

# Summary of On-going Research

Issue 2 - April 2015



## The Turbulent World of Middle East Soccer

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[A book to be published by Hurst/Oxford University Press]

“Soccer figures prominently in the life of the Middle East and North Africa. The pitch is often the indicator of things to come. Just think of the key role militant soccer fans played in the toppling of Egyptian President Mubarak in 2011 and the subsequent messy years of transition as well as in the protests in 2013 against Turkish leader Erdogan. Or the fact that the first unprecedented criticism of ruling families in Arab monarchies occurred on the pitch. For years, many in autocratic regimes viewed the weekly league match as their sole release valve so much so that disruption of meagre family budgets by male expenditure on tickets for games sparked a sharp increase of the divorce rate in Egypt. In autocratic nations in the region that have witnessed recent popular revolts, women often see the stadium as an important venue to assert their rights in defiance of conservative clergymen and a traditionally minded society.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies  
*region* Middle East and North Africa  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 01/01/2012

Duration: 176 weeks

## Shifting Sands: Volatile Political Transitions in the Middle East and North Africa - Essays on Sports and Politics

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[Book to be published by World Scientific]

“The Middle East and North Africa are experiencing the most fundamental transition in their post-colonial history. It is a transition that is changing borders as well as political and social structures. Conflicting visions of what those structures should be ensure that transition will take years and make the process volatile, brutal and bloody. The balance of power shifts like quicksand. Mass anti-government protests that initially succeeded in toppling leaders have deteriorated into civil wars in Syria, Yemen and Libya and the return of autocracy in Egypt. In the process, the protests have given way to the rise of jihadist Islam fuelled by sectarian government policies. The rise of jihadism has not only revived global efforts to counter political violence but also sparked soul searching within Islam itself and debate about combatting the marginalisation and alienation of minority Muslim communities in the West and the justification of international support of autocratic regimes whose policies create environments conducive to radicalisation.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies  
*region* Middle East and North Africa  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 11/07/2013

Duration: 104 weeks

## China and the Middle East: Embarking on a Strategic Approach

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[An article for *Sociology of Islam*]

“With the U.S. becoming embroiled in yet another military intervention in the Middle East, China has embarked on an approach to the region that it hopes will secure its access to resources and trade, and enable cooperation with the U.S. on Chinese terms. The approach assumes that with U.S. influence in decline, political and economic indicators suggest that it is just a matter of time before the pendulum swings in China’s favour.

China’s emerging Middle East strategy is shaped as much by contemporary U.S. predicaments in the Middle East as it is by the fact that post-Cold War differences are not embedded in a global ideological divide. It is based on foreign policy principles that nominally contrast with those of the U.S., with a determination not to repeat what China views as U.S. mistakes. While there appears to be broad consensus on these points, China’s policy community is nonetheless divided on the formulation of a comprehensive policy towards the region.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies / International Politics and Security  
*region* Middle East and China  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 01/08/2014

Duration: 40 weeks

## Lost in Transition: Comparative Political Transitions in Southeast Asia and the Middle East

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[A book to be published by Palgrave MacMillan, co-authored with Teresita Cruz-Del Rosario]

“Relatively successful political transitions in Asia were made possible by reformist wings of the military that saw protection of their interests in change in collaboration with a thick, often underground, layer of social movements and civil society organisations rather than preservation of the status quo. The absence of forward looking wings of the military and the relative weakness of civil society is at the advent of the Arab revolts, differentiates Middle Eastern and North African nations from their Asian counterparts. So does national identity that has proven to be far more fragile and contentious than in Southeast Asia, raising the specter of a redrawing of the region’s borders and the emergence of new states based on ethnicity or sect. Transition in Southeast Asia further benefitted from the absence of regional powers like Saudi Arabia that sought to impose its will on others. All these constitute significant factors that help explain the difference in political transition among these regions.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies / International Politics and Security  
*region* Middle East and Southeast Asia  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 01/09/2014

Duration: 60 weeks

## Israel-Palestine Peace-making: A Paradigm Shift

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[An article for *MEI Insight*]

“Wars inevitably spark change. That is no truer than with the war in Gaza in 2014 irrespective of efforts by Israel and Hamas, the Islamist militia in control of the Gaza Strip, to project their version of events. The signs of changing attitudes of Israel and Hamas towards one another go significantly beyond the fact that the two sworn enemies who refuse to recognise one another were negotiating even if only indirectly during the war and have continued to do so since the guns fell silent. The indications also go beyond the fact that the road to the Cairo talks that achieved an agreed halt to the fighting was paved in part by indirect contacts between Hamas and the United States, which like Israel has declared Hamas a terrorist organisation.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies / International Politics and Security  
*region* Middle East  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 22/09/2014

Duration: 36 weeks

## The South China Sea Disputes: Flashpoints, Turning Points and Trajectories

Mr Yang Razali Kassim *Senior Fellow*

[A edited volume for *Strategic Currents 2015* examining the South China Sea Disputes, to be published by World Scientific/Imperial College Press.]

“This volume tracks and traces the evolution of the South China Sea Disputes since the controversial 2012 ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in Phnom Penh, which marked a turning point in the regional handling of the disputes. It also covers the international debates on one of the hottest international disputes of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, which can easily turn from a brewing flashpoint into a regional conflict with global repercussions.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / International Politics and Security / Maritime Security  
*region* Southeast Asia/ASEAN  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 01/12/2014

Duration: 60 weeks

## Soccer vs. Jihad: A Draw

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[An article for *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* special issue on Terrorism and Sport]

“There is much that militant Islamists and jihad-ists agree on, but when it comes to soccer sharp divisions emerge. Men like the late Laden, Hamas Gaza leader Haniyeh and Hezbollah’s Nasrallah line up on one side of the ideological and theological divide opposite groups like the Taliban, Al Shabab, and Boko Haram. The Islamic State belongs ideologically to those that view soccer as an infidel invention but opportunistically employs football in its public relations endeavour. Bin Laden, Haniyeh and Nasrallah based their employment of soccer as a recruitment and bonding tool on those Salafi and Islamic scholars who argue that the Prophet Mohammed advocated physical exercise to maintain a healthy body as opposed to more militant students of Islam who seek to re-ban the sport. The usefulness of soccer is evident in the fact that perpetrators of attacks like those by Hamas on civilian targets in Israel in 2003 and the 2004 Madrid train bombings bonded by playing soccer together.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies / International Politics and Security  
*region* Middle East  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 02/12/2014

Duration: 24 weeks

## HADR and Geopolitics in Southeast Asia: Indonesia’s Role in U.S.-Japan Strategic Assistance

Mr Yang Razali Kassim *Senior Fellow*

“This research examines the prospects of an alliance-based approach between the United States and Japan to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) in Southeast Asia, in particular Indonesia. For submission to *Asia Policy*, a peer-reviewed journal of the U.S.-based National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR).”

