft was submitted in November 2017.

SCHEMA Workshop on Urban Food Systems and Health

ISIS Malaysia was invited as a participant to the SCHEMA workshop on Urban Food Systems and Health. SCHEMA is led by the United Nations University's International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH) and Cardiff University's Sustainable Places Research Institute, with support from associate partners UKM-LESTARI, the Penang Institute, and Ark22. It is supported by the Newton-Ungku Omar Fund, co-sponsored by the British Council and the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MiGHT).

The workshop was conducted to examine the urban food systems in Malaysian cities. On 4 December 2017, a paper was presented by ISIS Malaysia. As an ongoing collaboration, ISIS Malaysia will be asked to complete surveys before and after the workshop, and follow-up with queries for a period of six months. The end goal of the collaboration is to improve decision-making for urban health and sustainability by catalysing the application of systems and place-based methods to complex urban problems. The entire timeline of this project will stretch from December 2017 till June 2018.

National Interest Analysis on the Belt and Road Initiative

Research staff embarked on a study to conduct a National Interest Analysis (NIA) of Malaysia's participation in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in September 2017. The NIA is not a mere assemblage of information or personal opinions, but critically researched, evaluated and debated to reach robust objective conclusions. It will address the themes and live concerns that are being discussed by the public arena. Malaysia's national interest is defined as the policies, action and conditions needed for the nation's wellbeing in the following spheres: (i) political, diplomatic and security; (ii) economic, business, trade and investment; and (iii) social and cultural. As a result of the NIA, policy makers and the public will be informed in a clear and concise manner about the key policy benefits, costs and risks arising from Malaysia's participation in the BRI.



PUBLISHED WORKS

The Institute routinely undertakes research and consultancy projects at any one time. Some research teams are also encouraged to publicise their research to a wider audience. Their research and articles have been published in books or as book chapters, in the print and online media, as well as in journals.

Dr Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori

Restoring Moral Values, *New Straits Times*, 3 February 2017.

Rethinking Our Education, *New Straits Times*, 2 May 2017.

Ageing Gracefully to 2045, *New Straits Times*, 20 September 2017.

Ms Ainun Jaabi

Food Security in Cities, *New Straits Times*, 18 April 2017.

Smart Farming is the Way to Go, *New Straits Times*, 5 September 2017.

(Co-author) Dams Causing Distress, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

(Co-author) Marine Plastic Pollution and Fisheries: Making Sense of the Environmental Issue and Implications, *Sea Views*, no. 5, 15 December 2017.

Mr Bunn Nagara

US-China Ties on the Precipice, *Sunday Star*, 8 January 2017.

Time to Reflect, or Not, *Sunday Star*, 22 January 2017.

The South China Sea in ASEAN-US-China Relations, In Sarah Siddiq Aneel (ed.) *Emerging Security Order in Asia-Pacific: Impact on South Asia*, Islamabad: Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), January 2017, pp. 22-37.

Decoding Trump-ism, *Sunday Star*, 12 February 2017.

A Faintly Familiar Feeling, *Sunday Star*, 26 February 2017.

New Management in Malacanang, *ISIS Focus* 1, no. 4, February 2017.

Malice in Wonderland, *Sunday Star*, 12 March 2017.

Focus on the Policies, *Sunday Star*, 26 March 2017.

The "Enemies" are at Home, *Sunday Star*, 9 April 2017.

China in Period of Transition, *Sunday Star*, 23 April 2007.

Long Way from Closing in on Terror, *Sunday Star*, 7 May 2017.

Casting a Spotlight on the Koreas, *Sunday Star*, 21 May 2017.

ASEAN at 50: Misunderstood, Maligned and Middle-Aged, *ISIS Focus* 2, no. 5, May 2017.

The Meanings Behind the Words, *Sunday Star*, 4 June 2017.

Focus Sharply on Terrorism, *Sunday Star*, 18 June 2017.

The Politics of Four-Eyed Meetings, *Sunday Star*, 2 July 2017.

On the Edge of a Territorial Clash, *Sunday Star*, 16 July 2017.

Testing Time for ASEAN, *Sunday Star*, 30 July 2017.

The Koreas on the Brink, *Sunday Star*, 13 August 2017.

ASEAN: Between State and Region, In Mari Elka Pangestu and Rastam Mohd Isa (eds) *ASEAN FutureForward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years*. Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, August 2017, pp. 381-392.

Same-Same, But Different, *Sunday Star*, 24 September 2017.

Sea Claims Not Well Grounded, *Sunday Star*, 8 October 2017.

The "Fire" Next Time, *Sunday Star*, 22 October 2017.

Mr Trump Goes to Asia, *Sunday Star*, 5 November 2017.

Marawi, A Sign of Things to Come? *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Will History Be Repeated? *Sunday Star*, 3 December 2017.

Party in Full Swing, *Sunday Star*, 17 December 2017.

Old Whines in New Bothers, *Sunday Star*, 31 December 2017.

Mr Sholto Byrnes

A Different Perspective on the Upsets of the Past Year, *The National* (UAE), 3 January 2017.

Is the European Union a Mere Blip in History? *The National* (UAE), 10 January 2017.

Can the OIC Find a Proper Solution for the Rohingya? *The National* (UAE), 17 January 2017.

Look Carefully, This Year is Not All Doom and Gloom, *The National* (UAE), 24 January 2017.

The Pernicious Influence of Liberal Interventionism, *The National* (UAE), 31 January 2017.

Diplomacy Still Matters A Lot – Even in the Age of Disruption, *The National* (UAE), 7 February 2017.

The Revolt against Elites Won't Stop Any Time Soon, *The National* (UAE), 14 February 2017.

Europe Must Pull Its Weight if "the West" is to Survive, *The National* (UAE), 21 February 2017.

Why King Salman's Asia Tour is So Significant, *The National* (UAE), 28 February 2017.

