

**Second Berlin Conference on Asian Security**  
***The Internal Stability and Cohesion of Asian States: Consequences for  
Intraregional and International Relations***

A conference jointly organised by Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP), Berlin,  
Federal Ministry of Defence, Berlin, and  
Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta.  
Berlin, SWP, 3-5 October 2007

Prepared by Sebastian Bersick

***Session I: The Interrelationship between Internal and External Stability***

**Points for discussion**

- How can internal and external stability be defined? How do the internal stability and cohesion of nation states impact on Asian security?
- What are the guiding principles of foreign policy making in the region?
- Are there common threats that endanger the stability of Asian countries' political systems?
- Is the response to the challenges by the given governments in the region adequate? How can cooperation and coordination be improved on the regional and international level?
- How do internal and external stability affect Europe's and the US's security concerns?

***Session II: Indonesia: Non-Traditional Risks and Regional Cooperation***

**Points for discussion**

- What can be said about the internal stability and the cohesion of the Indonesian political system? What are the main factors that threaten the internal stability of Indonesia?
- Which non-traditional security risks does Indonesia face?
- Does the government address them? Which actors are involved? What is the role of non-state actors in addressing them?

- In how far does regional and international cooperation (e.g. ASEAN, ARF, ASEAN+3, East Asia Summit, APEC, ASEM, Europe, the USA) impact on the stability of Indonesia's political system?

### ***Session III: Potential Instability in North Korea***

#### **Points for discussion**

- What can be said about the internal stability and the cohesion of the North Korean political system?
- Which implications does North Korea's nuclear programme (civil and military) have for the stability of its political system?
- How does the DPRK's cohesion impact on Northeast Asia's stability?
- Shall the Six-Party-Talks develop into a framework that pro-actively facilitates a process of peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula? Could it?

### ***Session IV: Pakistan: Non-Traditional Risks, WMD, and South Asian Security***

#### **Points for discussion**

- Is there a threat of a "talibanization" of Pakistan? Which impact do the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) have on Pakistan's internal stability?
- Does Afghanistan pose a threat to Pakistan's internal stability and cohesion? What is and what could be Pakistan's role in stabilizing Afghanistan?
- What does the Pakistani government perceive as the main threats to the stability of Pakistan and the security of South Asia? Could a civilian government's approach result in differing policies to counter the related risks?
- Which role can regional and external actors play (within bilateral and multi-lateral frameworks) in facilitating Pakistan's stability (e.g. China, India, the USA, NATO, EU/-Member States, SAARC, SCO)?

*Session V: Instability and Security in Central Asia*

**Points for discussion**

- What can be said about the internal stability and the cohesion of the Central Asian Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan?
- Which impact does the development of economic ties with Russia and China have on the stability of Central Asia? Which role does India play? Will competition or cooperation be the dominant pattern of Sino-Russo relations in Central Asia?
- What is the role of multilateral institutions such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) or the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC) for the security of Central Asia?
- What is the role of the US in the region? How is the latest European initiative vis-à-vis Central Asia to be assessed?

*Session VI: China's Internal Stability*

**Points for discussion**

- What are the main problems challenging China's internal stability? Which factors contribute e.g. to social unrest?
- How does the Chinese government respond to these challenges? Which strategy and instruments does Beijing use?
- Which segments of the Chinese political system need to be reformed foremost in order to guarantee internal stability? In what ways could this be done?
- How does the question of China's internal stability impact on regional and international relations?