Dedication

IN MEMORY OF OUR FOUNDING DIRECTOR S. R. NATHAN

Mr S. R. Nathan was conferred an honorary doctorate by the Nanyang Technological University on 6 December 2011.

Mr S. R. Nathan passed away on 22 August 2016. He lived a remarkable 92 years on earth. His contribution to Singapore and its humanity simply speaks for itself.

RSIS owes its successful existence to Mr Nathan's devotion, energy and foresight. The School's intellectual and strategic work has been guided by his vision and values.

The challenge for RSIS is managing the impact of changes in geopolitics, economy and society. Understanding policymaking, and engagement of citizens and institutions were never far from Mr Nathan's mind. His constant reminder to us to “Ponder the Improbable” leaves a deep imprint on the RSIS team as we go about our research and teaching.

RSIS will endeavour to inculcate in the younger generation of students and staff Mr Nathan's penchant for incisive analysis, forward-looking views and strategic networking.

Ambassador Ong Keng Yong
Executive Deputy Chairman, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies
Director, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies
RSIS exists to develop a community of scholars and policy analysts at the forefront of Asia Pacific security studies and international affairs. Its mission is to Ponder the Improbable.
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A Message from the Executive Deputy Chairman

RSIS celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2016. Several activities to commemorate this milestone are recorded in this Review. I am happy to see the strong camaraderie among staff members and their passion to do more for the continued success of RSIS.

Over the years, RSIS has earned a reputation for producing research that is both scholarly and relevant to pressing real-world problems such as homeland security, terrorism, cyber security, food security and climate change. The standing of RSIS as a post-graduate school of international studies in the Nanyang Technological University has been further strengthened by the concentration of expertise and scholars from a wide variety of background and experiences at RSIS.

Going forward, we will continue with what RSIS does best. We will get more value out of RSIS outputs, for example, by exploring more cutting-edge technological platforms to ensure that our research meets just-in-time policy needs. RSIS has played a strategic role in thought leadership in national security and non-traditional security studies. We must endeavour to churn out research that meets the highest international standards of scholarship in global strategic affairs, while at the same time ensure that such outputs continue to be highly sought after by busy policymakers and practitioners.

The challenge will be attracting, retaining and motivating the right type of researchers and teachers at all levels that can function optimally in the dual academic-policy role that RSIS is well known for. To this end, we inaugurated a revised two-track career scheme for RSIS researchers. This provides more clarity and transparency to enable them to decide which track better accommodated their interests and longer-term career aspirations.

In the coming year, RSIS will continue ongoing efforts to build up a strong suite of research programmes in Science, Technology and Security (STS). We will explore with interested stakeholders the possibility of embarking on more STS research while we strengthen RSIS internal mechanisms to better coordinate across various RSIS components dealing with STS issues such cyber-security, nuclear energy and biosecurity.

I wish to conclude by highlighting two notable events that contributed to the impressive perception of RSIS as being at the forefront of global developments and strategic concerns. We delivered the Islam in the Contemporary World as well as the Indian Ocean Conferences. Many well-known speakers from different countries presented their respective perspectives on the issues of the day. The key take-away is more cooperation and partnership with relevant stakeholders to tackle the challenges confronting government and society.

I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to all RSIS staff members and supporters for their tremendous efforts in making 2016 such an impactful and memorable year. We lost the wise counsel of our Founding Director, the late Mr S. R. Nathan but RSIS is on a firm foundation and we intend to secure the School’s ranking position among peers as RSIS powers forward.

Ong Keng Yong  
Executive Deputy Chairman, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies  
Director, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies
A Message from the Dean

RSIS celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2016. It was however, a muted anniversary for us because of the passing of our Founding Director, the late Mr S. R. Nathan. Prior to assuming high office as President of Singapore in September 1999, Mr Nathan served as Director of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, precursor to RSIS, from July 1996 to August 1999. One of his enduring legacies was the launch of a Master of Science programme in 1998 with a modest student body of ten, of whom I was one. Since then, the MSc programme has grown from strength to strength. Having begun with an MSc in Strategic Studies, the programme now encompasses the fields of International Relations, International Political Economy, Asian Studies, and a double-degree with the University of Warwick.

In July 2016, we welcomed the 19th cohort of the RSIS MSc programme, which has an enrolment of 246 students. It comprises 60 per cent international students, a testament to the success of the global brand that RSIS has managed to develop over the years. As in previous years, the students have come from a variety of professional backgrounds. Most are mid-career professionals from the military and public service, but a fair number are from commercial and private sector backgrounds as well. All this has lent a welcome diversity to our graduate programmes, which in turn has enriched the quality of the education experience for our students. The PhD programme has also grown more robust, with a total of 16 students registered last year.

At RSIS, the quality of our teaching is enhanced by the research that our faculty produces. For this reason, my colleagues and I in the School’s senior management have constantly stressed the need for the RSIS faculty and research team members to be productive in terms of research and publications. More senior faculty are also expected to contribute efforts to enhance the School’s standing by way of publications in top-tier journals and presses. The full suite of policy themes that RSIS’ faculty and researchers have pursued has already been highlighted in the Executive Deputy Chairman’s message. In addition to these accomplishments, the faculty and research staff members at RSIS have over the past year also produced several noteworthy academic and scholarly publications in international peer-reviewed journals and major book presses. These include articles in Journal of Strategic Studies, Journal of Conflict Resolution, The Pacific Review, South East Asia Research as well as single-authored books published with Amsterdam University Press and Cambridge University Press.

Looking ahead, RSIS will continue to engage in high-impact policy and academic research. We will work in tandem with our stakeholders to ensure that the research produced is of interest, relevance, and utility to consumers. Over and above that, we will continue to strive to shape policy discussions on regional and global issues where the School has developed a reputation for intellectual and analytical excellence.

Joseph Chinyong Liow
Professor of Comparative and International Politics
Dean, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

RSiS
The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) was officially inaugurated on 1 January 2007. Prior to this, it was known as the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), which was established 10 years earlier, on 30 July 1996, by Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence and now President of the Republic of Singapore. Like its predecessor, RSIS was established as an autonomous entity within Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

The establishment of RSIS was a crowning achievement for IDSS. Besides serving to honour Mr S. Rajaratnam, who was Singapore's first Foreign Minister, the renaming of IDSS reflected the progress of what was originally a modest research institute into a professional graduate school of international affairs. IDSS continues to exist within RSIS as its core component, focusing on security research. Its teaching functions now reside within the School.

RSIS exists to develop a community of scholars and policy analysts at the forefront of Asia Pacific security studies and international affairs. Its motto, as before, is “Ponder the Improbable”. Its research, teaching and networking objectives are aimed at assisting policymakers to develop comprehensive approaches to strategic thinking in areas related to Singapore’s interests.

RSIS is guided by a Board of Governors chaired by Mr Eddie Teo, Chairman of the Public Service Commission. His predecessor, the late Dr Andrew Chew, stepped down from the Board on 31 December 2008, after having served as Chairman since the establishment of IDSS in 1996.

The Founding Director of IDSS was Mr S. R. Nathan, formerly Singapore’s Ambassador to the United States of America, and later Ambassador-at-Large in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr Nathan established the Institute with start-up funds contributed by the government and the Singapore Totalisator Board. He relinquished his post on 17 August 1999 when he became President of the Republic of Singapore and was succeeded by his deputy, Professor Khong Yuen Foong. Mr Nathan rejoined RSIS as a Distinguished Senior Fellow on 1 September 2011 after stepping down as President. He passed away recently on 22 August 2016.

On 1 October 2000, Professor Khong returned to his teaching career at Oxford University. He was succeeded by Ambassador Barry Desker, who was until then Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore Trade Development Board and prior to that, Singapore’s Ambassador to Indonesia. Professor Khong remained affiliated to RSIS as Senior Research Adviser and Professor of International Relations until March 2015.