Why King Salman's Visit is Significant, *New Straits Times*, 3 March 2017.

The Broader Implications of a Restive North Korea, *The National* (UAE), 7 March 2017.

How Liberals in the West Forgot What Liberalism is, *The National* (UAE), 14 March 2017.

It's Asia's Century and the West Better Adapt to That, *The National* (UAE), 21 March 2017.

Cambodia Should Not Pay for American Interference, *The National* (UAE), 28 March 2017.

Populists are the Product of Failed Political Parties, *The National* (UAE), 4 April 2017.

Erdogan, Le Pen, and Historical Responsibility, *The National* (UAE), 11 April 2017.

Trump is Turning Into a Pretty Decent President, *The National* (UAE), 18 April 2017.

The Imperfect Nature of Europe's Electoral Systems, *The National* (UAE), 25 April 2017.

By Ignoring the Lessons of History, Nato is Making the World Less Safe, *The National* (UAE), 2 May 2017.

China's Attitude to Muslims might be Hard to Ignore, *The National* (UAE), 9 May 2017.

Mark My Words, History will Fall on Trump and Cameron's Side, *The National* (UAE), 16 May 2017.

How Trump is Reimagining America's Role, *The National* (UAE), 23 May 2017.

The West Should Heed the Lesson of Libya's Sad Tale, *The National* (UAE), 30 May 2017.

The EU at 60 – A Most Unhappy Birthday, *ISIS Focus* 2, no. 5, May 2017.

Don't Let Counter-Terrorism Work Wrongly Condemn Entire Religions, *The National* (UAE), 6 June 2017.

US and Europe's Left-Wingers are Back in the Game, *The National* (UAE), 13 June 2017.

Macron's Poll Win is Not a Victory for Hope, *The National* (UAE), 20 June 2017.

Why Whistleblowers Should be Prosecuted, *The National* (UAE), 27 June 2017.

Why Outsiders have No Right to Comment on China's Governance of Hong Kong, *The National* (UAE), 4 July 2017.

Wouldn't it be Good if Relations between the US and Russia Improved? *The National* (UAE), 11 July 2017.

Erdogan and the Tragic Legacy of Turkey's 2016 Coup Attempt, *The National* (UAE), 18 July 2017.

Europe Should Stop Bullying Poland and Start Respecting Democracy, *The National* (UAE), 25 July 2017.

US Can't Walk Away from Afghanistan as it Bears Partial Responsibility for Breaking It, *The National* (UAE), 1 August 2017.

Asean Deserves a Pat on the Back on its 50th Anniversary, *The National* (UAE), 8 August 2017.

Donald Trump's Unorthodox Political Style has an Upside ... But He Should Start Watching the History Channel, *The National* (UAE), 15 August 2017.

There is No Crisis of Legitimacy in Washington, Despite What Some Would Have You Think, *The National* (UAE), 23 August 2017.

The Price Civilians Had to Pay for Assad's "Victory", *The National* (UAE), 29 August 2017.

It Really is Time to Stop Making Excuses for Aung San Suu Kyi over the Rohingya, *The National* (UAE), 5 September 2017.

Adherence to Faith in the UK is in Decline. What Does That Say About Britain? *The National* (UAE), 12 September 2017.

My Reply to Rais Hussin, *Malaysiakini*, 13 September 2017.

Painful Compromise May Be the Only Way Forward in Tunisia, *The National* (UAE), 19 September 2017.

Why the Rise of the Far-Right in Germany Means the Country is Becoming "More Normal", *The National* (UAE), 26 September 2017.

Across the Globe, Centre-Right Parties are Under Threat, *The National* (UAE), 3 October 2017.

The EU's More Pragmatic and Sensible Approach to Brexit is Overdue and Welcome, *The National* (UAE), 10 October 2017.

The Successful Projection of China's Power Abroad is a Sign of Strong Leadership rather than Anything Malign, *The National* (UAE), 17 October 2017.

Has the World Grown Complacent about the Horrors of a Potential Nuclear War? *The National* (UAE), 24 October 2017.

Russian Revolution is a Centenary to Mourn, Not Cheer, *The National* (UAE), 31 October 2017.

Can Trump Spare Us a Cold War with China? *The National* (UAE), 7 November 2017.

The Report Card is in ... Trump's Asia Trip Has Been a Triumph, *The National* (UAE), 14 November 2017.

Why did the World Tolerate Mugabe for So Long? *The National* (UAE), 21 November 2017.

Mohammed bin Salman's Moderation Talk Could Make a Huge Difference, *The National* (UAE), 28 November 2017.

What is the Price of Peace in Syria? *The National* (UAE), 5 December 2017.

The Quest for a "United States of Europe" Exemplifies the EU Elite's Contempt for People's Wishes, *The National* (UAE), 12 December 2017.

Surely the World has Moved On from Believing "West is Best"? *The National* (UAE), 19 December 2017.

Mr Calvin Cheng

Cash Programmes Successful in Alleviating Poverty, *New Straits Times*, 19 December 2017.

(Co-author) Don't Expect 2018 Budget to be Panacea to All of Nation's Problems, *Free Malaysia Today*, 26 October 2017.

Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel

They Deserve Work Rights, *New Straits Times*, 14 February 2017.

Room for One More? *ISIS Focus* 2, no. 5, May 2017.

South China Sea: Can Asean, China Find Convergence in Dispute? *New Straits Times*, 24 October 2017.

Rise of the Rest, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika

Rescuing Economic Forecasting, *New Straits Times*, 17 January 2017.

Is Labour Mobility Enough? *New Straits Times*, 6 June 2017.

(Co-author) Rather Than Move On, Let's Learn from Divisive Jakarta Election, *The Jakarta Post*, 5 July 2017.

How Can Politicians Gain Trust? *TEMPO.Co* (online), 25 August 2017.