*theme* Southeast Asia / ASEAN / East Asia and Pacific  
*region* Human Security / International Politics and Security  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 01/01/2015

Duration: 40 weeks

## Yemen: A Study of the Pitfalls of Political Transition

Mr James M. Dorsey *Senior Fellow*

[Gulf Research Council]

“Yemen’s political crisis involving the rise to power of a sectarian group, the effective collapse of the state, the incapability of the military and security forces to guarantee territorial integrity and law and order, and the upsurge of militant political Islam bears important lessons for the prospects of political transition in the Middle East and North Africa. The crisis like the violence enveloping Libya, Syria and Iraq highlights the fragility of Middle Eastern and North African states that are as much products of colonial history as they are of self-serving autocrats who increasingly focus on survival rather than nation-building and development, and regional power struggles. As a result, Yemen’s travails are not simply the result of revolution and counterrevolution but the cumulative long-standing manipulation of Yemeni politics going back to the years before the 2011 popular revolt and as far back as the Egyptian-Saudi proxy war in Yemen in the 1960s.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Regional Studies / International Politics and Security  
*region* Middle East  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 05/02/2015

Duration: 32 weeks

## The Future of Malaysian Opposition Politics Post-Anwar

Mr Yang Razali Kassim *Senior Fellow*

“To review the state of the Malaysian opposition and its prospects for survival following the second incarceration of Anwar Ibrahim, including the broader implications on Malaysian politics as a whole.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies  
*region* Southeast Asia / ASEAN  
*entity* RSIS

Start : 02/03/2015

Duration: 40 weeks

**Institute of Defence and  
Strategic Studies (IDSS)**



## War in the Global Village: Transnational Challenges and the Struggle for Freedom of Action

Dr Pascal Vennesson *Professor*

“This book project is about the effects of transnational relations on the character of war. It is a study of state and non-state actors’ changing ability to wage war in their transnationalised environment from the early 1990s until the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I explore why and how military prowess is affected by a global milieu refracted by a number of transnational actors, ideas and practices that apparently have little to do with force traditionally understood. Why and how does war-making change – if at all – under the influence of its transnational environment? Why and how do transnational actors and ideas shape or alter political leaders and strategic planners’ freedom of action?”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/01/2011

Duration: Multi-year

## Maritime Security and Sea Lines of Communication - Research Paper

Ms Jane Chan *Research Fellow and Coordinator of Maritime Security Programme*  
Mr Collin Koh *Associate Research Fellow*

“The programme collaborates with the Information Fusion Centre (IFC) to work on topical maritime security issues relating to Sea Lines of Communication (SLOC) and chokepoints within IFC area of interest. The project aims to better understand the threats and challenges in regional waters. It will consider national, regional and inter-regional maritime law enforcement capacity, best practices and cooperation.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / Maritime Security  
*region* South Asia / Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2012

Duration: Multi-year

## Future Maritime Security Environment - Policy Paper and Workshop

Dr Sam Bateman *Senior Fellow and Adviser to Maritime Security Programme*  
Ms Jane Chan *Research Fellow and Coordinator of Maritime Security Programme*  
Mr Henrick Z. Tsjeng *Associate Research Fellow*

“The study will identify likely developments in the maritime security environment of Asia over the next decade, including shifts in the maritime balance of power and particular threats and challenges in the maritime domain. The study will take a comprehensive view of security, and will include issues such as the trends with international shipping, environmental protection and resource scarcity. The overall objective will be to identify the implications of these developments for the region and for Singapore. The geographical scope for the study will be the Indo-Pacific region.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / Maritime Security / Conflict and Stability  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN / Indian Ocean Region  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/10/2012

Duration: 130 weeks

## Asian Navy Watch – Research Paper and Workshop

Prof Geoffrey Till *Visiting Professor*  
Mr Collin Koh *Associate Research Fellow*

“This project is a continuation of a multi-year project that studied naval modernisation and its consequences in Southeast Asia. It is currently focusing on ‘Problems and Prospects of Submarine Acquisition in the Region’.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / Maritime Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2013

Duration: 52 weeks

## Japanese Security Policy: Military Crises, Threat Inflation and Security Policy Development

Dr Bhubhindar Singh *Associate Professor and Coordinator of Multilateralism and Regionalism Programme*

“One of the most critical changes to Japan’s post-Cold War security policy has been the incorporation of the Japanese military, known as the Self-Defence Force (SDF), as a legitimate and important tool in its security policy practice. It has developed new roles both outside and within the U.S.-Japan alliance to contribute to regional/international security. The question is how has the Japanese security policymaking elite been able to bring about this critical change to the security policy practice in light of the domestic social and legal constraints that have traditionally prevented the expansion of Japan’s security role, in military terms, in regional and international affairs. This research introduces external military crises as a critical cause of this change in Japanese security policy. It argues that the security policymaking elite constructed or inflated elements of threat from an external military crisis as directly affecting both the international environment and Japan’s national security. This process allowed the security policymaking elite to circumvent the social and legal limitations and fulfil its role of a responsible and engaged actor in regional/international security. This study will focus on all military crises faced by Japan in the post-Cold War period.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /International Politics and Security / Maritime Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/06/14

Duration: 162 weeks

## China’s Global Quest for Resources and its Global Implications

Dr Wu Fengshi *Associate Professor*  
Mr Zhang Hongzhou *Associate Research Fellow*

“We will be publishing an edited volume and a special issue out of the papers submitted for the China’s Resources security workshop held on 1 October 2014. We will be looking at various aspects of China’s global quest for resources and its international implications.”

*theme* Non-Traditional Security  
*region* Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/07/2014

Duration: 52 weeks

## Indonesia's Political System

Dr Leonard C. Sebastian *Associate Professor and Coordinator of Indonesia Programme*

Mr Jonathan Chen *Associate Research Fellow*

Mr Adhi Priamarizki *Associate Research Fellow*

“Almost 15 years into the era known as Reformasi in Indonesia, scholars are still wrestling with how to characterise the new polity. Indonesia had democratised undoubtedly, however it is not without its recurring defects. “Hybrid regime”, “Collusive democracy”, “patrimonial democracy” and “patronage democracy” are just some of the terms that have been used to describe the new polity as Indonesia transits from a procedural form of democracy to a consolidation phase. This research highlights and evaluates both the specific “steps forward” (necessity present) as well as the contentious “steps back” (necessity absent) Indonesia had taken so far in its reformasi journey in an attempt to redefine the new polity.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies

