Berlin Conference on Asian Security 2015


A conference jointly organised by the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, SWP), Berlin, and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), Berlin

Berlin, SWP, June 14-16, 2015

Venue: Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Ludwigkirchplatz 3-4, D-10719 Berlin (Wilmersdorf)
Contact: Gudrun Wacker and Barbara Petrulewicz.

The Berlin Conference on Asian Security (BCAS) serves as a forum for exchange between academics and practitioners from Europe, the United States and Asia. Its aim is to generate new ideas and discuss policy implications of evolving dynamics.

The 9th BCAS will focus on different concepts of national security in Asia. What are the understandings of and major challenges for national security from the perspectives of different countries and how do they see the links between the domestic and the international level? The topic of national (in)security will first be addressed in a general manner from the perspectives of big powers, middle powers and smaller countries. We will then look into three specific areas of security – maritime security, cyber security and Islamic State terrorism – to explore options for cooperation.

Saturday, June 13, 2015

Arrival of overseas participants

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Arrival of participants
19:00 Welcome dinner at KAS headquarters
Dinner speech: Dr. Karl-Heinz KAMP (Academic Director, Federal Academy for Security Policy)

Monday, June 15, 2015
09:30 Registration
10:00 Opening remarks by Volker Perthes (SWP) and Gerhard Wahrers (KAS)


What is the national perspective on security and what are the major challenges? Domestic – regional – global? How is the national level linked to the transnational/regional/global level?

Chair: Volker Perthes (SWP)
US: Robert J. Art (Brandeis University, MA) »U.S. National Security Perspectives on Asia: Interests and Challenges«
China: Jin Canrong (Renmin University, Beijing) »China’s National Security Concepts and Threat Perceptions«

10:45 Plenary debate


Chair: Patrick Keller (KAS)
Australia: Benjamin Schreer (Australian Strategic Policy Institute, Canberra) »Preparing for Another Age of Uncertainty – Australia’s National Security Concepts and Threat Perception«
India: Raja Mohan (Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi) »India’s National Security: The Changing International Dimension«
South Korea: Lee Seok-soo (Research Institute for National Security Affairs, Seoul) »South Korea’s National Security: Concepts, Threat Perceptions and Strategies«
Singapore: Yeo Lay Hwee (Singapore Institute of Interna-
12:10 Plenary debate
13:00 Buffet lunch, SWP
14:30 **Session II, Part 1: Maritime Security**

*What are the national perspectives on maritime security, what are the major challenges? (Challenges: freedom of navigation - natural disasters - piracy - harbor security...) What are options for cooperation (bilateral/regional/global)?*

Chair: Gudrun Wacker (SWP)
China: Lu Yin (National Defence University, Beijing) »Ways and Means of Dealing with Maritime Security Issues at Sea«
India: Vijay Sakhuja (National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi) »India’s Maritime Security«
EU: Michael Reiterer (European External Action Service, Brussels) »Maritime Disputes and Maritime Security in Asia«
15:00 Plenary debate
15:45 **Coffee break, SWP lobby**
16:15 **Session II, Part 2: Maritime Security**

Chair: Stefan Friedrich (KAS)
Vietnam: Tran Truong Thuy (Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Hanoi) »Balancing over the Sea of Trouble: Vietnam’s Maritime Security Challenges and Responses«
Philippines: Renato Cruz de Castro (De La Salle University, Manila) »The Philippines Discovers its Maritime Domain: Aquino Administration’s Shift in Strategic Focus from Internal to Maritime Security«
Japan: Kotani Tetsuo (Japan Institute of International Affairs, Tokyo) »Japan’s Policies for the East and South China Seas«
16:45 Plenary debate
18:00 *Dinner at SWP*
Tuesday, June 24, 2015

9:00 Session III: Cyber Security

*What are the national perspectives on cyber security, what are the major challenges? (Challenges: big data - cyber espionage - cyber warfare - cyber sovereignty...) What are options for cooperation (bilateral/regional/global)?*

Chair: Johannes Thimm (SWP)
U.S.: Tim Maurer (New America Foundation, Washington DC)
China: Cai Cuihong (Center for American Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai) »Cybersecurity in Chinese Context: Changing Concepts, Vital Interests and Cooperative Willingness«
EU: Norbert Riedel (Commissioner for International Cyber Policy, German Foreign Office)

09:40 Plenary debate

10:30 Coffee break, SWP lobby

11:00 Session IV: Islamic State and Asia

*What are the national perspectives on this new dimension of terrorism, what are the major challenges? (Challenges: recruitment - radicalization returnees...) What are options for cooperation (bilateral/regional/global)?*

Chair: Kristina Eichhorst (KAS)
Malaysia: K. S. Nathan (National University of Malaysia, Bangi) »“Islamic State” and Malaysia: Perception, Policy, Current and Future Trends and Security Challenges«
EU: Raffaello Pantucci (Royal United Services Institute, London) »ISIS: A European View«
Singapore: Rohan Gunaratna (S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore) »The Islamic Caliphate's Influence in Southeast Asia«
EU: Norbert Riedel (Commissioner for International Cyber Policy, German Foreign Office)

11:30 Plenary debate
12:30 **Concluding Session**

*Summing up and concluding debate*

Input: Hanns Maull (SWP)
Closing remarks by Stefan Friedrich (KAS) and Gudrun Wacker (SWP)

13:15 Buffet lunch, SWP

*End of conference*
*Departure of European participants*

**Wednesday, June 17, 2015**

*Departure of overseas participants*