How Can ASEAN Be Relevant for Future Labour Mobility? In Mari Elka Pangestu and Rastam Mohd Isa (eds) *ASEAN FutureForward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years*. Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, August 2017, pp. 231-248.

(Co-author) Stop Bickering: 60 Years of Malaysia-Indonesia Ties, *The Jakarta Post*, 11 September 2017.

(Co-author) Towards High-Income, Not Low-Cost Nation, *The Malay Mail Online*, 27 October 2017.

(Co-author) To TPP-11, or Not to TPP-11, That is the Question, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Working with Robots, *New Straits Times*, 14 November 2017.

Ms Farlina Said

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Role for ASEAN in North Korea Issue? *New Straits Times*, 12 December 2017.

(Co-author) Regulating Cyberspace in Southeast Asia, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, October 2017.

Mr Firdaos Rosli

There will be TPP 2.0, *ISIS Focus* 1, no. 4, January 2017.

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Ideas Has it Wrong, Malaysia is Not Off-Track, *Free Malaysia Today*, 23 March 2017.

Asean, the Basis of Malaysia's Reforms, *New Straits Times*, 19 June 2017.

Reforming Malaysia's Automotive Industry, *New Straits Times*, 15 August 2017.

Trade Retaliation: Business as Usual, *New Straits Times*, 3 October 2017.

(Co-author) Don't Expect 2018 Budget to be Panacea to All of Nation's Problems, *Free Malaysia Today*, 26 October 2017.

(Co-author) Towards High-Income, Not Low-Cost Nation, *The Malay Mail Online*, 27 October 2017.

(Co-author) To TPP-11, or Not to TPP-11, That is the Question, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

We Spend More but Blame the Economy? *Bernama*, 11 December 2017. (Note: This article was subsequently republished by *The Star*, *New Straits Times*, *Utusan Malaysia*, *Berita Harian*, *Free Malaysia Today*, *Malaysiakini* and *Malaysian Digest*.)

Ms Latifah Azlan

Energy Security Through Nuclear Power? *New Straits Times*, 11 July 2017.

(Co-author) Is ASEAN Prepared for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid

Thriving in Digital World, *New Straits Times*, 24 January 2017.

Does 'Hand-Holding' in Innovation Work? *New Straits Times*, 9 May 2017.

Rise of the Machines – Is Malaysia Ready? *New Straits Times*, 21 November 2017.

(Co-author) Japan-China Relations: Support, Cooperate and Deter, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

(Co-author) *Impact of Climate Change on ASEAN International Affairs: Risk and Opportunity Multiplier*, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs and Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, November 2017.

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

What Prime Minister Najib Razak's Trip to China Really Means for Malaysia, *ISIS Focus* 1, no. 4, February 2017.

(Co-author) Malaysia in the Security Council – How Did We Do, *ISIS Focus* 2, no. 5, May 2017.

A Common Regional Identity, *New Straits Times*, 18 July 2017.

Business is Business, *New Straits Times*, 26 September 2017.

(Co-author) Dams Causing Distress, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

(Co-author) *Impact of Climate Change on ASEAN International Affairs: Risk and Opportunity Multiplier*, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs and Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, November 2017.

Mr Muhammad Sinatra

Changing Landscape of Terrorism in the Region, *New Straits Times*, 7 February 2017.

(Co-author) Rather Than Move On, Let's Learn from Divisive Jakarta Election, *The Jakarta Post*, 5 July 2017.

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(Co-author) Stop Bickering: 60 Years of Malaysia-Indonesia Ties, *The Jakarta Post*, 11 September 2017.

Mr Naufal Fauzi

Curbing Child Pornography, *New Straits Times*, 12 April 2017.

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(Co-author) Regulating Cyberspace in Southeast Asia, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Ms Elina Noor

"Understanding Malaysia's Approach to the South China Sea Dispute", In Murray Hiebert, Gregory B Poling and Conor Cronin (eds) *In the Wake of Arbitration: Papers from the Sixth Annual CSIS South Sea Conference*, Washington, DC: Center for Strategic and International Studies, January 2017, pp. 18-29.

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(Co-author) Great Power Rivalries, Domestic Politics and Malaysian Foreign Policy, *Asian Security* 13, no. 3 (September 2017): 200-219.

Najib's US Visit: A Warranted Reinvigoration, *The Interpreter*, Lowy Institute, 22 September 2017.

(Co-author) Mr Najib Goes to Washington, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Ms Nursalina Fairuz Salleh

The Hope to Have Hope, *New Straits Times*, 28 February 2017.

Decriminalising Drug Use Offers Glimmer of Hope, *New Straits Times*, 13 June 2017.

(Co-author) Lessons from the Andaman Sea Crisis, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Ms Nurul Izzati Kamrullah

Culture of Dialogue Should Be Preserved Without Prejudice, *New Straits Times*, 27 June 2017.

(Co-author) Is ASEAN Prepared for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Ms Puteri Nor Ariane Yasmin

(Co-author) Does Taking a Hard-line Approach to the Rohingya Problem Work? *ISIS Focus* 1, no. 4, February 2017.

Security Challenges in a Time of Mass Forced Displacement, *ISIS Focus* 1, no. 4, February 2017.

It's Not Enough to Say No to Drugs, *New Straits Times*, 28 March 2017.

(Co-author) Inputs on the Implementation of ACTIP and Development of the Focal Point System of National ACTIP Representatives, Paper 1 of the Briefing Papers for the Fifth Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration, Manila, The Philippines, September 2017.

Lessons from the Andaman Sea Crisis, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

Drug Rehabilitation: More Love is Needed, *New Straits Times*, 17 October 2017.

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

Asean's Five Key Challenges, *New Straits Times*, 7 November 2017.

Cooperation, Competition in Asia Pacific, *New Straits Times*, 27 December 2017.

Mr Shahrizan Lockman

Malaysia & North Korea: A Peculiar Relationship Unravels, *ISIS Focus* 2, no. 5, May 2017.