*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN

*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/08/2014

Duration: 12 weeks

## And the Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round: The Unceasing Six-party Talks?

Mr Lee Il-Woo *Associate Research Fellow*

“Special attention is paid to regime theories laid out in the works of Stephen Krasner, Ernst B. Haas, as well as others mentioned throughout this bit of study. In the end, regimes, defined here as sets of implicit or explicit principles, norms, rules, and decision-making procedures around which actors’ expectations converge in a given area of international relations, will be displayed as not useless concepts as strict structural realists might suggest, but that under certain conditions, can make a difference. By delineating the chronology of the nuclear threat, this essay will seek to evaluate whether fundamental power and structural concepts have failed to adequately explain events on the Korean Peninsula, and if so, why the notion of a security regime may be better suited to explicate such occurrences.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Country and Region Studies / Cybersecurity, Biosecurity and Nuclear Safety / International Politics and Security / Regionalism and Multilateralism

*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific

*entity* IDSS/ Military Studies Programme

Start : 07/09/2014

Duration: 32 weeks

## Metaphors of War in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: From Duel to Street Brawl, and its Implications for Strategy

Dr Bernard Loo *Associate Professor and Coordinator of MSc (Strategic Studies) Programme*

“This project, looking at the multinational nature of groups like the Taliban, Al Qaeda and IS, examines how technologies in the IT and media realms (think Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.) are allowing for people around the world to “feel” connected to developments in otherwise unconnected parts of the world, to the point where these people decide they have to join in the fight, so to speak. The project then focuses on what this means for the characters of wars in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, whether or not this “strategic flash mob” phenomenon is here to stay, and if so, its implications for strategy, especially for state-based actors involved in such wars.”

*theme* International Politics and Security

*region* General

*entity* IDSS/Military Studies Programme

Start : 01/10/2014

Duration: 24 weeks

## From Subic Bay to Changi: Understanding the Relocation of United States' Forces from the Philippines to Singapore (1991-92)

Dr Daniel Chua Wei Boon *Research Fellow*

“This is a historical research that examines the political and strategic considerations behind the closure of American bases in Subic Bay, the Philippines (1992), and the subsequent establishment of COMLOG WESTPAC in Singapore. By studying declassified diplomatic documents from archives in the U.S., Australia, Singapore and the Philippines, as well as interviewing former diplomats, this project attempts to provide deeper understanding of the principles and thinking behind decisions made by the three governments in relation to the episode.”

*theme* History, International Politics and Security  
*region* Southeast Asia  
*entity* IDSS/Military Studies Programme

Start : 01/01/2015

Duration: 104 weeks

## Strategy Misunderstood: The 'Broader Security' Challenge to Strategic Studies

Dr Pascal Vennesson *Professor*

“The advocates of the broadening and deepening of the meaning of security have developed over the past two decades a head-on challenge of the relevance and viability of strategic studies. They commonly charge that strategic studies, as a creation of the Cold War, are crippled by their theoretically and empirically narrow focus, concentrating on great powers' military rivalries, and state-centric and Western-centric. They also hold that strategic studies' epistemological core - its 'rationalism', 'materialism' and a-critical assumptions - undermines their ability to capture the most puzzling aspects of international security and international relations. Their conclusion is inescapable: strategic studies specialists - labelled 'traditionalists' - have less and less to contribute to the study of international security and even less to international relations as a whole. In this paper, I argue that what goes on by the name of 'strategic studies' in the broader security perspective is both a truncated and flawed rendition.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/01/2015

Duration: 52 weeks

## Risk Taking in War: The Decision to Land at Incheon (July-September 1950)

Dr Pascal Vennesson *Professor*

“During the first week of July 1950, as his forces were in full retreat and faced serious and mounting losses, General Douglas MacArthur, Commander in Chief, Far East (CINCFE), started considering plans for an amphibious operation designed to strike the North Korea People's Army at Seoul. He settled definitely on the concept of Incheon landing on 20 July and continued the planning process in August and early September in the midst of a massive North Korean offensive involving 13 infantry divisions and 2 armoured divisions and mounting doubts and criticisms from his staff. Why did General MacArthur choose the riskiest course of action available? The goal of this case study is to examine General MacArthur's decision to land at Incheon (Operation Chromite) from the perspective of 'prospect theory', the most influential descriptive theory of decision making under risk in the social sciences.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/02/2015

Duration: 52 weeks

## Case Study on Islamic Products in Malaysia 2015

Mr Oh Ei Sun *Senior Fellow*

“Although the Malaysian Islamic services sector has seen significant progress, the development of the halal products sector can still be improved, despite Malaysian halal certification carrying considerable credibility especially in Middle Eastern countries. Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) was destined to be a free-trade entrepot zone at West Malaysia’s largest port, Port Klang. China, which has a large Muslim population, looks forward to expanding its Islamic products market overseas, especially to Middle East, albeit with the boosting effect of Malaysian halal certification. Eyeing this niche market opportunity, Chinese businessmen managed to subcontract the administration of PKFZ, with the goal of transforming it into an entrepot centre for Chinese halal products to be processed and packaged primarily for Middle Eastern markets. A case study is being conducted on PKFZ to examine the viability of Malaysia as a trading hub for halal products, with lessons to be drawn for successful commercialisation of Islamic products and services.”

*theme* International Political Economy / Malaysia Studies  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/03/2015

Duration: 36 weeks

## Challenges in Re-Defining TNI’s Role under Global Maritime Fulcrum

Mr Adhi Priamarizki *Associate Research Fellow*

“President Joko Widodo has declared that the Global Maritime Fulcrum concept as guidance for Indonesia’s national security policy. In reality, the concept does not only cover defence and foreign policy, but also other areas, such as the economy. This research aims to analyse the challenges for the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI) with the implementation of President Widodo’s Global Maritime Fulcrum concept. This study also looks into the concept’s influence to Indonesia’s national security policy. In addition, it will examine the impact of the Global Maritime Concept to the TNI’s posture and organisation.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / International Politics and Security / Maritime Security / Non-Traditional Security  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 12 weeks

## Chinese Pragmatism as Speech Rhetoric: Legitimising the CCP Rule in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Chinese politics

Mr Benjamin Ho *Associate Research Fellow*

“This project seeks to analyse the notion of pragmatism in China’s political discourse. It argues that pragmatism, as a form of speech rhetoric, serves the interests of Chinese leaders by legitimising the Party’s rule in 21<sup>st</sup> century Chinese politics given the Chinese people “this-worldly” orientation.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 8 weeks

## Cyber Conflicts and East Asian Security: Implications for U.S. Allies

Dr Michael Raska *Research Fellow*

“Explore the evolving dynamics of information and cyberwarfare in East Asia. Specifically, map evolving cyberwarfare concepts, strategies, and integration in national defence strategies (i.e. China, Japan, South Korea). Issues to be addressed include: (1) how do civil-military strategic interactions shape or change national security strategies; (2) how is cyberwarfare affecting military capacities for offense and defence; (3) how are cyberwar concepts integrated as warfighting tools (if at all); and (4) what are the implications for regional security?”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 28 weeks

## Emerging High-Technology Weaponry in East Asia

Mr Richard A. Bitzinger *Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Military Transformations Programme*