A change of leadership took place on 3 November 2014 when Ambassador Desker handed over the leadership of RSIS to Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, formerly Singapore’s
High Commissioner to Malaysia. Ambassador Ong took over as the Executive Deputy Chairman (EDC) of RSIS under a new management structure that also retained a deanship for the School. As EDC, Ambassador Ong provides overall leadership and strategic directions in professional, academic and administrative matters. He also manages policy research under RSIS’ role as a think tank. Ambassador Ong is assisted by Professor Joseph Liow, who became Dean of RSIS on the same day that he took office as EDC. Before that, Professor Liow had been serving RSIS as Associate Dean from 2008. As Dean, he is the chief academic officer of RSIS, with responsibilities for the conduct, coordination and quality of the School’s academic programmes. He also leads the School’s academic development and assists the EDC in the overall management of RSIS.

RSIS comprises five research centres and two research programmes. IDSS conducts research on the sources of strategic stability and security in the Asia Pacific and the means to ensure a stable and secure region. Its research is organised into three clusters made up of ten programmes, namely, Regional Security Architecture Programme, China Programme, South Asia Programme, United States Programme, Indonesia Programme, Malaysia Programme, Maritime Security Programme, Military Transformations Programme, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme, and Military Studies Programme.

The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR), which was inaugurated on 20 February 2004, is a leading centre for counter-terrorism and rehabilitation. It produces research and analyses, threat assessments, and policy briefs on developments in terrorism in countries.
and regions around the world. The centre also provides training for officials engaged in combating terrorism and other forms of political violence. It also advises governments on how best to manage the threat. Research at ICPVTR is presently organised under four categories: Databases projects, Capacity Building projects, Strategic Counter-Terrorism projects and Counter-Terrorism Security projects.

The Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS) was inaugurated on 29 March 2006 and now hosts programmes in Radicalisation, Social Resilience, Homeland Defence and Cybersecurity. The Cybersecurity Programme is relatively new, having become a full-fledged programme in October 2015. The research focus of the programme includes issues such as the nexus between cybersecurity and cybercrime, the positive and negative aspects of public-private collaboration in the cyber-sphere, and the possibilities for greater international cooperation to enhance cybersecurity. It also deals with security issues related to digital technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other aspects of the fourth industrial revolution.

The Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) was launched on 6 May 2008. It conducts research aimed at furthering awareness of and building capacity to address NTS issues and challenges. NTS issues such as climate change, resource scarcity, infectious diseases, natural disasters, irregular migration, food shortages, people smuggling, drug trafficking and transnational crime arise from non-military sources and pose challenges to security of peoples and states. The NTS Centre addresses these issues under the following programmes: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief; Food, Health and Energy Security; Climate Change, Environmental Resilience and Sustainable Development; and Peace, Human Security and Development. It provides a networking platform for NTS research institutions in the Asia Pacific through the NTS-Asia Consortium.

RSIS’ Centre for Multilateralism Studies (CMS), which was launched on 14 October 2011, undertakes research on economic, diplomatic and security multilateralism. It also conducts courses and workshops to train regional government officials on trade and negotiations, a role previously performed by the School’s erstwhile Temasek Foundation Centre for Trade & Negotiations (TFCTN). These courses and workshops are organised under CMS’ new Temasek Foundation Series on Trade & Negotiations.

On 9 June 2014, RSIS inaugurated the Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies (SRP) programme, which studies models of how communities adapt their religious life and evolve their religious doctrines to cope with the realities of living in plural societies. It also studies and develops expertise in the conduct of inter-religious relations, including conflict resolution mechanisms and models that facilitate de-radicalisation, build peace and strengthen social ties.

More recently, a new National Security Studies Programme (NSSP) was launched in April 2016, which aims at fostering and enhancing intellectual capital pertaining to the milestone episodes in Singapore’s diplomatic and security history. In particular, the NSSP seeks to promote broad-ranging research into the “Singapore model” for addressing national security challenges and other insights pertinent for small, globalised, multi-ethnic city-states.

Research findings of RSIS’ centres and programmes are shared with those involved in security, diplomacy and business through articles in refereed journals and the School’s monograph series, working papers, policy papers, commentaries and other publications. RSIS focuses on accessible analyses for the policy and business communities, in addition to publications for an academic audience.

RSIS runs several well-regarded conference series on security, including the annual Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO), the annual Asia Pacific Programme for Senior
National Security Officers (APPSNO) and the biennial International Maritime Security Conference organised jointly with the Republic of Singapore Navy.

RSIS continues to serve as the Secretariat for the Singapore National Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and, in this role, contributes actively to Track 2 discussions on regional security. RSIS is also the Secretariat for the Track 2 Network of ASEAN Defence and Security Institutions (NADI). NADI serves as a forum for ASEAN think tanks and research institutions to network and build confidence as well as discuss and provide timely recommendations to the ADMM on issues of security cooperation.

In the area of graduate education, RSIS’ Master of Science programmes—in Strategic Studies, International Relations, International Political Economy and Asian Studies—were inaugurated in 1998, 2002, 2004 and 2008, respectively. They cater to the development of defence and security professionals, civil servants and others with an interest in these fields. The faculty comprises RSIS staff members as well as international and local specialists in the fields of strategic studies, terrorism studies, international relations, political economy, foreign-policy analysis, defence technology, history and law. To widen the choice for students, a two-year, double-degree programme, the NTU-Warwick Double Masters Programme, was introduced in 2010. Students in this programme spend their first year at the University of Warwick and the second year at RSIS.

RSIS has benefited from IDSS’ earlier association with King’s College, London, and, in particular, the assistance of Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, its Professor of War Studies. Professor Freedman was IDSS’ Consultant and External Examiner until June 2003, during which time he provided sterling service to the Institute and its Masters programmes. Professor Stephen Walt, the Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, where he served as
Academic Dean from 2002 to 2006, took over from Professor Freedman as RSIS’ Consultant. Professor Walt relinquished this appointment on 30 June 2012. Professor Sir Steve Smith, Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive of the University of Exeter, took over as External Examiner and served in this capacity until 20 September 2011, when the position was discontinued following an NTU ruling.

The RSIS graduate programmes have drawn students from many countries around the world. To date, students have come from 66 countries, including Singapore:

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The success of RSIS’ Master of Science programmes is reflected in the increasing student enrolment. From only 10 students in 1998—all Singaporeans—the student enrolment in Academic Year 2016/2017 is 246. RSIS’ role in teaching was enhanced when IDSS accepted its first doctoral student in 2003/2004. Since then, 16 students have graduated from the doctoral programme. RSIS presently has 16 doctoral students.

RSIS faculty members teach defence and security policy, geopolitics and regional security, and military history in various officer courses at the SAFTI Military Institute. These contractual obligations come under the rubric of the SAF-NTU Strategic Partnership, which came into being in 2008. That year, faculty involvement in SAFTI’s Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College reached a new milestone when courses conducted there became fully accredited towards NTU’s Master of Science programmes conducted by the College of Engineering, Nanyang Business School and RSIS. RSIS’ ICPVTR has also conducted courses on terrorism for officers of the ministries of Defence and Home Affairs.

RSIS hosts eminent scholars and practitioners under its Visiting Programme. The presence of such luminaries enriches the intellectual milieu of RSIS and provides many opportunities through informal seminars for faculty and research staff to acquire additional perspectives and insights. Similarly, faculty and research staff as well as RSIS students and the general public benefit from the talks given by these visitors under the School’s lecture and seminar programmes.

RSIS has a growing number of sponsors. Those that have contributed grants to support the activities of the School and its predecessor, or to their respective endowment funds, include the following:

Singapore Totalisator Board
MacArthur Foundation
Temasek Foundation
Mr Peter Lim
Ngee Ann Kongsi
Temasek Holdings (Private) Limited
International Development Research Centre
National Trades Union Congress

Lee Foundation
Dr Lee Seng Tee
Ford Foundation
Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd
Brenchurst Foundation
Singapore Press Holdings Foundation
Sasakawa Peace Foundation
Ancora Foundation
RSIS is a non-profit organisation. Besides the sponsors listed above, other major sources of funding include the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Security Coordination Secretariat, which utilise RSIS’ teaching and consultancy services. Earnings from the IDSS Endowment Fund are used to support the Institute's programmes.