Dato' Steven CM Wong

Let Us Not Fall for "Post-Truth" Politics, *New Straits Times*, 17 January 2017.

(Co-author) Does Taking a Hard-line Approach to the Rohingya Problem Work? *ISIS Focus* 1, no. 4, February 2017.

Set Sights and Standards Higher, *New Straits Times*, 21 February 2017.

Can Change Be Upsetting? *New Straits Times*, 21 March 2017.

Embrace Automation, *New Straits Times*, 23 May 2017.

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Is Labour Mobility Enough? *New Straits Times*, 6 June 2017.

The AEC and the Fourth Industrial Revolution, In Mari Elka Pangestu and Rastam Mohd Isa (eds) *ASEAN FutureForward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years*. Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, August 2017, pp. 219-230.

(Co-author) Inputs on the Implementation of ACTIP and Development of the Focal Point System of National ACTIP Representatives, Paper 1 of the Briefing Papers for the Fifth Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration, Manila, The Philippines, September 2017.

Stop Politicising Malaysia-China Relationship, *New Straits Times*, 31 October 2017.

(Co-author) Mr Najib Goes to Washington, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

ASEAN-Korea Strategic Partnership: Where is Security Cooperation Heading, In *Partnering for Tomorrow: ASEAN-Korea Relations*, Seoul: ASEAN-Korea Centre, 2017, pp. 53-72.

Ms Tengku Nur Qistina

Military Cooperation with Saudi Arabia Enhanced, *New Straits Times*, 14 March 2017.

(Co-author) Malaysia in the Security Council – How Did We Do, *ISIS Focus* 2, no. 5, May 2017.

(Co-author) Great Power Rivalries, Domestic Politics and Malaysian Foreign Policy, *Asian Security* 13, no. 3 (September 2017): 200-219.

(Co-author) Japan-China Relations: Support, Cooperate and Deter, *ISIS Focus* 3, no. 6, November 2017.

PRESENTATIONS

Members of our research staff are often invited to speak and present their research at conferences, seminars, forums or discussion meetings. Below is a list of their presentations in 2017, both nationally and internationally.

Dr Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori

"Understanding and Rethinking Youth Policy in Malaysia," Third International Conference on Elections and Democracy 2017, organised by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), 19-20 April 2017, Kuching, Sarawak.

"Our Roles in Solving Juvenile Delinquency," The 17th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), organised by the World Assembly of Youth in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (Malaysia), Melaka State Government, Asian Youth Council, Commonwealth Youth Council and Malaysian Youth Council, 9-13 July 2017, Melaka.

"Nation-Building and State-Building under Foreign Occupation in Iraq," 29 March 2017, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Kuala Lumpur.

"Towards Creating a Preferable Future," Talk for the Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW), 3 May 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"The Role of Culture in Addressing Regional Security Issues," 6 September 2017, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), Kuala Lumpur.

"Post-Pangkor Dialogue 2017," Presentation on the key takeaways from the Pangkor Dialogue sessions, 14 November 2017, Putrajaya.

Ms Ainun Jaabi

"Improving the Livelihoods of Smallholder via Agricultural-Production Outsourcing Service (AOS): A Proposal for Cocoa Production in Sabah," 14 April 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"More Plastics and Less Fish – The State of Domestic Outfalls and Control Initiatives in Malaysia," 28 August 2017, A One Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia.

"Improving Farming Practices via Agricultural-Production Outsourcing Service: An Observation on Cocoa Production in Malaysia," 4 December 2017, Penang Institute, Penang.

Mr Bunn Nagara

"The Trump Administration and Its Impact on Malaysia," Third Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Annual Summit, 25 March 2017, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Shah Alam, Selangor.

"ASEAN at 50: Implications," Regional Conference on ASEAN, organised by the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV), 9 June 2017, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Panellist in Dialogue Session, The Launching of the ASEAN Circle and the Inaugural ASEAN Circle Dialogue, 16 June 2017, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Kuala Lumpur.

"Sabah: Pivotal State for Malaysia and ASEAN," 30 June 2017, Perak Academy, Ipoh.

"Regional Geopolitics: Great Power Politics in the Asia-Pacific," Delhi Dialogue IX on Charting the Course for India-ASEAN Relations for the Next 25 Years, 4-5 July 2017, New Delhi, India.

"BRI: What to Consider and Expect," Session 6 on "Strategic and Security Implications of Belt and Road Initiative in a Multipolar World," Sixth Malaysian-German Security Dialogue, 10-12 September 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"China and East Asia," International Think-Tank Symposium on the 19th CPC National Congress: Implications for China and the World, 16 November 2017, Beijing, People's Republic of China.

Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel

(Co-presenter) "National Interest Analysis of Granting Refugees Permission to Work in Malaysia: Concluding Analysis," 10 March 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Changing Regional Order in the Asia-Pacific and Japan-ASEAN Cooperation," The Japan-ASEAN Dialogue, sponsored by the Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR) and the Global Forum of Japan (GFJ), 30 June 2017, Tokyo, Japan.

"The Political and Economic Perspectives of the BRI," Third China-Malaysia Seminar, organised by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), 5 September 2017, Beijing, People's Republic of China.

"Influences on Malaysia's Foreign and Defence Policy," US Army Regional Leader Development Program delegation to Malaysia, 1 October 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"Convergence between ASEAN and China in the South China Sea," Conference on Indonesian Foreign Policy, organised by the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia, 23 October 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika

(Co-presenter) "The 2017 Jakarta Gubernatorial Election: Game Over?" 17 February 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist at the ASEAN FutureForward Book Launch and Discussion on Visualising ASEAN's Next 50 Years, 28 August 2017, Sheraton Imperial, Kuala Lumpur.

Discussant in Session Four on "Cooperation Among Cities and Governance," 2017 GRI International Conference, 5 September 2017, Suwon, Republic of Korea.