Dr Michael Raska *Research Fellow*

Mr Kalyan M. Kemburi *Associate Research Fellow*

“This project will continue and expand on prior work undertaken by MTP staff concerning the potential military impact of the introduction of new high-technology weaponry into the East Asian region, in conjunction with how regional militaries (particularly China, Japan and the U.S.) are seeking to innovate with these new capabilities.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 36 weeks

## Global Mega Military Technology Development Trends Up to 2030

Mr Kalyan M.Kemburi *Associate Research Fellow*

“This project will focus on: (i) private sector leading military R&D spending; (ii) decline of western military spending; (iii) rise of Asia Pacific military R&D spending; and (iv) commoditisation of advanced technology.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 4 weeks

## Middle Powers in Nuclear Security: A Comparative Study of Australia and South Korea

Ms Sarah Teo *Associate Research Fellow*

“This paper aims to contribute to the literature on middle powers by examining the roles of Australia and South Korea in nuclear security, specifically in multilateral platforms. The research question is: despite being both acknowledged as middle powers that have made significant contributions to nuclear security, how similar or different are the behaviour of Australia and South Korea in this field? The paper seeks to uncover the drivers of both countries’ behaviour in nuclear security forums, the ways they have attempted to shape collective decision-making processes to their interests, and the response of other stakeholders to their initiatives.”

*theme* Cybersecurity, Biosecurity and Nuclear Safety /  
International Politics and Security /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 52 weeks

## Naval Modernisation in India

Mr Kalyan M.Kemburi *Associate Research Fellow*

“This project will address trends, developments, and the impact of naval modernisation in India, specifically focusing on major modernisation initiatives affecting submarine acquisitions, sealift and replenishing capabilities, and unmanned systems. Special attention will be paid to “lessons learned” based on the experiences of other Asian navies’ acquisition efforts, and the potential for collaboration with regional neighbours such as Australia, Japan, and South Korea.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific/ Europe / South Asia  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 32 weeks

## New Approaches to Modelling the Global Arms Industry

Mr Richard A. Bitzinger *Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Military Transformations Programme*

“This project will attempt to use various standardised models or taxonomies to establish a new approach to better understand and categorise national defence industrial bases. In particular, greater appreciation will be paid to niche capabilities on the part of smaller states, how these capabilities are valued by national militaries, and how they may impact military capabilities of national militaries. Consequently, this project will try to rate the potential benefits of “limited autarky,” that is, the ability of countries to gain greater self-reliance in critical areas of armaments production where national defence priorities are the highest, even if overall autarky remains low.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Europe / Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 36 weeks

## New Operating Concepts of Warfare: Potential Lessons from Recent Conflicts

Dr Michael Raska *Research Fellow*

“This project will focus on case studies of recent conflicts and how they might be precursors to new and disruptive operating concepts of warfare, including hybrid and information warfare.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / MENA / Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 32 weeks

## Rise of Support for ISIS in Indonesia: Examining Indonesia’s Counter-Terror- ism Approach

Mr Adri Wanto *Associate Research Fellow*

“Indonesia anti-terrorism agencies currently have focused their attention on the rise of support for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in the country. Some argued that Indonesia should adopt Singapore and Malaysia’s Internal Security Act (ISA) law where ISIS supporters can be charged and detained upon their departure to the combat zone. This is a type of knee-jerk reaction and imprudent in decision-making process by neglecting ontology and epistemology approach to understand the existing of ISIS in the country. We have to realise that ISIS is an organisation built on the foundation of the Islamist’s narrow and dogmatic interpretation of Islam that Indonesia’s government allowed to be developed at the cognitive level of Muslim people in the country for decades. There is a need to build a new approach by integrating ontology, epistemology, and sociology for deeper understanding of the existing of ISIS in Indonesia.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / International Politics and Security / Maritime Security  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 12 weeks

## The Arctic Region as a New Military Domain

Mr Richard A. Bitzinger *Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Military Transformations Programme*

“This project will focus on how the Arctic may become a new axis of movement that could potentially be exploited for military purposes, particularly by Russia and the United States. Special attention will be paid to regional military developments in this area, potential hostilities involving the region, and implications for Singapore and its sea trade routes.”

*theme* International Politics and Security / Non-Traditional Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Europe / Global  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 36 weeks

## The Future of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)

Dr Bhubhindar Singh *Associate Professor and Coordinator of Multilateralism and Regionalism Programme*

Dr Tan See Seng *Associate Professor and Deputy Director of Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies*

Mr Benjamin Ho *Associate Research Fellow*

Ms Sarah Teo *Associate Research Fellow*

“Five years after the establishment of the ADMM-Plus, how has defence cooperation among regional countries evolved, and where is it going? This two-year project aims to conduct an in-depth investigation into the views of the ASEAN countries and dialogue partners regarding the ADMM-Plus. Four broad questions guide the research: (i) What is the role of the ADMM-Plus amidst geostrategic trends in the region?; (ii) How have the countries' views of the ADMM-Plus evolved since its inception?; (iii) What are the challenges facing cooperation in the ADMM-Plus?; and (iv) What is the future direction of defence cooperation in the region?”

*theme* International Politics and Security /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism

*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN

*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 104 weeks

## The Russian Defence Industry and Asian Military Modernisation

Mr Richard A. Bitzinger *Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Military Transformations Programme*

“This project will assess the importance of Russian military equipment and Russian defence-technological assistance when it comes to Asia Pacific military modernisation. It will address the current state of the Russian arms industry, critical dependencies of this industry on arms exports, and the subsequent importance of the Asia Pacific arms market to the Russian defence industry.”

*theme* International Politics and Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Europe  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 40 weeks

## Islamic Civil Society Groups: Impact on UMNO and PAS

Dr Mohamed Nawab Mohamed Osman *Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Malaysia Programme*

“The paper will examine new Islamic religious movements in Malaysia and their influence in UMNO and PAS. These movements will include movements that are influenced by Islamic orientations such as Salafism and Muslim Brotherhood. The paper will analyse the implications of these groups in shaping the policies of both political parties.”

*theme* Contemporary Islam  
*region* Malaysia  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 02/04/2015

Duration: 28 weeks

## Singapore-Malaysia Relations: 50 Years of Co-existence, Contentions, and Cooperation

Mr David Han *Research Analyst*

“This paper seeks to conduct a reappraisal of Singapore-Malaysia relations for the past 50 years. This study will examine the evolution of bilateral ties and the key factors that under girds the relations of both countries. In addition, the research will analyse Singapore-Malaysia relations in the wider context of Southeast Asia and Asia Pacific region. It will also assess the future prospects and challenges for Singapore-Malaysia ties.”

*theme* Country Studies and Foreign Policy  
*region* Singapore and Malaysia  
*entity* IDSS

Start : 02/04/2015

Duration: 28 weeks

**International Centre for  
Political Violence and  
Terrorism Research (ICPVTR)**



## On Violence, An Edited Volume

Dr Irm Haleem *Assistant Professor and Manager (Research & Publications)*

“The contributors of this volume shall analyse violence from various perspectives: theological; philosophical; temporal; and deconstructive. The introduction to the volume shall be written by me and shall comprise a theoretical, conceptual and philosophical broad brush stroke of the propensity of violence in our histories and our present.”