When RSIS was inaugurated on 1 January 2007, a campaign to raise $40 million (including dollar-for-dollar matching grants from the Singapore Government) for the RSIS Endowment Fund was initiated. Led by Mr S. Chandra Das, Chairman of NUR Investment and Trading Pte Ltd and formerly Singapore's non-resident Ambassador to Turkey, the Fund Raising Campaign Committee achieved its target and the RSIS Endowment Fund was launched on 31 March 2008. Income from this endowment is used to engage world-class faculty and research staff and to award scholarships to talented students. This provides students with a wider choice of courses, higher levels of excellence in teaching and increased research support.

RSIS endowment funds include provisions for four professorships. These professorships were established from donations together with matching grants from the government. They are the S. Rajaratnam Professorship in Strategic Studies, the NTUC Professorship in International Economic Relations, the Ngee Ann Kongsi Professorship in International Relations, and the Peter Lim Professorship in Peace Studies. These endowed professorships enable RSIS to engage renowned scholars in their respective fields to teach and to research at the School, besides sharing their knowledge with the wider community through public lectures and seminars.

As of 1 January 2017, RSIS employs 204 management, faculty, research and support staff.
RSIS is guided by a Board of Governors appointed by the Nanyang Technological University Board of Trustees. The Board of Governors comprises members representing the University and organisations and international bodies concerned with defence, strategic studies, diplomacy and international affairs.

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Chairman, Public Service Commission

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Executive Deputy Chairman, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, and Director, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies

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A REVIEW OF 2016

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Manager, Research & Publications
International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research

Mr Han Fook Kwang
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Professor Joseph Liow (centre), Dean of RSIS, with faculty members at the 13th RSIS Alumni and 20th
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HIGHLIGHTS
2ND SRP DISTINGUISHED LECTURE AND SYMPOSIUM 2016

The Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies (SRP) Programme organised the 2nd SRP Distinguished Lecture and Symposium on 19–20 January 2016 at Marina Mandarin Singapore. Titled “Common Space: Can Religion Contribute to It?”, the event was attended by over 500 participants from the public, community, religious and youth groups. The Guest-of-Honour, Mr K. Shanmugam, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, spoke about how major religions played a central role in shaping societies in a fundamental and positive way. Professor Emeritus Julius Lipner, University of Cambridge and Visiting Professor at the SRP Programme, delivered the Distinguished Lecture, “Religion, Common Space and the Public Good: How They Can Work Together in Plural Societies”.

RSIS STRENGTHENS TIES WITH SOUTH KOREAN UNIVERSITIES AND THINK TANKS

To broaden RSIS’ network with regional universities and think tanks, Ambassador Ong Keng Yong led a delegation to Seoul, South Korea, on 25–26 January 2016. The delegation visited five institutions, namely: (i) Asan Institute for Policy Studies; (ii) East Asia Institute (EAI); (iii) Korea University (KU); (iv) Korea National Defense University (KNU); and (v) Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU). During the trip, student and faculty exchanges were discussed, as well as the possibilities of establishing double Masters programmes. RSIS also inked a Memorandum of Understanding with KNU, enabling the two institutions to cooperate in security and defence research, as well as education.
Sixteen of its twenty founding members gathered on 22 February 2016 at Grand Park City Hall, Singapore to relaunch the NTS-Asia Consortium. The event was also attended by 50 other representatives from non-traditional security (NTS)-related institutions and research centres across Asia. Established in 2007, the NTS-Asia Consortium facilitates networking among NTS scholars and analysts in the region, builds regional capacity for NTS research, and mainstreams and advances NTS studies in Asia. The relaunch of NTS-Asia was accompanied by the unveiling of the revamped NTS-Asia website. Synchronised with social media platforms, the website aims at providing an effective and efficient way of increasing outreach and will allow consortium members to better share NTS resources.

CENS 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
More than 80 present and former staff of RSIS’ Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS) and the National Security Coordination Secretariat (NSCS) gathered on 1 April 2016 at the National Gallery to mark the 10th anniversary of the centre. Among those who spoke at the dinner were Mr Peter Ho, former Permanent Secretary for National Security and Intelligence Coordination; Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman of RSIS; and Dr Shashi Jayakumar, Head of CENS. All three shared their thoughts on CENS’ evolution through the years, and expressed their appreciation for the support given by its collaborators and stakeholders.

To mark the anniversary in another way, the book *State, Society and National Security: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century*, edited by Dr Shashi Jayakumar, was launched during the CENS’ Asia Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers on 13 April 2016.
10TH ASIA PACIFIC PROGRAMME FOR SENIOR NATIONAL SECURITY OFFICERS

The 10th Asia Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers (APPSNO) was held at Marina Mandarin Singapore from 11–15 April 2016. Organised by CENS with the support of NSCS, the theme of this flagship event was “National Security Revisited”. APPSNO 2016 brought together more than 70 participants from over 25 countries to discuss the challenges of national security. Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs, delivered the opening address. Speakers from several countries, including Australia, Japan, Bahrain, Singapore, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, shared their expertise and experience on various topics, including technology and security, strategic communications, trends and challenges of terrorism, as well as future crises.

RSIS CONFERENCE ON “ISLAM IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD”

RSIS organised a conference on “Islam in the Contemporary World” at NTU’s Nanyang Executive Centre on 28 April 2016. The first event in Singapore to offer a comprehensive appraisal of the intellectual trajectories of Islam, the conference also offered new perspectives on their application in Muslim communities. Comprising three panels, the conference addressed the heritage of Islamic intellectualism, political Islam and violence in the Muslim world, as well as the prospects of religiosity and religious pluralism in the modern world. Minister for Communications and Information Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, who is also Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs, delivered the opening address, emphasising the current state of social transformation in Muslim societies worldwide. Dr Ali Allawi, former Iraqi Minister of Defence and Minister of Finance, gave the keynote address.
The seventh edition of the RSIS-WTO Parliamentarian Workshop was held from 17 to 19 May at the Marina Mandarin Singapore. Co-organised by the Centre for Multilateralism Studies (CMS) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), the three-day workshop was co-sponsored by the Temasek Foundation under the auspices of the Temasek Foundation Series on Trade & Negotiations, and the WTO Secretariat. The workshop drew more than 150 participants, with Madam Halimah Yacob, the Speaker of Parliament, giving the opening address. She spoke about the importance of the multilateral trading system to Singapore and ASEAN, and emphasised that greater levels of world trade can help the region to develop and become more competitive in the global economy.

RSIS-WTO PARLIAMENTARIAN WORKSHOP 2016

CHINA-SINGAPORE-U.S. TRILATERAL AND CAP-CICIR-RSIS ROUNDTABLE

RSIS, in partnership with the Center for American Progress (CAP) and the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR), convened two back-to-back meetings, the China-Singapore-U.S. Trilateral and the CAP-CICIR-RSIS Roundtable on 26 and 27 May, respectively. The CAP delegation was led by Vikram Singh, Vice President for National Security and International Policy at CAP, while the CICIR delegation was led by Dr Yuan Peng, Vice President of CICIR. The purpose of the meetings was to solicit expert perspectives from the ASEAN countries, including Singapore, on a CAP-CICIR study on the prospects for enhancing China-U.S. cooperation and mitigating the risks arising from competition between the two major powers. The meetings engendered lively discussions that were extremely textured and insightful. The completed report has been disseminated to the highest policy circles in both China and the U.S.
RSIS DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC LECTURE BY SENATOR JOHN McCAIN

The Honourable John McCain, United States Senator for Arizona, delivered an RSIS Distinguished Public Lecture titled “America’s Enduring Commitment to Security and Prosperity in Asia” before a full house at the Marina Mandarin Singapore on 3 June 2016. Senator McCain lauded the region for its meteoric rise from the devastation of World War II, and acknowledged China’s miraculous growth, while expressing his concern over its recent shift towards a more aggressive and assertive foreign policy. Senator McCain reaffirmed the United States’ commitment to championing and safeguarding the values and stability that underpinned the region, and vowed to press for Congressional ratification of the Trans-Pacific Partnership. He also renewed America’s pledge to uphold freedom of the seas, and reaffirmed the strengthening of existing alliances and security partnerships, as well as the maintenance of forward deployed forces in the region.

