

# Agenda

## Dancing with elephants? Dealing with great power rivalries in Asia

### 13<sup>th</sup> Berlin Conference on Asian Security

November 7 – 8, 2019

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Ludwigkirchplatz 3–4, 10719 Berlin

#### Day 1, November 7

9.00 a.m.	<b>Registration of Participants</b>
9.15 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <i>Barbara Lippert, Director of Research, SWP</i>
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	<b>Session 1:</b> <b>Where is Asia heading? Tales from the “grand chessboard”</b> Chair: <i>Felix Heiduk, SWP</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>“The End of the American Tributary System and the Return of the Chinese System?” (Khong Yuen Foong, National University of Singapore)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>“Many players, many layers: The Indo-Pacific long game” (Rory Medcalf, Australian National University)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>“From Globalization to Fragmentation? The Erosion of Confidence in the Asia-Pacific” (Rosemary Foot, University of Oxford)</i></li> </ul>
11.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.	Coffee Break
11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	<b>Session 2:</b> <b>Alternative ideas and concepts of order in Asia</b> Chair: <i>Eric Ballbach, SWP</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>“Indonesia and Indo-Pacific: Seeking the Proper Response to Great Power Politics” (Shafiah F. Muhibat, Centre for Strategic and International Studies)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>“Making Multilateralism Matter’ – Middle Powers in the era of the U.S.-China Competition” (Kim Joo Hee, Pukyong National University)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>“Towards a New Sino-centric world order? How China Views Global order” (Jinghan Zeng, Lancaster University)</i></li> </ul>
1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.	Lunch

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2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.	<b>Session 3:</b> <b>What sort of regional order would be desirable from the perspective of small and middle powers – both in terms of foundational values as well as in terms of its structure?</b> (Buzz Groups followed by moderated plenary discussion) Facilitator: <i>Lars Brozus, SWP</i>
3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Coffee Break
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	<b>Session 4:</b> <b>Balancing, bandwagoning, staying neutral, or hedging – or else? How to best approach Asia’s (changing) order?</b> Chair: <i>Alexandra Sakaki, SWP</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>“The ‘JAI’ (Japan-America-India) Trilateralism and China: Understanding the Undercurrents” (Jagannath Panda, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses)</i></li><li>▪ <i>“From Appeasement to Soft Balancing? The Duterte Administration’s Shifting Policy on the South China Sea Imbroglio” (Renato Cruz de Castro, De La Salle University)</i></li><li>▪ <i>“Institutional Platforms and Resources: ASEAN and Asia’s Large Power Mix” (Alice D. Ba, University of Delaware)</i></li></ul>
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.	<b>Wrap-up Day One</b> Facilitator: <i>Bart Gaens, Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)</i>
6.00 p.m.	Dinner

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## Agenda

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### Day 2, November 8

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9.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

#### **Session 5:**

##### **A new great game, but with local rules?**

Chair: *Angshuman Choudhury, SWP (GIBSA Visiting Fellow) / Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies*

- *“From ‘The Malay Dilemma’ to Malaysia’s Dilemmas: The Political Economy of Mahathir’s China Policy since May 2018” (Liu Hong, Nanyang Technological University)*
  - *“Midfield or Margin? Myanmar and Neighbours in the Game” (Thi Thi Soe San, University of Mandalay)*
  - *“The EU’s Connectivity Strategy towards Asia” (Ville Varjola, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland)*
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10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

#### **Coffee Break:**

##### **“Sip and Chat” breakout sessions**

Facilitator: *Felix Heiduk, SWP*

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11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

#### **Session 6:**

##### **Beyond sovereignty? Connectivity, infrastructure, and economic corridors**

Chair: *Kirsten Westphal, SWP*

- *“Security Order and State Transformation in Asia: Beyond Geopolitics and Grand Strategy” (Lee Jones, Queen Mary University of London)*
  - *“The Idea of Connectivity in International Politics” (Nadine Godehardt, SWP)*
  - *“Mekong Countries in the Context of the Connectivity Competition” (Thearith Leng, Asian Vision Institute)*
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1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Lunch

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2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

#### **Session 7:**

##### **Stepping it up? How to (better) engage great powers?**

Chair: *Marco Overhaus, SWP*

- *“The Role of Domestic Political Constraints in Navigating Great Power Relations: The Case of South Korea” (Seo-Hyun Park, Lafayette College)*
  - *“Dancing with Elephants: How to engage with major powers in new context” (Tran Viet Thai, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam)*
  - *“Reflections on Sri Lanka’s Engagement with the US and China” (Ganeshan Wignaraja, Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute)*
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3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

#### **Wrap-up**

Facilitator: *Hanns Maull, SWP*

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