Ms Farlina Said

"A Glass Half Full? The Development of Taiwan and Malaysia Relations and its View of the New Southbound Policy," International Workshop on Strategizing Taiwan's New Southbound Policy: Prospect and Challenge, organised by National Chengchi University, 14 June 2017, Taiwan.

(Co-presenter) "Motivation, Strategies and Counter-Strategies: The Case of Malaysian Daesh Militants," 9 November 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Firdaos Rosli

"APEC's Role as an Incubator Towards the Eventual Realization of the Future FTAAP," APEC Seminar on the Realization of FTAAP, 26 February 2017, Nha Trang, Vietnam.

"AEC and MPAC: What has Regional Integration Achieved for Business? How has ASEAN Connectivity Benefited the ASEAN Countries?" ASEAN Commemorative Forum: Reviewing Past Successes, Looking to the Future, organised by the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), 8 August 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"The Real Cost of Urban Sustainability," 2017 GRI International Conference, 5 September 2017, Suwon, Republic of Korea.

"The Malaysian Economy: Will Things Get Better?" Briefing to Korea University students, 3 November 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Financing Options for Upgrading SMEs' Technological Capability," Seminar on Innovative Approaches to SMEs and Entrepreneurial Financing for Enhanced Competitiveness, organised by Asian Development Bank Institute, 8-9 November 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia.

"Interaksi Dunia Melayu-China Di Bawah Inisiatif Laluan Sutera," Persidangan Antarabangsa ICS (Institute of China Studies), organised by University Malaya, 21 November 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"East-Coast Rail Link and Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park," East Asian Summit and East Asian Cooperation International Forum 2017, hosted by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Economic Research Institute for ASEAN (ERIA) and East Asia and Guangxi University, 16 December 2017, Nanning, People's Republic of China.

Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid

"Innovation Performance of the Malaysian Economy," 17 March 2017, PETRONAS Research Sdn Bhd, Selangor.

"Understanding Malaysian Innovation System, Its Growth and Challenges," 7 April 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Innovation and Productivity in Malaysia: Policies, Institutions and Outcomes," Malaysia: The Challenges of Raising Productivity, 28 April 2017, Sasana Kijang, Kuala Lumpur.

"Climate Change and International Affairs in ASEAN," Roundtable Discussion on Climate Change and the Role of ASEAN in Climate Change Politics, 19-20 June 2017, Yangon, Myanmar.

"Belt and Road Initiative and China-Malaysia Relations from the Perspectives of Technology and Environment," Third China-Malaysia Seminar, co-sponsored by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) and ISIS Malaysia, 5 September 2017, Beijing, People's Republic of China.

"Emerging Skills in Security Sector," Bengkel Kemahiran Baharu Perkhidmatan Awam, 16 November 2017, National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN), Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

"Chinese Investment in Malaysia: What it Means for Us," 24 February 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Malaysia at the United Nations Security Council: How did We Do?" 14 March 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Legal Defensibility of Malaysia's Position on Maritime Passage Rights," 21 April 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Speaker at the Seminar on the Dynamics of Youth and Terrorism: Understanding and Countering the Issues, 22-29 August 2017, Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism, Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Muhammad Sinatra

(Co-presenter) "The 2017 Jakarta Gubernatorial Election: Game Over?" 17 February 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"FutureForward: 'Can or Cannot?'" ASEAN at Fifty: Introspection and Future Outlook, organised by the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), 27 September 2017, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

(Co-presenter) "Motivation, Strategies and Counter-Strategies: The Case of Malaysian Daesh Militants," 9 November 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Strategic Update: Indonesia's Domestic Politics," Tenth ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue, organised by ISIS Malaysia, 20-21 November 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Naufal Fauzi

(Co-presenter) "National Interest Analysis of Granting Refugees Permission to Work in Malaysia," 10 March 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-presenter) "Legal Defensibility of Malaysia's Position on Maritime Passage Rights," 21 April 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

"Good security governance and the role of Parliaments and Other Oversight Actors," 14th Inter-Parliamentary Forum on Security Sector Governance (IPF-SSG) in Southeast Asia, 5-7 December 2017, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

"Priorities for Reform: Strengthening Parliamentary and Other Oversight Actors' SSG Capacities," 14th Inter-Parliamentary Forum on Security Sector Governance (IPF-SSG) in Southeast Asia, 5-7 December 2017, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Ms Nurul Izzati Kamrulbahri

(Co-presenter) "Taiwan's New Southbound Policy: Opportunities and Challenges?" 21 July 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-presenter) "Motivation, Strategies and Counter-Strategies: The Case of Malaysian Daesh Militants," 9 November 2017, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

"Developing Mechanism(s) to Safeguard Peace and Stability in the Asia-Pacific," The Cambodia Institute for Strategic Studies (CISS) International Workshop on Maritime Security in the Asia Pacific: History, Challenges and Solutions, 25-27 January 2017, Sofitel Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

"Bogor Goals: The Way Forward," Session 5 on "Re-evaluating and Reshaping the Common Resolve to Bogor Goals", SINCPEC Conference on APEC's Post Agenda: Rising Protectionism, Economic Rebalancing a Diversified Growth, co-organised by the Singapore National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (SINCPEC) and Vietnam National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (VNCPEC), 13-14 February 2017, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore.

Panellist in session on policy issues, Townhall Forum on Belt & Road Initiative: Impak ke atas Agenda Bumiputera, organised by Majlis Perundangan Melayu (MPM) and the Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU), Prime Minister's Department (JPM), 17 February 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"China's One Belt One Road Initiative and Industrial Capacity Cooperation in Malaysia," The NIIS CASS ASEAN Plus China, Japan and Korea (10+3) Conference on Production Capacity Cooperation, organised by the National Institute of International Strategy Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (NIIS CASS), 24-25 February 2017, Shenzhen, People's Republic of China.