*theme* Terrorism Studies  
*region* Global  
*entity* ICPVTR

Start : 01/05/2014

Duration: 56 weeks

## A Conceptual Analysis of Martyrdom

Dr Irm Haleem *Assistant Professor and Manager (Research & Publications)*

“The study analyses notions of death and existence in the glorification and romanticisation of martyrdom through drawing upon Jewish, Christian and Islamic martrologies. The project does not aim a theological study but a conceptual study of the phenomena of martyrdom. This analysis is intended to shed light on the popularity and surge in the radical Islamist ‘suicide missions’ as well as to bring to light deconstructive notions of death and existence that play, and have played such a central role in the challenging of the fear of death.”

*theme* Terrorism Studies  
*region* Global  
*entity* ICPVTR

Start : 01/11/2014

Duration: 28 weeks

## Book Chapter on (the History of) Terrorism and Insurgency in Sri Lanka

Ms Iromi Dharmawardhane *Senior Analyst*

“A part of the book project Terrorism in the Asia Pacific, which assesses the history of the and present terrorist threat in the region, the chapter on Sri Lanka studies the origins and development of threat groups in Sri Lanka, the primary threat group being the militant ethno-nationalist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which was formed in 1976 and militarily defeated in 2009. The chapter also studies the other group of concern in Sri Lanka’s post-Independence history, the militant communist Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), which was founded in 1965 and defeated in 1989.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Country and Region Studies / Terrorism Studies  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / South Asia  
*entity* ICPVTR

Start : 01/12/2014

Duration: 24 weeks

## Book Chapter on Rising Central Asian Militancy in Syria and Iraq

Mr Nodirbek Soliev *Senior Analyst*

“This chapter is part of a book project that seeks to assess the emerging global threats from transnational terrorism and militancy in the Middle East and to provide diverse perspectives from different regions. The chapter on “Rising Central Asian Militancy in Syria and Iraq” provides strategic insights and Central Asian perspective on non-traditional transnational threats emerging from the Middle East to national and regional security in Central Asia. The author explains the trend of growing involvement of Central Asians in the armed conflict in Syria and Iraq; identifies key Central Asian combat units fighting there and discerns their intentions, capabilities and opportunities to strike. He also highlights a short-, mid- and long-term assessment of the potential implications of the threat on the security of countries in the region namely – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and also provides recommendations to effectively mitigate the threat.”

*theme* Conflict and Stability / Terrorism Studies  
*region* Central Asia / Middle East and North Africa (MENA)  
*entity* ICPVTR

Start : 02/01/2015

Duration: 18 weeks

## Book Chapter on Post-war Reconciliation in Sri Lanka

Ms Iromi Dharmawardhane *Senior Analyst*

“The forthcoming edited volume, Reconciliation in the Asia-Pacific, seeks to expand knowledge and understanding of the social and political processes of reconciliation from the region. The chapter on Sri Lanka studies the country’s clear triumphs as well as areas of neglect in its post-war reconciliation process since the defeat of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), one of the world’s most ruthless terrorist organisations, in May 2009.”

*theme* Conflict and Stability / Terrorism Studies  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / South Asia  
*entity* ICPVTR

Start : 01/11/2014

Duration: 28 weeks

## Book Chapter on Maldivian Fighters in the Syrian Conflict

Ms Iromi Dharmawardhane *Senior Analyst*

“A part of a book project on the foreign fighter presence in the ongoing Syrian conflict, the chapter on Maldivians in Syria studies the migration of Maldivian fighters to Syria and their contribution to the conflict and participation in terrorist activities, the backgrounds and motivations of the fighters and the threat of returnees.”

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability / Country and Region Studies / International Politics and Security / Terrorism Studies  
*region* South Asia / Middle East and North Africa (MENA)  
*entity* ICPVTR

Start : 20/04/2015

Duration: 16 weeks

**Centre of Excellence for  
National Security (CENS)**



## Radicalisation in the Philippines: Convergence of Interests?

Mr Joseph Franco *Associate Research Fellow*

“This study shall focus on detained terrorist suspects belonging to groups operating in the Southern Philippines. Prisons are often overlooked as important sites for terrorist radicalisation and de-radicalisation, which can yield practical policy initiatives. This research project complements the previous and ongoing CENS research on the changing motivations and operational activities of terrorist organisations in Southeast Asia.”

*theme* Conflict and Stability / Terrorism Studies /  
Singapore and Homeland Security /  
Religion in Contemporary Society  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* CENS

Start : 13/03/2014

Duration: 60 weeks

## Making and Breaking Social Resilience: Bridging Theory and Practice (Edited Book)

Ms Nur Diyanah Anwar *Research Analyst*

“Making and Breaking Social Resilience: Bridging Theory and Practice aims to illustrate theoretically and empirically the following:  
(i) how social resilience may be conceptualised;  
(ii) how social resilience may be operationalised;  
(iii) how social resilience may be measured;  
(iv) the best practices and tools – qualitative and/or quantitative – that academics and policy-makers use to understand and explain social resilience better for the best policy outcomes;  
(v) how social resilience policy outcomes may be measured and evaluated; and  
(vi) what can be done to close the gaps between academic research outputs and policy outcomes. Chapters included would also show how various themes and issues eminent in the society do affect social resilience, and how societies and the agents involved can build its resilience capacity over time.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
Singapore and Homeland Security /  
Religion in Contemporary Society  
*region* Global  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/08/2014

Duration: 52 weeks

## Cultural Fault Lines and Singapore (Policy Report)

Dr Norman Vasu *Senior Fellow and Deputy Head of Centre of Excellence for National Security*  
Ms Yeap Su Yin *Associate Research Fellow*  
Ms Nur Diyanah Anwar *Research Analyst*

“As society in Singapore grows increasingly diverse, societal fault-lines are no longer anchored primarily to traditional differences based on race and religion. Contemporary society’s multifaceted identities and affiliations are altering the cultural context of Singapore, presenting potential sites of contestation based on culture writ large. This policy paper discusses (1) the role of culture in creating societal disjunction; (2) offers a cartography of a new culture war in Singapore in various spheres of modern life such as economics, education and sports; and (3) offers policy options on how these new cultural differences may be attended to.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
Singapore and Homeland Security /  
Religion in Contemporary Society  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/03/2015

Duration: 44 weeks

## Nexus Between Religion and the State: A Comparative Study

Dr Norman Vasu *Senior Fellow and Deputy Head of Centre of Excellence for National Security*  
Ms Priscilla Cabuyao *Senior Analyst*

“This report is a comparative study on different national responses at an institutional level to competing religious claims found in states with a Westminster model of governance such as Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom. The report will highlight how solutions to competing claims found at the institutional level often have unintended knock-on effects and will conclude with possible lessons for Singapore.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
Religion in Contemporary Society  
*region* Americas / Asia Pacific / Europe / Southeast Asia  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/03/2015

Duration: 20 weeks

## Singaporean Youth and Multiculturalism – Experiential and Aspirational Aspects of Multiculturalism in Singapore (Qualitative Survey)

Dr Norman Vasu *Senior Fellow and Deputy Head of Centre of Excellence for National Security*  
Ms Yeap Su Yin *Associate Research Fellow*  
Ms Nur Diyanah Anwar *Research Analyst*

“The ability to shape and live within a multicultural society remains the bedrock of social order and harmony in Singapore. A particular form of multiculturalism has taken root where difference is understood to be represented through a four-way classification of race (CMIO). This approach to managing communal difference has been employed to maintain civility and harmony, carrying the country forward from the racial riots in the 1950s and 60s through to today’s multi-variegated security threats.