RSIS-CHINA ANNUAL THINK TANK EXCHANGE

Ambassador Ong Keng Yong led a delegation to China for the annual exchange with various Chinese think tanks from 1 to 7 July 2016. The delegation visited Chinese academics in Yunnan, Nanjing and Beijing. In addition to delivering a lecture to faculty members and students at Yunnan University, Ambassador Ong also chaired a number of conferences in Nanjing and Beijing. Institutions visited included the Nanjing University China Centre for Collaborative Studies of the South China Sea, the People’s Liberation Army National Defense University, the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations, as well as the private think tank, Pangoal Institution.
THINK TANK SEMINAR ON SOUTH CHINA SEA AND REGIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
The Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) partnered with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences’ Research Center for Chinese Borderland History and Geography to jointly organise a seminar on 18 July 2016 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront, Singapore. Titled “International Think Tank Seminar on the South China Sea Issue, and Regional Cooperation and Development”, the forum covered maritime dispute settlement mechanisms, the South China Sea dispute resolution, as well as regional cooperation. The keynote speakers were Professor Zhao Qizheng, former Minister of China’s State Council Information Office, and Professor Zheng Yongnian, Director of East Asian Institute at the National University of Singapore.

INAUGURAL SRP-MUIS WORKSHOP ON “CONTEXTUALISATION OF ISLAMIC THOUGHT – LIVING IN PLURAL SOCIETIES”
The Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies (SRP) Programme co-organised with the MUIS Academy a 10-day workshop for students and new graduates from overseas Islamic universities in July 2016. The workshop, titled “Islamic Thought in Context”, was aimed at familiarising participants with the methodologies of how to apply Islamic doctrines in contemporary pluralistic societies. The lecturers at the workshop included the faculty of the SRP Programme and MUIS Academy, as well as the renowned scholars, Ebrahim Moosa, Professor of Islamic Studies, University of Notre Dame; and Professor Quresh Shihab, Director of the Center of Quranic Studies in Indonesia.
RSIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
RSIS marked a significant milestone when more than 200 staff and students gathered for lunch at the roof deck of The Hive on 29 July 2016 to mark the 20th anniversary of the School. RSIS was established on 30 July 1996, and was for the first ten years known as the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS). Ambassador Ong Keng Yong gave an informal address in which he thanked everyone for their support and credited his predecessors, the late Mr S. R. Nathan and Mr Barry Desker, and the Dean, Professor Joseph Liow, for the success of IDSS/RSIS. The School’s anniversary was also marked by the publication of two books, The APPSMO Advantage: Strategic Opportunities, edited by Ambassador Ong, Mr Mushahid Ali and Mr Bernard Chin, and Forward Engagement: RSIS as a Think Tank of International Studies and Security in the Asia Pacific, edited by Associate Professor Alan Chong. In addition, RSIS partnered Channel NewsAsia (CNA) to record a series of six panel discussions titled Think Tank, which was telecast Asia-wide. The topics discussed included terrorism, food security, maritime law, the future of ASEAN, mass migration and cybersecurity.

18TH ASIA PACIFIC PROGRAMME FOR SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS
The 18th Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO 2016) was held at Village Hotel Changi from 5 to 10 August 2016. Organised by the Military Studies Programme of IDSS, APPSMO 2016 had the participation of more than 50 military officers from over 20 countries in Asia, North America and Europe. The theme of APPSMO 2016, “Hybrid Warfare and the Role of the Military: Challenges and Implications”, addressed a major issue faced by militaries today: states using a blend of unconventional and conventional warfare methods in a highly fluid security environment. Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills) and Second Minister for Defence, gave the keynote address while Singapore’s Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant-General Perry Lim, was the Guest-of-Honour at the event’s opening dinner.
RSIS-ADBI CONFERENCE

RSIS held a joint conference with the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) on the subject of “Global Shocks and the New Global/Regional Financial Architecture” on 23–24 August 2016. The two-day conference was attended by speakers and participants from over ten countries, including the United States, France, the Philippines and Indonesia. The ADBI was represented by its Dean, Naoyuki Yoshino, and Senior Consultant, Peter Morgan, while RSIS was represented by Ambassador Ong Keng Yong and Associate Professor Pradumna B. Rana. Dr Muhamad Chatib Basri, RSIS’ NTUC Professor of International Economic Relations (who was previously Indonesia’s Minister of Finance), spoke at the conference, as did several experts from esteemed institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO).

RSIS-CNA THINK TANK SERIES

As part of the activities to commemorate its 20th anniversary, RSIS partnered Channel NewsAsia (CNA) to launch a panel-discussion series titled Think Tank. The series offered a platform for experts to share their insights and views on six topical issues which pose significant challenges to governments and societies today, namely: terrorism, food security, maritime law, the future of ASEAN, mass migration and cybersecurity. The series was recorded before a live audience and telecast in August and September 2016. Unlike the usual panel-discussions featuring only panellists and a moderator, the format for the episodes also featured a special rapporteur, who gave a two-minute summary of the discussion. Featured panellists and special rapporteurs included faculty and research staff of RSIS. The series attracted half-a-million viewers in Singapore alone.

Panellists for the RSIS-CNA Think Tank episode on “Why Law Matters: Rule of Law in the South China Sea” with the special rapporteur, Professor Ralf Emmers (right), RSIS, and the moderator, Mr Teymoor Nabili, CNA (second from right), 15 August 2016
INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE 2016

The Indian Ocean Conference was co-organised by RSIS and the India Foundation, in association with the Bangladesh Institute of International & Strategic Studies, and the Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka, on 1–2 September 2016. The two-day conference, held at the Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore, covered the topics of Comity, Commerce and Culture in the Indian Ocean Region. Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Singapore, and Mr Shri M. J. Akbar, Minister of State for External Affairs, India, gave the welcome addresses. Mrs Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs, India, also gave a special address, through Skype, on the importance the Modi government places on deepening security cooperation, addressing piracy and terrorism, as well as engaging countries. Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, proposed a programme for cooperation, education and human capital development, which will contribute towards the rapid development of the Indian Ocean Region.

NSSP DISTINGUISHED VISITORS PROGRAMME

The National Security Studies Programme (NSSP) hosted Dr Gerard Chaliand under its Distinguished Visitors Programme on 5–9 September 2016. During his stay, Dr Chaliand, an expert on unconventional warfare and guerrilla tactics, delivered two public seminars on “Is the Islamic State in Decline?” and “Understanding Major Fault-lines in the Middle East and their Global Implications”. By drawing appropriate lessons from the French experience, Dr Chaliand also participated in a closed-door roundtable discussion with a select group of government officials on how multicultural societies like Singapore could withstand the ISIS onslaught. He also met key government officials as well as noted scholars and researchers from within RSIS and outside. Finally, Dr Chaliand was interviewed by MediaCorp’s Channel 8 and Channel NewsAsia (CNA), during which he shared invaluable insights from his many decades of field work in the Middle East and Africa.
NUCLEAR ENERGY EXPERTS GROUP MEETING

The Council on Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Singapore, in partnership with the Pacific Forum Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), convened a Nuclear Energy Experts Group meeting in Singapore on 19–20 September 2016. The meeting focused on the outcomes of the nuclear security summit process, nuclear security governance, nuclear safety, radioactive source management and nuclear accident/incident response. CSCAP Singapore will be convening a follow-up Experts Group meeting early next year. CSCAP Singapore continues to be one of the co-chairs of the Study Group on Marine Environment Protection, and has also participated in a number of other CSCAP Study Groups in 2016.