Panellist in Session 3 on "Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that CSCAP Study Groups and Memorandums Should Adopt," CSCAP Retreat to Review the Regional Security Order and Architecture, 2-3 March 2017, Village Hotel Changi, Singapore.

"21st Century Maritime Silk Road and Common Development of the Greater South China Sea Region," Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference, co-sponsored by the National Institute for South China Sea Studies (NISCSS) and Secretariat of Boao Forum for Asia (BFA), 23-26 March 2017, Bo'ao, Hainan province, People's Republic of China.

"Islamophobia vs. Triumphobia: Challenges to Global Peace," Symposium on Islamophobia v. Triumphobia: Global Peace at Cross Roads, organised by the International Centre for Global Peace in collaboration with the International Institute for Muslim Unity (IIMU), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), 29 March 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

Keynote speech for Opening Session on "Evaluation of the Current State and Challenges of Democracy in Asia and in the World," Second Asia Opinion Leaders' Dialogue, organised by The Genron NPO, 3-5 May 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia.

"Seizing New Opportunities," Second SiLKS Annual Meeting, High-Level Dialogue of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, 16 May 2017, Beijing, People's Republic of China.

"Review on ASEAN and South China Sea," ASEAN Golden Jubilee Symposium – Reviewing ASEAN Centrality and Unity, co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, 13-14 July 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Keynote speaker on "Advancing the Palestinian Cause," Forum on Advancing the Palestinian Cause: Advocacy and Activism in the Malaysian Context, organised by the Palestinian Cultural Organization Malaysia (PICOM), 17 August 2017, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in Breakout Session on "ASEAN at 50 – Is Our Governance Future Ready?" International Directors Summit 2017: Enhancing Resilience through Governance for Sustainability, organised by the Razak School of Government (RSOG) and Malaysian Directors Academy (MINDA), 22 August 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"Progress in the Indian Ocean Region," Second Indian Ocean Conference, organised by the India Foundation in association with S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore, and the National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS), 31 August-2 September 2017, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Panellist in session on "Securing Elections: Creating a Safe Environment," Regional Conference on Democracy in South East Asia – Achievements, Challenges and the Road Ahead, organised by the SUHAKAM and Kofi Annan Foundation, 3 September 2017, Sheraton Imperial, Kuala Lumpur.

Discussant in session on "The Rise of Protectionism and its Implication for East Asia," 13th East Asian Institutes Forum (KIEP), organised by the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), 21-23 September 2017, Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.

Discussant on regional and human security challenges, International Seminar on Sharing Experiences of Promoting Regional Security and Business Connectivity in East and West Asia, organised by the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, 3-4 October 2017, Amman, Jordan.

Luncheon speaker on "Roles of Think-Tank at Current Asia-Pacific Dynamics," 2017 Asia-Pacific Think-Tank Summit, organised by the Institute for National Policy Research (INPR) in collaboration with the Taiwan Society of Japan Studies and the Center for Japanese Studies, National Sun Yat-sen University, 13-15 October 2017, Grand Hyatt Taipei, Taiwan.

Lead Discussant in Breakout Session A3 on "How to Finance Infrastructure Investments in Asia," 2017 Asia Think Tank Summit on Think Tanks, Public Policy and Governance, jointly organised by the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP) and the Think Tank and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), The Lauder Institute, and Asian Development Bank Institute, 22-23 November 2017, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore.

Discussant for presentations on "2018 Annual Update of Competitiveness Ranking and Simulation Studies on ASEAN-10 Economies" and "Impact of Real Effective Exchange Rates on Trade in Value Added in Eight ASEAN Economies," The World Bank Group – Asia Competitiveness Institute Annual Conference on Infrastructure Development for Economic Competitiveness, 23-24 November 2017, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore.

Panellist in session on "Belt and Road Initiative and Regional Responses," International Symposium on Belt and Road Initiative and Common Development of the Greater South China Sea Region, organised by the National Institute for South China Sea Studies (NISCSS), 7-8 December 2017, Haikou, People's Republic of China.

Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram

"Sustainable Development in Malaysia?" Public Lecture of the Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies, 1 March 2017, Hotel Majestic, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in Plenary 6 on "Exceptionalism vs Integration: Nationalist, Anti-Globalisation and Anti-Establishment Politics," 31st Asia-Pacific Roundtable on "The Future of the Asia Pacific: Issues and Institutions in Flux," 22-24 May 2017, Hilton Kuala Lumpur.

"Malaysia Sendirian Berhad: Public vs Private," Public Lecture of the Tun Hussein Onn Chair in International Studies, 21 October 2017, Le Méridien, Kuala Lumpur.

Dato' Steven CM Wong

Keynote address entitled "Thucydides Trap? China, the US & ASEAN in 2017," Shell Asia Pacific (APAC) External Relations Leadership Team Meeting, organised by Shell Malaysia, 10 January 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

Keynote address entitled "China-ASEAN-US Geopolitics," ASEAN Conference 2017, organised by Credit Suisse, 12 January 2017, Singapore.

Speaker in Session 3 on "The Trump's 'America First' Policy and the South East Asia," Research Meeting on Comprehensive Development Strategy to Meet TPP, organised by Bangkok Research Center (BRC), Institute of Developing Economies – Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO), 7 February 2017, Bangkok, Thailand.

Panellist in session on "ASEAN's Trade and Investment Under the Trump's American First Policy," Joint International Academic Symposium on ASEAN's Trade and Investment Under the Trump's "America First Policy", by IDE-JETRO and Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), supported by the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and Thammasat Institute of Area Studies (TIARA), 8 February 2017, Bangkok, Thailand.

Discussant in Session 4 on "Governance in Public Policy Implementation," Forum on National Economic Governance: Public Sector Governance, organised by the Malaysian Economic Association, University of Malaya, 13 February 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

Keynote address entitled "Economic Turbulence and Security Vulnerabilities Ahead," First Commissioner of Police Conference 2017, organised by the Royal Malaysia Police, 24 March 2017, Bukit Aman, Kuala Lumpur.