The basis of multiculturalism in Singapore is however very much dependant on the acceptance and practice of this CMIO representation by its people, a representation which appears to be evolving as the country undergoes rapid demographic changes. This is especially evident in the past decade through large-scale immigration as well as - from increasing numbers of interracial and international marriages – the changing character of the Singaporean population itself.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
Singapore and Homeland Security  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/03/2015

Duration: 44 weeks

## The Integration of Immigrants

Dr Norman Vasu *Senior Fellow and Deputy Head of Centre of Excellence for National Security*  
Ms Priscilla Cabuyao *Senior Analyst*

“Different states have largely different understandings of what integration means as well as the types of immigrants they are dealing with and, as such, this has a knock-on effect on the policies they have in place. For example, see Migrant Integration Policy Index’s (MIPEX: [www.mipex.eu](http://www.mipex.eu)) conception versus Yann Algan, Camille Landis and Claudia Senik. (2012). ‘Cultural Integration in France’, Cultural Integration of Migrants in Europe, Yann Algan, Alberto Bisin, Alan Manning, and Thierry Verdier (eds.), Oxford: Oxford University Press versus the California Immigrant Integration Scorecard that comes out of USC ([http://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/731/docs/California\\_Immigrant\\_Integration\\_Scorecard\\_web.pdf](http://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/731/docs/California_Immigrant_Integration_Scorecard_web.pdf)). This comparative study will be a report on the different understandings of integration of various immigrant receiving developed states.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies  
*region* Americas / Asia Pacific / Europe  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/03/2015

Duration: 44 weeks

## Singapore's National Narrative and the Function Conundrum

Ms Priscilla Cabuyao *Senior Analyst*

“This paper aims to explain how Singapore’s national history, nicknamed the ‘Singapore Story’, uses the storyline of struggle and success to provide the nation a collective memory. Arguably, the myth of the Singapore Story has successfully become a societal belief, and has been effective in performing the four functions of societal beliefs formulated by Daniel Bar-Tal (2000): (1) epistemic function, (2) social identity function, (3) preservation function, and (4) action guidance function. This paper seeks to argue that Singapore’s narrative of struggle and success appears to be very effective in performing the social identity function (2), however, there is a possibility that this could threaten desired outcomes of the preservation function (3) and action guidance function (4) when it comes to the government’s immigration policies.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies  
*region* Southeast Asia  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/04/2015

Duration: 40 weeks

## Studying Terrorism: Research Methodology

Mr Romain Quivooij *Associate Research Fellow*

“Studying Terrorism: Research Methodology ” aims to address the following questions:

- I. Field research: Are different geographical areas faced with the same challenges?
- II. Online radicalisation research: Should the study of online audiences be prioritised over the analysis of digital content?
- III. Theoretical and empirical methods: How does the combination of these techniques contribute to more informed and responsive policies?
- IV. Measuring and assessing the effectiveness of terrorism and counter-terrorism: In what ways could we respond to the core need for evaluation?
- V. Promising perspectives: What is the potential of new research methodologies?”

*theme* Terrorism Studies  
*region* Global  
*entity* CENS

Start : 01/05/15

Duration: 28 weeks

**Centre for Non-Traditional  
Security Studies (NTS)**



## Food Security Research Programme Phase II: Food Security and Climate Change: Regional Dynamics and Implications for Singapore

Prof Paul Teng *Adjunct Senior Fellow*  
Dr Jonatan Lassa *Research Fellow*  
Dr Tamara Nair *Research Fellow*  
Ms Goh Tian *Associate Research Fellow*  
Mr Jose Ma. Luis P. Montesciaros *Associate Research Fellow*  
Mr Maxim Shrestha *Associate Research Fellow*

“The research consists of three separate but interlinked studies. The first study aims to identify the downscaled impacts of climate change on the supply of key food commodities in key production regions (in Asia, North and South America and Australia) and identify policy implications and measures required to safeguard food security in Singapore and Southeast Asia. The second study looks at stocks and stockpiling practices and mechanisms in the ASEAN region (plus India, China, Japan) and the impacts of such policies on food security and international trade of food commodities. The final study aims to develop a dynamic systems model that will allow evaluation of Singapore’s current strategies and policies to ensure sufficient food, and allow suggestions for new strategies in response to anticipated changes in the internal and external food security ecosystem. Together these projects aim to understand specific drivers of change in selected food production regions and its implications for Singapore and the region.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies / International Political Economy / Non-Traditional Security / Regionalism and Multilateralism / Singapore and Homeland Security  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / South Asia / Southeast Asia and ASEAN / North and South America  
*entity* NTS

Start : 01/06/2013

Duration: 128 Weeks

## ASEAN-Canada Joint Research Partnership

Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony *Associate Professor and Head of Centre for NTS Studies*  
Dr J. Jackson Ewing *Adjunct Fellow*  
Ms Margareth Sembiring *Research Analyst*  
Mr Quak Swee Seng *Programme Manager*

“This project manages the research projects of 11 Junior ASEAN Fellows throughout Southeast Asia. It is made possible through funding from the IDRC in Canada, and works in conjunction with the IDRC and the University of British Columbia. The project’s research supervisor Dr Ewing helps the Fellows with research design and will ultimately review the papers that they produce.”

*theme* General /Country and Region Studies / Non-Traditional Security  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* RSIS / NTS

Start : 15/02/2014

Duration: 52 weeks

## From Human Security to Non-Traditional Security: Concepts, Issues and Cases

Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony *Associate Professor and Head of Centre for NTS Studies*  
Prof Paul Teng *Adjunct Senior Fellow*  
Dr Alistair Cook *Research Fellow*  
Mr Julius Cesar I. Trajano *Senior Analyst*

“This book is framed as a modular textbook that could be used by instructors to propose, design and teach courses on non-traditional security (NTS), international relations and security studies. The proposed textbook, by focusing exclusively on NTS, aims to provide students with a broader and deeper understanding of the concepts and applications underpinning the study of NTS. This textbook will be modelled along the lines of Alan Collins’ Contemporary Security Studies. The Collins volume, while valuable, covers both traditional and non-traditional security concepts and issues. Most research and texts on NTS have focused on the debates that have swirled around NTS as a security concept; or they have focused on specific threats, for example, threats related to conflicts (genocide, migration), environmental concerns (climate change, pollution), health emergencies (pandemics) and disasters. This textbook aims to bring together these different strands.”

