

Singapore think tank is Asia's third best

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The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) has emerged third in Asia in a ranking of global think tanks.

The Global 'Go-To Think Tanks' rankings ranks more than 1,000 Asian think tanks and is conducted by the University of Pennsylvania's Think Tank and Civil Societies Programme. The programme aims to identify and rank the leading think tanks of the world.

RSIS, a graduate school of Nanyang Technological University, focuses its research on the security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region, and their implications for Singapore and other countries in the region.

"The ranking is a milestone in RSIS' growth as a professional graduate school of international affairs and a leading think tank in the region," said Ambassador Barry Desker, Dean of RSIS.

Coming first in the rankings is The Japan Institute of International Affairs. The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, located in China, came in second.

The criteria for the rankings include academic reputation, success in generating innovative policy ideas and access to elites in policymaking, media and academia.

The rankings were tabulated after collating the nominations of a panel of experts comprising scholars, executives, public and private donors and policymakers.

Top 40 Think Tanks in Asia

1. Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIJA) – Japan
2. Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) – China
3. S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) – Singapore
4. Center for Strategic and International Studies – Indonesia
5. China Institute for Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) – China
6. Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research (HKCER) - Hong Kong
7. Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy – Singapore
8. Shanghai Institute for International Studies – China
9. Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses – India
10. Lowy Institute for International Policy – Australia
11. Centre for Policy Research – India
12. Korea Development Institute - South Korea
13. Center for Civil Society – India
14. China Institute for International Studies (CIIS) – China
15. Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) – Singapore
16. Liberty Institute – India
17. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Beijing) – China
18. Asian Forum Japan (AFJ) – Japan
19. Institute for International Policy Studies - Japan
20. Institute of Energy Economics Japan (IEEJ) - Japan
21. India Council for Research on International Economic Relations - India
22. Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) - Malaysia
23. Taiwan Foundation for Democracy - Taiwan
24. Cathay Institute for Public Affairs - China
25. Centre for Development Studies - India
26. National Institute for Research Advancement - Japan
27. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) - India

28. Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI) - Japan
29. Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) - Singapore
30. Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies - Bangladesh
31. Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies - India
32. Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) - Malaysia
33. Central Institute for Economic Management - Vietnam
34. National Institute for Defense Studies - Japan
35. Philippine Institute for Development Studies - The Philippines
36. Energy and Resources Institute - India
37. Third World Network - Malaysia
38. Institute of Economic Growth - India
39. Institute for Integrated Development Studies - Nepal
40. Institute of Policy Studies - Sri Lanka