New Zealand Asia Institute

Previous research 2007

Detailed below is information on the Institute's research projects during 2007.

Maritime cooperation in East Asia: Competing understandings of human security

Description
The Asian waters have long been a haunt of ‘pirates’ and managing the security problem has been a challenge since the colonial days. The participants of this project have focused their investigations on the domestic perceptions of ‘threat’ in Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Japan, China, South Korea, and India.

These case studies are expected to help probe for the root causes of the current situation of security cooperation, or the lack of it, in the Asian waters.

Organisers
- New Zealand Asia Institute
- Swinburne University of Technology Malaysia

Sponsors
- Japan Foundation
- The University of Auckland

Participants
- Professor Yongjin Zhang, The University of Auckland
- Professor Nicholas Tarling, The University of Auckland
- Dr Xin Chen, The University of Auckland
- Professor James Chin, Swinburne University of Technology, Malaysia
- Commander Gurpreet S Khurana, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, India
- Dr Xu Ke, National University of Singapore
- Professor Kosum Saichan, Chiang Mai University
- Professor Ekamol Saichan, Chiang Mai University
- Mr Begi Hersutanto, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia
- Professor Antonio Contreras, De La Salle University, Philippines
- Professor Kyongsoo Lho, Seoul National University
- Professor Yoichiro Sato, Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies, USA

China and Korea: Competing images and contending issues

Description
The project takes as a starting point the centuries-long tradition of interchange between the inhabitants of what is now the People's Republic of China and the two nations of the Korean peninsula. Nonetheless, as these two distinct, yet
fluid and overlapping, cultural spheres have coalesced into the current nation-states, new forms of interaction have come to occur between them.

The project seeks to examine major facets of interchange between "China" and "Korea", with particular attention to the last fifteen years. It will focus on areas of the social sciences and the humanities that have not been explored in as much detail in the current literature.

Organisers

- New Zealand Asia Institute
- Asian Studies Institute, Victoria University of Wellington

Sponsors

- Academy of Korean Studies, Republic of Korea
- New Zealand Asia Institute’s Korean Foundation endowment grant
- Asian Studies Institute, Victoria University of Wellington

Participants

- Dr Richard Phillips, The University of Auckland
- Dr Changzoo Song, The University of Auckland
- Dr Stephen Epstein, Victoria University of Wellington
- Professor HAN Feng, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Dr Xiaoming Huang, Victoria University of Wellington
- Dr Tim Beal, Victoria University of Wellington
- Mr Peter Beck, US Committee on Human Rights in North Korea
- Professor Brian Bridges, Lingnan University, Hong Kong
- Professor Jang Soo Hyun, Kwangwoon University, Korea
- Dr Yonson Ahn, Leipzig University
- Dr Rowan Pease, University of London
- Dr Roald Maliangkay, Australian National University

**ASEAN at forty: Reflections and visions**

**Description**

ASEAN is often criticised for being ineffectual. Yet it has survived forty years and attained a notable international standing. The region has also remained impressively stable. Its member states have become intertwined in a web of personal and institutional networks from which an ASEAN sense of community is slowly emerging. All this has made the Association exceptional among regional groupings of post-colonial states.

In recent years, ASEAN has apparently become uneasy about its institutional deficiencies. Will it be able to reinvent itself and chart a new direction? Will it be able to rise to the challenge of being the driver of East Asian regionalism? These are some of the questions that this project tries to find answers to.
Organiser

- New Zealand Asia Institute

Sponsors

- NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- The University of Auckland

Participants

- Mr Ali Alatas, Adviser to the Indonesian President, former Indonesian Foreign Minister
- Professor Le Dang Doanh, Adviser to Minister of Planning and Investment, Vietnam
- Professor Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- Professor Myrna Austria, De La Salle University, Philippines
- Dr Denis Hew Wei-Yen, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
- Dr Malcolm Cook, Lowy Institute for International Policy, Australia
- Mr Tim Groser, Member of Parliament, former New Zealand Ambassador to Indonesia
- Professor Nicholas Tarling, The University of Auckland
- Dr Xin Chen, The University of Auckland