*theme* Non-Traditional Security  
*region* Global  
*entity* NTS

Start : 01/03/2014

Duration: 104 weeks

## Research Study on Environmental Issues in ASEAN

Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony *Associate Professor and Head of Centre for NTS Studies*

Dr Raman Letchumanan *Senior Fellow*

Ms Goh Tian *Associate Research Fellow*

Ms Margareth Sembiring *Research Analyst*

“This project focuses on three thematic areas related to the ASEAN environment agenda, (i) assessment of the effectiveness of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, (ii) review of ASEAN Environmental Cooperation and the Convergence/Divergence of Global and Regional Environmental Agendas, and (iii) ASEAN Regional Work Programme on Climate Change Adaptation. The study takes stock of ASEAN’s progress on environmental issues and analyses the effectiveness of regional frameworks, platforms, processes and mechanisms in ASEAN in facilitating regional cooperation and resolving transboundary environmental issues. It also examines national policies and actions in relation to the broader regional environmental goals. The project aims to provide policy recommendations to further promote regional cooperation amongst various stakeholders and contribute towards the formulation of the post-2015 ASEAN Agenda.”

*theme* Non-Traditional Security / Regionalism and Multilateralism

*region* ASEAN

*entity* NTS

Start : 01/11/2014

Duration: 78 weeks

## Adelphi-RSIS NTS Project on Cities and Climate Diplomacy in the Asia Pacific

Dr Jonatan Lassa *Research Fellow*

Mr Maxim Shrestha *Associate Research Fellow*

Ms Gianna Gayle Herrera Amul *Senior Analyst*

“The project aims to explore and examine how cities are contributing to climate diplomacy and whether cities in the Asia Pacific are changing the game of how diplomacy is conducted and transforming national and other cities’ climate policy approaches. It offers a framework for analysing existing horizontal and vertical climate diplomacy mechanisms for cities. The paper aims to look into three cases. It looks into the case of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, the largest and one of the oldest operating networks of cities and local governments globally. It examines how cities are practicing climate diplomacy within and through ICLEI. It then explores the practice of climate diplomacy of two cities in Southeast Asia – Bangkok and Singapore, highlighting the major actors and institutions in both cities that are practicing climate diplomacy. It examines Bangkok’s climate diplomacy profile of major actors and institutions and explores Singapore’s climate diplomacy as a city-state.”

*theme* Non-Traditional Security

*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN

*entity* NTS

Start : 15/01/2015

Duration: 24 weeks

## Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief in the Asia Pacific

Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony *Associate Professor and Head of Centre for NTS Studies*

Dr Alistair Cook *Research Fellow*

Mr Julius Cesar I. Trajano *Senior Analyst*

“The HADR programme (1) investigates the future HADR Landscape in the Asia Pacific; (2) surveys past and present HADR initiatives and communities at risk in the Asia Pacific; (3) establish a HADR database that will capture lessons learnt and reflections on HADR operations; (4) assess humanitarian effectiveness: how we can better respond to disaster and conflict; and (5) evaluate the use of humanitarian technology. Activities include (1).ICRC Track 2 meeting (28 Nov 2014), and (2) World Humanitarian Summit Global Forum on Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination (13-15 April 2015)”

*theme* Conflict and Stability / Non-Traditional Security / Regionalism and Multilateralism / International Politics & Security

*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / South Asia / Southeast Asia and ASEAN / Global

*entity* NTS / RSIS

Start : 01/4/2015

Duration: 156 weeks

**Centre for Multilateralism Studies  
(CMS)**



## India's Economic Linkages with the West and the Rest of the World

Dr Pradumna Bickram Rana *Associate Professor and Coordinator of IPE Programme*

Dr Chia Wai Mun *Assistant Professor, Division of Economics, HSS, NTU*

Mr Don Rodney Ong Junio *Associate Research Fellow*

“This project looks at India’s economic integration with Europe, the United States and the rest of the world using various measures including trade, investment, and capital flows. India’s increasing participation in managing global economic governance is also examined.

Update: The project is targeted to be completed by Q2 2015 with an end view of publishing the report as a working paper and eventually as a book chapter.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
International Political Economy /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism

*region* South Asia / Global

*entity* RSIS / CMS / IPE

Start : 15/10/2014

Duration: 20 Weeks

## The Implications of Political Changes on the Automotive Industry and Other Sectors in the Greater Mekong Sub-region

Dr Kaewkamol Pitakdumrongkit *Assistant Professor*

“This multi-country study looks the effects of political changes in ASEAN countries in shaping the future development of production networks and supply chains of automotive industry, especially in the Greater Mekong sub-region. Much remains unknown about to what degree the political changes affect particular spots in the supply chains. This study aims at enabling businesses to make more accurate decisions on their investment in the region and providing information for the involved governments to adjust their policies to sustain foreign investment in their countries.”

*theme* International Political Economy /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism

*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN

*entity* CMS

Start : 01/11/2014

Duration: 40 weeks

# **International Political Economy (IPE) Programme**



## ASEAN's Long-Term Economic Potential and Vision (Special Issue of Singapore Economic Review and Edited Book)

Dr Pradumna Bickram Rana Associate Professor and Coordinator of IPE Programme

“This project looks at ASEAN's economic potential and vision beyond 2015, specifically five sub topics: (i) strategic issues in ASEAN including long-term aspirations; (ii) modalities for integration; (iii) institutional issues; (iv) progress in key pillars of the AEC; (v) ASEAN centrality and its engagement with the rest of Asia.

Update: A conference was held in mid-November under the theme. Papers submitted for the conference are undergoing peer-review at the moment.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
International Political Economy /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* RSIS / CMS / IPE

Start : 01/03/2014

Duration: 78 Weeks

## Jump-starting South Asia: Round Two of Reforms and Look East Policies (Book)

Dr Pradumna Bickram Rana Associate Professor and Coordinator of IPE Programme  
Dr Chia Wai Mun Assistant Professor, Division of Economics, HSS, NTU

“This book's main focus will be on how South Asian countries can jumpstart their economies through a second round of economic reforms and by linking themselves to production networks in East Asia. This is the first book of its kind bringing in discussions of production networks and supply chain trade (or the so-called 21<sup>st</sup> century trade issues) to South Asia-East Asia economic relations. This book also focuses on infrastructure connectivity issues and, in particular, the revival of land connectivity and ICT development in Asia which were not discussed in earlier studies. It also conducts a perception survey of opinion leaders from both SA and EA to assess the robustness of the findings and recommendations made in various chapters. The book will comprise an introductory chapter and eight main chapters.