GOH KENG SWEE COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE SEMINAR 2016

RSIS partnered the Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College (GKS CSC) and the Singapore Armed Forces-NTU Academy in organising the 6th GKS CSC Seminar on 6–7 October 2016. Held in the SAFTI Military Institute, the seminar was an important forum for the discussion of topics relevant to the education of military leaders. The participants attended a series of panel discussions based on the theme “Changing Character of Conflict and the Challenges for the Armed Forces.” The speakers featured experts from both the academic and the military communities. Some of the topics discussed included Southeast Asian military modernisation, hybrid threats, future of warfare, civil-military relations, and the whole-of-government approach towards security.
RSIS ROUNDTABLE AT THE SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY WEEK
The Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) organised the RSIS Roundtable on “Nuclear Safety and Cooperation in ASEAN” at the Singapore International Energy Week. The roundtable on 28 October 2016 brought together experts from Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam who discussed post-Fukushima nuclear safety and emergency preparedness in the Asia Pacific, and examined the growing regional cooperation on nuclear energy governance in Southeast Asia. Panellists also deliberated on the importance of regional cooperation and the role of regional networks, such as ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM), in strengthening nuclear safety cooperation and emergency preparedness and response in Southeast Asia. Visiting as RSIS’ S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, Dr Olli Heinonen, former Deputy Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), also participated in the roundtable.

ASIA-EUROPE COUNTER-TERRORISM DIALOGUE WITH BOOK LAUNCH
To support exchanges of views in counter-terrorism measures, the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) produced a publication, Countering Daesh Extremism – European and Asian Responses, which analyses recent developments concerning Daesh extremism in Asia and Europe and their implications. The publication was launched on 1 November 2016 at the Pan Pacific Hotel Singapore by Ambassador Ong Keng Yong during the two-day Asia-Europe Counter Terrorism Dialogue. YAB Dato’ Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs of Malaysia, and Dr Günter Krings MdB, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry, delivered the keynote speeches.
ICPVTR SEMINAR WITH ELITE FRENCH LAW ENFORCEMENT UNITS

The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) hosted a seminar with speakers from two French elite law enforcement units on 2 November 2016. Colonel Sebastien Forjat, Intelligence Chief with the Groupe d’intervention de la Gendarmerie (GIGN), and Brigadier Chief Laurent Dauvillier, Team Leader of Recherche, Assistance, Intervention, Dissuasion (RAID), spoke on “The Role of Elite Forces in an Era of Persistent Threat”. This seminar was conceived following a visit by a GIGN delegation to ICPVTR in September 2016. The objective of the visit, which was led by General Hubert Bonneau, Commander of GIGN, was to better understand the current and emerging threat of terrorism.

RSIS–AHA CENTRE POLICY DISCUSSION ON THE WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

On 14 November 2016, the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) co-hosted a policy discussion as part of “Five to Life”, a week-long programme to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). Deliberating on the theme of “World Humanitarian Summit: Implications for the Asia Pacific”, 40 experts from across the Asia Pacific gathered to exchange ideas, insights and experiences. The discussion also addressed the challenges and complexities facing ASEAN in the road ahead. Important observations from the event were the need for a greater policy focus to bring together the three ASEAN Communities and to further develop a multi-stakeholder environment to make humanitarian assistance on disaster management more effective in the Asia Pacific.
INDONESIA-SINGAPORE YOUNG LEADERS SCENARIO-PLANNING WORKSHOP 2016
The Temasek Foundation and the Indonesia Programme of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) organised the Indonesia-Singapore Young Leaders Scenario-planning Workshop 2016 on 15–16 November 2016 at Capella, Sentosa. About 40 participants from both countries were invited to participate in the workshop. These included people with varied experiences, such as academics, politicians, businessmen as well as members of the military and non-governmental organisations. Envisioned to be the future main drivers of change in the political, economic, socio-cultural and business fronts of Indonesia and Singapore, these young leaders were invited to critically analyse the conditions in the Asia Pacific region, and the bilateral relations between Singapore and Indonesia in the near future. Dr Khong Cho-Oon, Chief Political Analyst at Shell International, the facilitator of the workshop, helped the participants to envision the future of the Indonesia-Singapore partnership in 2040.

RSIS CO-HOSTS WORKSHOP WITH NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES
The Maritime Security Programme of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) and the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies (IFS) co-hosted a workshop on “Navies, Coast Guards, the Maritime Community and International Stability” on 16–17 November 2016. The workshop, which comes under the programme’s “Asian Navy Watch” project, is the third instalment in the series. The discussion looked at various country case studies on the navy-coastguard nexus in the Southeast and Northeast Asian sub-regions, and dedicated a segment to Arctic coastguard cooperation. It concluded with a discussion on crisis stability at sea, and maritime confidence-building measures in general.
AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
In Academic Year 2015/2016, the four students who won awards in their respective Master of Science programmes are as follows:

Mr Tan Feng Qin
(Singapore)
The United Overseas Bank Gold Medal for Master of Science in Strategic Studies

Ms Kavya Iyengar
(India)
The Singapore Technologies Engineering Gold Medal for Master of Science in International Relations

Mr Bucknill John Bartholomew
(United Kingdom)
The Lion Group Gold Medal for Master of Science in International Political Economy

Mr Chan Wai Yeap
(Malaysia)
The Rajabali Jumabhoy Foundation Gold Medal for Master of Science in Asian Studies

Besides these top students, Mr Ooi Teck Khim was awarded the Tay Seow Huah Book Prize for writing the best dissertation.

Mr Ooi Teck Khim
(Malaysia)

AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE
Professor Tan See Seng, Deputy Director and Head of Research of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, was awarded the RSIS Teaching Award for Academic Year 2015/2016. Professor Tan received his award from Professor Joseph Liow, Dean of RSIS, at the 13th RSIS Alumni Dinner held on 29 July 2016.

The RSIS Teaching Award was established last year to encourage and recognise teaching excellence, and to support and reward activities that have made a significant contribution to the enhancement of teaching and learning at RSIS. Nominees must be RSIS faculty members teaching graduate courses (MSc, PhD) during the academic year. An RSIS Teaching Award winner should have engaged students effectively through their teaching methods and inspired students to become more interested in the subject area.
Professor Tan won the award based on student evaluations made for the academic year 2015/2016, amongst other selection criteria.

**APPOINTMENT TO UN SECRETARY-GENERAL’S ADVISORY BOARD ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS**

Associate Professor Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of the RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security, was appointed Chairperson of the UN Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (ABDM) for 2016. The 15 members of the Advisory Board are chosen by the UN Secretary General from all regions of the world for their knowledge and experience in the field of disarmament and international security. The ABDM has the following functions: to advise the Secretary-General on matters within the area of arms limitation and disarmament, including studies and research under the auspices of the United Nations or institutions within the United Nations System; to serve as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR); and to advise the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme. The chairperson of the Board rotates by region on a yearly basis, and is responsible for submission of a private report on the session to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General, in turn, reports annually to the General Assembly on the activities of the Advisory Board.

**RESEARCH GRANT FOR WORK ON POLITICAL TRANSITION AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Associate Professor Wu Fengshi from the China Programme of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, received the Academic Research Fund (AcRF) Tier 1 Grant awarded by the Ministry of Education for 2016. Associate Professor Wu was selected by the NTU Research Council from 138 people who submitted research proposals. Worth $68,000, the grant enables her to further her research on “Political Transition and the Environment” from March 2016 to June 2017.