Discussant for Barry Eichengreen's paper on "Are Capital Flows Fickle? Increasingly? And does the Answer Still Depend on Type?" Asian Economic Panel (AEP), organised by the Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia (JCI), 29-30 March 2017, Sunway University, Selangor.

Panellist at the ASEAN Roundtable Series on Lessons Learned from Brexit: Risks and Opportunities for ASEAN, organised by CIMB ASEAN Research Institute (CARI), 20 April 2017, Menara CIMB Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist at the EU-Malaysia Trade and Investment Forum 2017: Innovation & Productivity to Drive Malaysia's Economy, organised by EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EUMCCI), 27 April 2017, Sheraton Imperial, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist at the AMCHAM Program on "Trump's 100 Days in Office – Where Are We At," organised by American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM), 3 May 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

"ASEAN and the 4th Industrial Revolution – Can AEC Survive?" Session 4 on The Asia-Pacific Partnership: Ways Forward, Pacific Economic General (PECC) General Meeting and Standing Committee, organised by PECC International Secretariat, 14-15 May 2017, Hanoi, Vietnam.

"Towards a Post-2020 Vision for APEC," Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on APEC Towards 2020 and Beyond, organised by PECC International Secretariat, 16 May 2017, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Panellist at the In Conversation with Series #6 on "EU-Malaysia Leveraging Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to Boost Economic Opportunities," organised by EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EUMCCI), 13 June 2017, Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur.

Panel speaker in session on "Is OBOR a Catalyst for Foreign Investments into the Region?" Regional Conference on One Belt, One Road, One Asia, organised by RHB Research Institute, 5 July 2017, The Westin, Kuala Lumpur.

Speaker in Session 1 on "50th Anniversary of ASEAN and Prospects for ASEAN-Korea Relations: Politics and Security," International Conference on ASEAN-Korea Partnership, organised by ASEAN-Korea Partnership, 30 August 2017, Lotte Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

Speaker and moderator at the Fifth Bilateral Young Diplomats' Roundtable, organised by the Australian High Commission, 8 September 2017, Kuala Lumpur.

Speaker (by video conference) in session on "ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons (ACTIP)," Fifth Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration, 10-12 September 2017, Manila, The Philippines.

Speaker in Session 3 on "The Belt and Road Initiative and People-to-People Exchanges between ASEAN and China," Fourth Network of ASEAN-China Think Tanks Country Coordinators' Meeting and Seminar, organised by The Foreign Service Institute (FSI) (NACT Philippines), 4-5 October 2017, AG New World Manila Bay Hotel, The Philippines.

Discussant in Session 1 on "Power Transition at Asia-Pacific?" 2017 Asia-Pacific Think-Tank Summit, organised by the Institute for National Policy Research, Taiwan Society of Japan Studies, and National Defense University, 14-15 October 2017, Grand Hyatt Taipei, Taiwan.

Panellist in Breakout Session 1 and 2 on "Regional Security," Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Forum, organised by The Sejong Institute, 16-17 November 2017, Grand Hilton Seoul, Republic of Korea.

Panellist in Session 3 on "Rapid-Fire Presentations: ASEAN's Capacity to Address Transnational Security Challenges," ASEAN Security Connectivity: Inaugural Workshop, organised by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung/Konrad-Adenauer Foundation, 6-8 December 2017, Hotel Jen Tanglin, Singapore.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

ISIS Malaysia staff frequently provides expert input on local and international affairs, including media interviews and commentaries/opinions, on *Astro*, *BFM 89.9*, *Bloomberg TV Malaysia*, *Capital TV*, *Channel NewsAsia*, *RTM*, and other news media. Listed below is the media engagement of our staff in 2017.

Mr Bunn Nagara

Interview on Russia, Japan and China, *Channel NewsAsia*, 20 March 2017.

Interview on friction between China and India over territory in Bhutan, *BFM 89.9*, 10 July 2017.

Interview on ASEAN's achievements, *BFM 89.9*, 2 August 2017.

Interview on ASEAN's first 50 years, *BFM 89.9*, 21 September 2017.

Interview on China's rise, *China Central Television (CCTV)*, 17 November 2017.

Mr Sholto Byrnes

Interview on President Macron's visit to Malaysia, *Al Jazeera Arabic*, 29 March 2017.

Interview on Theresa May calling the UK General Election, *BFM 89.9*, 19 April 2017.

Interview on Donald Trump and the process of impeachment, *BFM 89.9*, 6 June 2017.

"Deadly Enemies Becoming Allies in Bid to Oust Malaysia's Najib," quoted in *Bloomberg*, 18 July 2017.

Interview on Malaysia putting pressure on Myanmar over the Rohingya, *The Star*, 6 September 2017.

"Najib Set to Meet Trump as 1MDB Probe Deepens," quoted in *Bloomberg*, 11 September 2017.

Interview on Theresa May's prospects of survival as UK prime minister, *BFM 89.9*, 6 October 2017.

"Najib Eyes Swing Voters in Budget as Election Window Narrows," quoted in *Bloomberg*, 30 October 2017.

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Mr Firdaos Rosli

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Interview on MITI's TPP announcement, *Traxx.fm*, 14 March 2017.

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Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid

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Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

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Ms Elina Noor

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"China, the ASEAN dilemma," *BFM Today's Biztalk*, 22 May 2017.