Update: Most of the draft chapters are already in. Discussion with the publisher has started.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
International Political Economy /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism  
*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / South Asia /  
Southeast Asia and ASEAN / Global  
*entity* CMS / IPE

Start : 11/08/2014

Duration: 52 weeks

## Electoral Institutions, Particularism, and the Skill-Bias of Trade Protection

Dr Lee Su-Hyun Assistant Professor

“A Single-Author Project: Why do some countries have trade protection biased toward skill-intensive industries than others? While the literature on endogenous protection commonly argues that the skill-bias of trade policy has features of public goods, much previous research does not explain clearly the conditions under which governments maintain higher tariff rates for skill-intensive industries over unskilled-intensive ones. Using time-series cross-section data on 28 industries in 52 democracies, this research argues that the extent to which governments protect skill-intensive industries is explained by the interaction between two factors: first, a country's factor endowments that determine the median voter's sector-specific trade policy preferences; and second, the degree of political particularism that affects the responsiveness of representative policymakers to the rent-seeking behaviour of special interest groups. Preliminary findings were presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Washington D.C., August 28-31, 2014).

Updates: The outcome of this project is now available as a working paper. After revising empirical analysis as suggested by other reviewers, I will submit the final manuscript to Journal of Politics or Review of International Political Economy.”

*theme* General / International Political Economy  
*region* Global  
*entity* RSIS / IPE

Start : 15/09/2014

Duration: 60 weeks

## “IMF = I’M Fired?: IMF Programme Participation and Workers’ Rights”

Dr Lee Su-Hyun *Assistant Professor*

“Co-Authored Project with Professor Byung-Won Woo at Oakland University: How do International Monetary Fund (IMF) programmes and conditions affect labor rights? Critics of the IMF contend that participation in an IMF program me is detrimental to workers’ rights as the IMF tries to impose pro-business labour policies via conditionality. In this paper, we argue that while the IMF might have tried to make IMF programmes more beneficial to workers, those efforts are too little to reverse the overall negative effects on labour rights in both short term and long term. Utilising a labor rights dataset and IMF labor-market conditionality dataset, we demonstrate that IMF programmes with stricter labour-market conditions have more detrimental effects on both de jure labor rights and de facto labor practices.

Our paper will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (San Francisco, 1-4 September, 2015). By the end of 2015, the final manuscript will be submitted to one of the following journals: American Journal of Political Science, International Organization, or International Studies Quarterly.”

*theme* General / International Political Economy  
*region* Global  
*entity* RSIS / IPE

Start : 01/10/2014

Duration: 60 Weeks

## Chinese Outward Investment in Oil and its Economic and Political Impact

Dr Lee Chia-yi *Assistant Professor*

“This project examines how Chinese oil investment affects the economy and the politics of the recipient countries. Differing from existing studies that mainly draw upon case studies, this project uses a large-N, quantitative approach to investigate the effect. Data on Chinese oil investment are collected from CNPC’s (China National Petroleum Corporation) website. Data on economic and political indicators are from publicly available sources. The empirical evidence will be supported with some short case studies. This a journal article project, and may also serve as a book chapter for an ongoing book project.”

*theme* International Political Economy / Energy Security /  
Country and Region Studies  
*region* Global/ Africa / East Asia and Asia Pacific  
*entity* IPE

Start : 01/11/2014

Duration: 52 Weeks

**Studies in Inter-Religious  
Relations in Plural Societies  
(SRP) Programme**



## Idea of Caliphate/Islamic State and Views on Relations with Non-Muslims

Dr Rozlan Giri *Principal Coordinator*

“To seek interpretation, understanding and thoughts that legitimises negative relations, hostility towards non-Muslims and disruption of social harmony/cohesion.”

*theme* Country and Region Studies /  
Religion in Contemporary Society  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* SRP

Start : 01/10/2014

Duration: 36 Weeks

## Survey of *Al-Wala' wal Bara'* (Loyalty and Disavowal) Sentiments within the Muslim Community in Singapore

Dr Mohamed Bin Ali *Assistant Professor*

“The research aims to explore the Islamic doctrine of *Al-Wala' wal Bara'* (WB) within the Muslim community in Singapore. In particular, it aims to discover to what extent the ‘extreme’ manifestations of WB have influenced and penetrated the Muslim community here. Towards this objective, the study will do a survey of specific WB ideas that might have taken root in the Muslim community. The survey will be conducted through analysing these ideas encapsulated in the teachings of Muslim preachers as well as through interviewing key religious elites and leaders.

In the broad sense, this research attempts to study how religious ideas and concepts such as WB are used by Muslims to incite hatred against the non-Muslims, and thus cause disruption to social harmony and cohesion in a multi-religious society.”

*theme* Religion in Contemporary Society  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* SRP

Start : 01/12/2014

Duration: 24 Weeks

**Graduate Programmes  
Office (GPO)**



## **'Booking Southeast Asia: The Development of the Idea of 'Southeast Asia' in 19th century Colonial-Capitalist Discourse' (Amsterdam University Press. AUP)**

Dr Farish A. Noor *Associate Professor and Coordinator of PhD Programme*

"This is a work that focuses on the writings of 19<sup>th</sup> century colonial explorers, administrators and functionaries who colonised and governed Southeast Asia, and in whose writings developed the notion of a region that would later come to be known as Southeast Asia. It argues that there was never a single or consistent notion of Southeast Asia as an ontologically given and particular idea, but rather that the concept of Southeast Asia was put together over time and as a result of the combined efforts of different actors and agents who may or may not have been working towards a singular goal. As a work of deconstructive history, it seeks to demonstrate the constructed nature of Southeast Asia as an idea that was always historically and culturally determined, and never anchored on essentials or universals; and to demonstrate that colonial knowledge was never 'innocent' but rather instrumental in nature and closely linked to the workings of colonial power. The work will be published by Amsterdam University Press (AUP)."

*theme* Country and Region Studies  
*region* Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* GPO

Start : 01/01/2014

Duration: 104 Weeks

## **Southeast Asia and the Cold War: An International History**

Dr Ang Cheng Guan *Associate Professor and Head of Graduate Studies*

"This is the first survey text as well as a state-of-the-field study of the Cold War International History of Southeast Asia. It fills a gaping hole in the historiography of the international history of the Cold War. The book will address all the key and controversial episodes and issues of the Cold War in the region based on a combination of primary and secondary literature, archival sources and the most recent scholarship by both the right and left. The book will interrogate the 'orthodox' (prevailing) narrative and present a fresh interpretation of the period."

*theme* General / Conflict and Stability /  
Country and Region Studies /  
International Politics and Security /  
Regionalism and Multilateralism

*region* East Asia and Asia Pacific / Southeast Asia and ASEAN  
*entity* GPO

Start : 02/01/2014

Duration: 104 Weeks