The project aims to establish causal mechanisms that link specific regime features and institutional characteristics with environmental outcomes based on structured comparative case analysis. Findings of the research will show which specific institutional changes after the breakup and shift of the overall political regime have the moulding effect on the environment (via both natural resources management and industrial pollution control). The focus of the research goes beyond statistical mapping of variables and searches for the actual processes of change, tracing which institutional arrangements affect which steps/aspects of environmental protection and explaining why democratisation can sometimes harm the environment.
In 2016, RSIS staff members published 31 books. The titles and their respective authors are as follows:

- **The APPSMO Advantage: Strategic Opportunities**
  - Ong Keng Yong, Mushahid Ali and Bernard Chin (Eds.). Singapore: S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies and World Scientific Publishing Company, 2016

- **Asia on the Move: Regional Migration and the Role of Civil Society**
  - Mely Caballero-Anthony and Toshihiro Menju (Eds.). Japan: Japan Center for International Exchange, 2016

- **Asia's Southern Tier**

- **China's Economic Statecraft: Cooperation, Co-optation, and Coercion**

- **Cybersecurity: Emerging Issues, Trends, Technologies and Threats in 2015 and Beyond**
  - Caitriona Heinl and Eugene E. G. Tan (Eds.). Singapore: S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, 2016

- **The Defence Capabilities of Small States: Singapore and Taiwan's Responses to Strategic Desperation**

- **The Discursive Construction of Southeast Asia in 19th Century Colonial-Capitalist Discourse**
  - Farish A. Noor. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2016

- **Emerging Critical Technologies and Security in the Asia-Pacific**

- **Forward Engagement: RSIS as a Think-Tank of International Studies and Security in the Asia-Pacific**

- **Handbook of Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific**
  - Rohan Gunaratna and Stefanie Kam (Eds.). London: Imperial College Press, 2016

- **International Order at Sea. How it is challenged. How it is maintained**
An Introduction to Non-Traditional Security Studies: A Transnational Approach

Mapping State and Non-State Actors’ Responses to Nuclear Energy in Southeast Asia

Natural Resource Management for Sustainable Growth

Negotiating Financial Agreement in East Asia: Surviving the Turbulence (The Growth Economies of Asia Series)

Panorama Insights into Asian and European Affairs: Countering Daesh Extremism – European and Asian Responses

Perspectives on the Security of Singapore

Reflections: The Legacy of Lee Kuan Yew

Religion and Nationalism in Southeast Asia

Singapore Chronicles: The Emergency

State, Society and National Security: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century

The South China Sea Disputes: Flashpoints, Turning Points & Trajectories

Towards Better Disagreement: Religion and Atheism in Dialogue

The Turbulent World of Middle East Soccer

Twenty-First Century Theologies of Religions: Retrospection and New Frontiers
- Paul Hedges, Elizabeth Harris and Shanthi Hettiarachchi (Eds.). Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2016

100 Soal Jawab Agama: Isu-isu Kontemporari & Pendekatan Wasatiy [100 Responses to Religious Queries: Contemporary Issues & Wasatiy Approach]

Indonesia Menghadapi Perkembangan Ekonomi Dunia Yang Sarat Resiko dan Ketidakpastian [Indonesia Facing Global Economy with Full of Risks and Uncertainties]
- J. Soedradjad Djiwandono. Indonesia: Bank Indonesia Institute, 2016

L’Impact du Jihad Virtuel [The Impact of Virtual Jihad]
RSIS has four endowed professorships that were established to enable the School to engage renowned scholars in their respective fields to participate in its research and teaching activities and to share their knowledge with the wider community through public lectures and seminars. The professorships are as follows:

- **S. Rajaratnam Professorship in Strategic Studies**
- **National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) Professorship in International Economic Relations**
- **Ngee Ann Kongsi Professorship in International Relations**
- **Peter Lim Professorship in Peace Studies**

**S. RAJARATNAM PROFESSORSHIP IN STRATEGIC STUDIES**

The S. Rajaratnam Professorship in Strategic Studies at RSIS was inaugurated on 31 August 1998 to enable the School to invite distinguished scholars in Strategic Studies and related fields to participate in its activities. The professorship was established in honour of Mr Sinnathamby Rajaratnam for his distinguished services to the nation.

Mr Rajaratnam, born in 1915, was elected Member of Parliament for Kampung Glam in 1959 and continued to represent the constituency until his retirement in 1988. He became the Minister for Culture in 1959 and the Minister for Foreign Affairs in 1965 and, in the latter capacity, he took on a second portfolio as the Minister for Labour from 1968 to 1971. He became Second Deputy Prime Minister (Foreign Affairs) in 1980, after which he was appointed Senior Minister until his retirement. He passed away in 2006.

The S. Rajaratnam Professorship in Strategic Studies is made possible by a $2.6 million fund (excluding a matching grant from the Singapore Government) raised by the Fund Raising Committee chaired by Mr S. Chandra Das, former Member of Parliament for Cheng San Group Representative Constituency (1980-1996). Income generated from the invested endowment funds is used to invite internationally renowned scholars to teach and research at the School. The S. Rajaratnam Professorship in Strategic Studies is led by Professor Yuen-hung Lo, a renowned scholar in Strategic Studies.
Rajaratnam Professorship thus enables RSIS to increase its international linkages as well as benefit from the knowledge, experience and wisdom of eminent scholars appointed to the chair.

The scholars appointed to the prestigious S. Rajaratnam Chair in the period reviewed were Dr Kent Calder, Director of the Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies and Director of Japan Studies at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C., from 3 to 15 January 2016, and Dr Olli Heinonen, Senior Associate at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and Senior Advisor on Science and Nonproliferation at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies in Washington, D.C., from 23 October to 5 November 2016.

NATIONAL TRADES UNION CONGRESS (NTUC) PROFESSORSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

In 2007, the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) raised a total of $2.5 million, which, with additional funding from the Singapore Government and other sources, enabled RSIS to establish an endowed chair known as the NTUC Professorship in International Economic Relations. Set up in 1961, the NTUC is the national federation of trade unions in Singapore, whose basic aim is to safeguard and enhance the interests of workers.

Income from the endowment enables RSIS to appoint an NTUC Professor of International Economic Relations to provide leadership for the School’s International Political Economy Programme. As such, besides possessing strong academic credentials, the holder of the chair will have policy experience working in multilateral institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the World Trade Organisation, as well as in government ministries responsible for policy formulation in international trade, investments and finance. He or she will also be familiar with increasingly important entities, such as hedge funds, private equities, petrodollars and sovereign wealth funds.

The scholar who held this prestigious NTUC Chair in 2016 was Dr Muhamad Chatib Basri, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Mandiri Institute, and Chairman of The Indonesia Infrastructure Finance, from 8 August to 1 September 2016. Dr Basri was Indonesia’s former Minister of Finance and former Chairman of Indonesia’s Investment Coordinating Board.

NGEE ANN KONGSI PROFESSORSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Ngee Ann Kongsi Professorship in International Relations was established on 27 November 2007 through a donation of $3 million from Ngee Ann Kongsi and a matching grant from the Singapore Government. Income from the endowment is used to engage renowned scholars in International Relations to teach and research at RSIS.

Ngee Ann Kongsi has a long history of promoting education in Singapore and Nanyang Technological University has benefited from its many generous donations. The University’s association with Ngee Ann Kongsi began in the 1990s when the kongsi donated $1 million to the Chinese Heritage Centre located in the University. In 2005, Ngee Ann Kongsi also
donated $1.5 million to set up the Ngee Ann Kongsi Professorship in Traditional Chinese Medicine to help develop the University’s expertise in traditional Chinese medicine. Besides these, it has also awarded many scholarships and bursaries to students at NTU over the years.

The scholars appointed to this chair in 2016 were Mr Randal Phillips, Managing Partner for Asia, Mintz Group, from 21 February to 5 March 2016; and Professor Jia Qingguo, Dean of the School of International Studies, Peking University, from 31 July to 13 August 2016.

**PETER LIM PROFESSORSHIP IN PEACE STUDIES**

The Peter Lim Professorship in Peace Studies was launched on 9 June 2014 during the inauguration of RSIS’ Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies (SRP) Programme. The professorship was established through a generous gift of S$3 million from Mr Peter Lim and a matching grant from the Singapore Government.

Mr Lim, a well-known Singaporean philanthropist, hopes that his donation can bring together distinguished scholars and thought leaders to study how Singapore can further preserve and promote the existing harmonious relations amongst its different communities, so that the nation will continue to enjoy peace and harmony. The endowment will enable the SRP to appoint a professor who can lead the programme in researching and in teaching Peace Studies.

The first scholar to hold this endowed chair is Professor Abdullah Saeed. Appointed on 15 October 2015, he will hold this chair for five years as Adviser to the SRP.
Visiting scholars play an important role in RSIS’ research agenda. Besides scholars appointed to the School’s endowed professorships, RSIS also has a visiting programme to enable local and overseas scholars to do research at the School for varying periods of up to a year. Visiting scholars contribute to the intellectual life in RSIS by providing faculty and research staff with additional perspectives and insights through informal exchanges at in-house seminars.