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BILATERAL VISITS AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

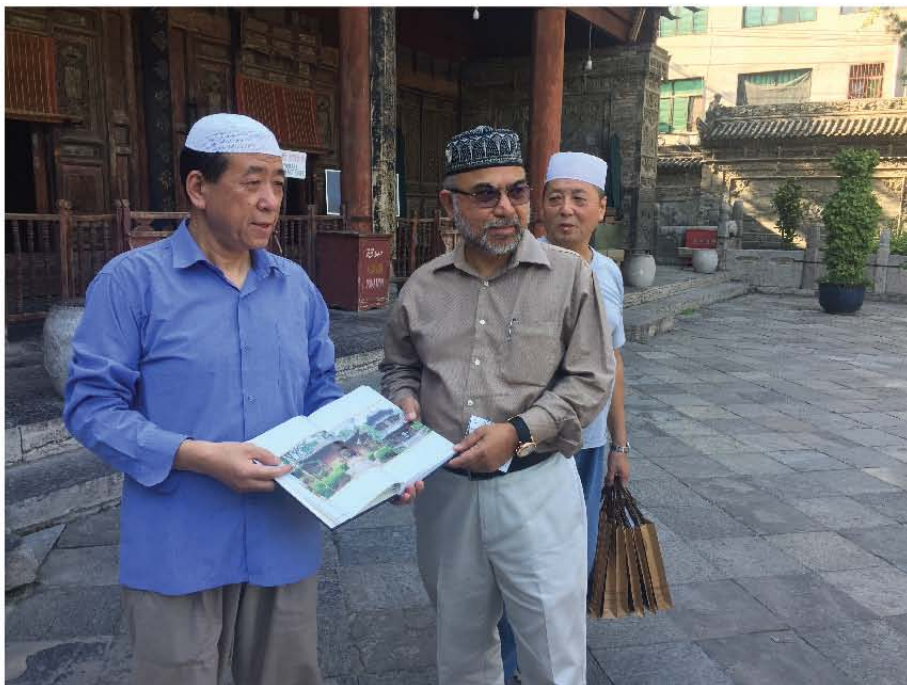
The 2017 Muslim Youth Exchange Camp for Southeast Asian Countries, Taipei, 14-20 May 2017

This exchange camp focused on strengthening Taiwan's relation and cooperation with Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei, leveraging on the Halal industry. Topics of discussion include foreign relations, religion, tourism, education, history and culture. 30 participants from three ASEAN countries (Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei) attended the camp. Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid was part of the Malaysian delegation.



ISIS Malaysia Delegation to Beijing and Xi'an, 3-9 September 2017

A delegation from ISIS Malaysia visited Beijing and Xi'an at the invitation of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA). The main purpose of the visit was to convene the Third China-Malaysia Seminar and discuss about the progress and concerns of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China-Malaysia cooperation. The delegation also met with the China Institute for International Strategic Studies (CISS) to discuss Malaysia-China issues and regional issues of concern.



APPOINTMENTS

Mr Bunn Nagara

Affiliate of the Thai Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya.

Member of the Perak Academy.

Member of the Malaysia-Thailand Think Tank and Scholar Network (MTTTS).

Mr Firdaos Rosli

Executive Committee Member of Malaysia-Japan Economic Association (MAJECA), 2017–2018.

Country Coordinator of the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) Malaysia.

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

Elected Representative for Selangor, Malaysian Youth Parliament, 2017–2018.

Ms Elina Noor

Commissioner for the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace.

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

Co-Chair for the Council for the Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP), 2015–2017.

Member of the National Consultative Committee on Political Financing, Malaysia.

Member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council (ABAC).

Board Member of the China-Southeast Asia Research Center on the South China Sea (CSARC).

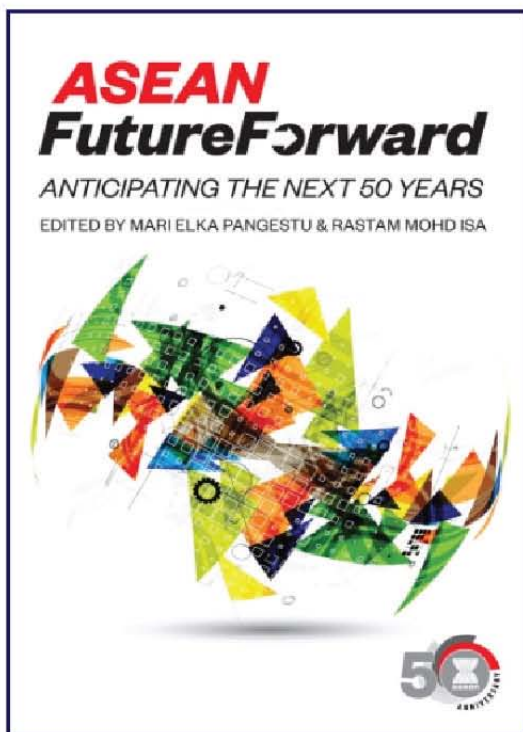
► PUBLICATIONS

ISIS Malaysia produced several publications in 2017.

BOOKS



ISIS Malaysia Annual Report 2016
Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2017.



ASEAN FutureForward: Anticipating the Next 50 Years
Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2017.

ISIS FOCUS

ISIS Focus is a magazine that features articles, research findings and commentaries on the important issues of the day and of concern to researchers, policy makers and the public. This publication is intended to reach a wider audience.



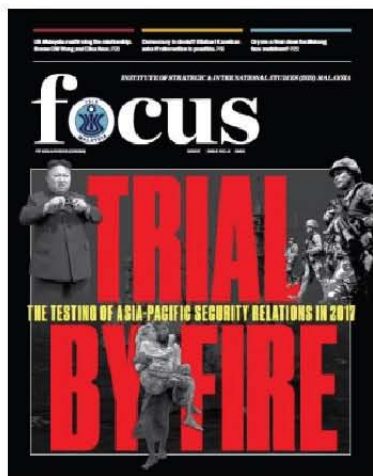
Can the Rohingya be Saved?

ISIS Focus 1, no. 4, Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2017.



America First

ISIS Focus 2, no. 5, Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2017.



Trial by Fire: The Testing of Asia-Pacific Security Relations in 2017

ISIS Focus 3, no. 6, Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2017.