VISITING SCHOLARS WHO SPENT TIME AT RSIS IN 2016

Dr Ali ALLAWI
Distinguished Visiting Fellow, RSIS
19 October 2015 – 28 January 2016

Dr Aidar AMREBAYEV
Head, Center of Applied Political Science and International Studies, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Visiting Senior Fellow, China Programme
27 May – 26 August 2016

Dr Alessandro ARDUINO
Co-Director, Security and Crisis Management Programme, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS – China) and Center for Advanced Studies on Contemporary China (CASCC-Italy)
Visiting Senior Fellow, China Programme
12 October 2015 – 11 January 2016

Dr Alice Darlene BA
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Studies, University of Delaware
Visiting Fellow, Centre for Multilateralism Studies
4 January – 6 February 2016

Professor Ian CLARK
Professor of International Relations, University of Queensland
Visiting Professor, RSIS
26 February – 31 May 2016

Dr Muhamad Chatib BASRI
Chairman, Advisory Board of the Mandiri Institute and Chairman, The Indonesia Infrastructure Finance
NTUC Professor of International Economics Relations, RSIS
7 August – 1 September 2016

Professor Michael BROWN
Professor of International Affairs and Political Science, Elliot School of International Relations, The George Washington University
Member, RSIS Board of Governors
Distinguished Visitor, RSIS
1–15 April 2016

Dr Kent CALDER
Director, Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS
3–15 January 2016

Professor Michael Brown
Professor CHU Shulong  
Professor of Political Science and International Relations, School of Public Policy and Management; and Director, Institute of International Strategic and Development Studies, Tsinghua University  
Distinguished Visiting Fellow, RSIS  
24–30 January 2016

Professor David COHEN  
Director, WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University  
Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS  
13–20 August 2016

Dr Bhavna DAVÉ  
Chair, Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus and Senior Lecturer, Central Asian Politics, Department of Politics and International Studies, SOAS, University of London  
Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS  
13 November – 18 December 2016

Lieutenant Colonel Luke Robert DONOHUE  
Fellow, U.S. Army War College  
Visiting Fellow, RSIS  
9 July 2015 – 8 July 2016

Dr Olli HEINONEN  
Senior Associate, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School of Government; and Senior Advisor on Science and Nonproliferation, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Washington, D.C.  
S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS  
23 October – 5 November 2016

Mr David Frederick HEYMAN  
President and CEO, Tektonics Global LLC  
Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS  
18–22 July 2016

Dr Noeleen HEYZER  
Former Under-Secretary-General, United Nations  
Distinguished Visiting Fellow, RSIS  
1 March 2016 – 28 February 2019

Professor Donald L. HOROWITZ  
James B. Duke Professor of Law and Political Science Emeritus, Duke University; and Senior Fellow, International Forum for Democratic Studies, National Endowment for Democracy, Washington, D.C.  
RSIS-HASS Visiting Senior Fellow  
20 February – 21 March 2016

RSiS
Ms HUANG Liqun
PhD Candidate, Guangxi University
Visiting Research Associate, China Programme
1 March – 31 August 2016

Lieutenant-Colonel Harry HUNG
Fellow, U.S. Army War College
Visiting Fellow, RSIS
1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

Dr Rahmawati HUSEIN
Lecturer, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences,
University of Muhammadiyah, Yogyakarta
Visiting Fellow, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies
28 September – 7 October 2016

Mr Dhruva JAISHANKAR
Transatlantic Fellow, Asia Program, German
Marshall Fund
Visiting Fellow, South Asia Programme
6 December 2015 – 6 February 2016

Professor JIA Qingguo
Dean, School of International Studies, Peking University
Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, RSIS
31 July – 13 August 2016

Mr Sean KANUCK
Attorney and Strategic Consultant
Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Centre of Excellence for
National Security
30 October – 5 November 2016

Dr Vassily KASHIN
Assistant Professor, International Politics Department,
Moscow State University
Visiting Research Fellow, Military Transformations
Programme
7 September – 5 October 2016

Dr Arunajeet KAUR
Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Non-Traditional
Security Studies
1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

Professor Luk Van LANGENHOVE
Research Professor, Institute of European Studies, Free
University of Brussels
Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS
2–9 April 2016

Dr LEE Sang Ok
Deputy Director, Ministry of National Defense, South
Korea
Visiting Fellow, Military Studies Programme
22 September 2014 – 21 March 2016

Professor Julius Joseph LIPNER
Emeritus Professor of Hinduism and the
Comparative Study of Religion, University of
Cambridge
Visiting Professor, Studies in Inter-Religious Relations
in Plural Societies Programme
2 November 2015 – 12 February 2016, 8 November –
2 December 2016

Mr Randal PHILLIPS
Managing Director for Asia, The Mintz Group
Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International
Relations, RSIS
21 February – 4 March 2016

Dr Chantal de Jonge OUDRAAT
President, Women in International Security
Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS
1–30 April 2016
Professor Abdullah SAEED  
*Sultan of Oman Professor of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Melbourne*  
Peter Lim Professor of Peace Studies, RSIS  

Mr Koji SEKIMIZU  
*Former Secretary-General, International Maritime Organization (IMO)*  
RSIS-MPA Distinguished Visiting Fellow  
1 May 2016 – 30 April 2018

Dr Malminderjit SINGH  
*Consultant, The HEAD Foundation*  
Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Multilateralism Studies  
1 September – 31 December 2016

Professor SORPONG Peou  
*Professor and Chair, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Ryerson University, Toronto*  
Visiting Senior Fellow, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies  
28 November – 2 December 2016

Professor TEH Yik Koon  
*Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Defence and International Security Studies; Professor, Department of Strategic Studies, National Defence University of Malaysia*  
Visiting Fellow, China Programme  
20 October 2015 – 30 June 2016

Professor Geoffrey TILL  
*Director, Corbett Centre for Maritime Policy Studies, King’s College, London*  
Visiting Professor, Maritime Security Programme  

Ms Carmina Yu UNTALAN  
*PhD Candidate, Osaka University*  
Visiting Research Associate, Graduate Programmes Office  
12 November 2015 – 24 March 2016

Professor Maarten Martinus VAN BRUIJNESSEN  
*Ermeritus Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Utrecht University*  
Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS  
7 November 2016 – 27 February 2017

Dr Cung VU  
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SIS faculty and researchers conduct both academic and policy-oriented research on international security issues affecting Southeast Asia and the Asia Pacific regions, in the context of major developments and shifts in the international system. This report covers research conducted by the following centres and programmes of RSIS in 2016:

- Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies
- International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research
- Centre of Excellence for National Security
- Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies
- Centre for Multilateralism Studies
- Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies Programme
- National Security Studies Programme
- Policy Studies in the Office of the Executive Deputy Chairman

INSTITUTE OF DEFENCE AND STRATEGIC STUDIES
The Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) has been and remains the main research centre of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS). Its remit, since its inception in 1996, has been to conduct cutting-edge research on defence and security issues of concern not just globally and regionally, but crucially to Singapore as well.

Structure
IDSS is made up of three research clusters or hubs, namely, (i) Asia Pacific, (ii) Malaysia-Indonesia, and (iii) Military & Security, with the purpose of synergising research across the research programmes that come under each respective hub. The Asia Pacific hub comprises the China, South Asia, United States, and Regional Security Architecture programmes. The eponymously named Malaysia-Indonesia hub comprises the Indonesia and Malaysia programmes. Finally, the Military & Security hub comprises the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), Maritime Security, and Military Transformations programmes. Besides these research hubs, IDSS also houses the Military Studies Programme, which is a military education arm.

Research
In terms of internationally peer-reviewed scholarship, IDSS researchers have done well. Among their many research outputs, the following are especially noteworthy:

- A special journal section on “Roundtable: The ADMM-Plus and the Future of Defence Diplomacy in the Asia Pacific”, *Asia Policy*, Number 22 (July 2016)
A book entitled *The Discursive Construction of Southeast Asia in 19th Century Colonial-Capitalist Discourse*, published by Amsterdam University Press (authored by Farish A. Noor)


An anthology entitled *China’s Maritime Silk Road and Asia*, published by VIJ Books

Individually, IDSS researchers published their research in outlets such as *Asia Policy, Asian Survey, Asian Politics & Policy, Contemporary Islam, Education About Asia, International Relations of the Asia Pacific, Journal of Contemporary China, Journal of Military and Strategic Studies, Journal of Strategic Studies, Revue Etudes internationales, The China Journal* and *The National Interest*. A number of key research papers and policy reports were also produced on topics as varied as current trends in Russian-Chinese military and military-industrial cooperation, the U.S.’ “third offset strategy”, a regional guide to counter piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, India’s engagement in Central Asia, and the international response to the 2015 Nepal earthquake and the implications for future international relief efforts.

**Activities**

**Asia Pacific**

The China Programme hosted a Distinguished Public Lecture, “China’s Military Modernisation and Security Strategy”, by Professor Chu Shulong from Tsinghua University, Beijing, in January. A workshop on China and the Economics-Security Nexus in Southeast Asia, jointly organised by the China Programme and the Institute of International Studies, Yunnan University, was held in March. In July, an RSIS delegation led by Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, RSIS’ Executive Deputy Chairman, conducted exchanges with various leading Chinese think tanks in Beijing, including the National Defense University (NDU) and China Institute for Contemporary International Relations (CICIR). Also in July, a workshop was conducted on the management of trans-boundary water resources between China and its neighbouring countries.

The South Asia Programme conducted a workshop in January on India’s strategic partnership with Japan. The workshop drew on experts from India, Japan, Singapore and the United States. The Programme also hosted a number of guest speakers such as Professor C. Raja Mohan, Director of Carnegie India, Lieutenant General (Ret.) S. L. Narasimhan, a member of India’s National Security Advisory Board, and Brigadier (Ret.) Rumel Dahiya, then Deputy Director of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA). The United
States Programme undertook several projects related to U.S. foreign and national security policy, particularly as it pertains to the Asia Pacific. Finally, the Regional Security Architecture Programme hosted a roundtable on “The Trajectory of the South China Sea Territorial Disputes: A Multilateral Perspective” in December. The event brought together experts from around the region to examine the multilateral perspectives involved in the on-going South China Sea territorial disputes.

**Malaysia-Indonesia**

The Malaysia Programme conducted research in two areas: first, on the impact of rising Islamisation and conservatism on Malaysia’s social fabric; and second, on the threat posed to Southeast Asia by ISIS. The first study examined the trend among the Malaysian political elite towards Islamisation and conservatism and its impact on non-Muslim communities in Malaysia. The second study sought to understand the reasons behind the growth in domestic support for ISIS and its future trajectory in Southeast Asia.

The Indonesia Programme organised two academic panels. The first was on “Growing Religious Intolerance in Indonesia: A Multidisciplinary Perspective”, held at the Asian Studies Association Conference in Kyoto, Japan, in June. The second was on “The Future of the Indonesian Military: Can it Break from Its Strategic Culture Restraint?” held at the Asian Studies Association of Australia 21st Biennial Conference in Canberra in July. The programme also organised a workshop on “The Rise of Religious Intolerance in Contemporary Indonesia” held in Jakarta in August. Finally, the programme was the convenor for the inaugural “Indonesia–Singapore Young Leaders Scenario Planning Workshop” organised by the S. Rajaratnam Endowment and RSIS in November.

**Military & Security**

The HADR Programme investigated the state of national disaster systems in the five most “at risk” countries in the Asia Pacific – Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines and Myanmar – along with Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste, as being of particular interest to the ASEAN region; hosted an interregional conference on humanitarian action; drafted the ASEAN Vision 2025 on disaster management; and conducted HADR fieldwork in Nepal, Myanmar and the Philippines.

The Maritime Security Programme conducted a holistic range of activities ranging from roundtables, workshops and exchanges to policy-oriented research projects. In November, the Programme co-hosted with the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies (IFS) a workshop on “Navies, Coast Guards, the Maritime Community and International Stability”, which comes under the programme’s Asian Navy Watch project. It also engaged in bilateral exchanges with its overseas counterparts in the middle of the year, namely the Ecole Navale in Brest, France, and the Center for Naval Analyses in Washington, D.C., USA. Finally, the programme worked with its long-time partners, the Republic of Singapore Navy, the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) Information Sharing Centre (ISC), and members of the shipping industry to produce a regional anti-piracy guide.
The Military Transformations Programme explored how new technologies and innovations are affecting military capabilities and warfighting concepts, particularly as a transformative process for modern militaries, and especially those in and around the Asia Pacific. In November, the programme co-sponsored, along with the Maritime Security Programme, a workshop on “Arms Racing in Asia: The Naval Dimension”. The workshop brought together experts from the United States, Asia, Europe, and Australia to discuss naval armaments proliferation in the Asia Pacific and its impact on regional security.

Military Education
The work of the Military Studies Programme primarily comprises conducting military education for the Singapore Armed Forces and organising conferences on behalf of RSIS and IDSS. The key conferences organised by the programme included the RSIS’ flagship event, the Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO), the Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College Seminar, the RSIS-Temasek Defence Systems Institute Seminar and the RSIS-Defence Science Organisation Seminar. It also facilitated the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between RSIS and the Korean National Defense University. In addition, the Military Studies Programme conducted a number of seminars by noted international speakers such as Professor Azar Gat, Ezer Weitzman Chair for National Security, Tel Aviv University; Dr Thomas X. Hammes, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of National Security Studies, National Defense University, USA; Dr Paul Mitchell, Dean of Academics, Canadian Defence College, Royal Military College of Canada; Dr Steven Metz, Director of Research, Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College; and Professor Tomonori Yoshizaki, Director of Policy Simulation, National Institute of Defense Studies (NIDS), Japan.

The RSIS delegation led by Ambassador Ong Keng Yong (second from left), being hosted by Lieutenant-General Seungho Wee, President of the Korean National Defense University, where they signed a Memorandum of Understanding, 3 February 2016
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM RESEARCH

The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) aims to reduce the threat of politically motivated violence and to mitigate its effects on the international system. Helmed by Professor Rohan Gunaratna, the centre produces research and analyses, threat assessments and policy briefs on developments in terrorism around the world. Its strategic projects include countering radical ideologies, promoting moderation, terrorist rehabilitation, community engagement and countering terrorist financing.

ICPVTR does a great deal of research on the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and the group’s activities, modus operandi and impact in and outside the region. The centre also examines terrorism trends and developments, and political conflicts. Examples include the Uighur presence in Southeast Asia following the attack on the Erawan Shrine in Bangkok in August 2015, which was suspected to be carried out by two Uighurs; the effectiveness of counter-terrorism policies in Asia; terrorist groups’ exploitation of the Rohingyas issue; rivalry between ISIS and Al-Qaeda (AQ); insurgency in South Thailand; and the long-term impact of the Syrian conflict. The results of these studies have appeared as commentaries and articles both locally and in overseas publications, such as *The Washington Quarterly*, CNN, *The National Interest*, *Foreign Policy Journal* and *The Diplomat*. On the counter-ideology front, the centre is looking at how ISIS manipulated Islamic texts in spreading their propaganda, and is publishing arguments within the Islamic tradition to counter ISIS misrepresentation of Islamic teachings. In addition to research and analyses, ICPVTR analysts scan the Internet and other social media for the latest developments on ISIS, AQ and their affiliates, their activities and plans in the region and in other countries.

*General (Ret.) Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, then Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of Indonesia, at the 9th Annual Terrorism Analyst Training Course, organised by ICPVTR, 25 January – 5 February 2016*
Attuned with the evolving threat landscape, the centre provides relevant training and outreach programmes domestically and internationally. Through these engagements, the centre establishes new avenues for partnerships and collaboration while strengthening existing networks. ICPVTR’s first training programme for the year was the ninth annual Terrorism Analyst Training Course (TATC), held from 25 January to 5 February 2016. The course contributed to the professional development of local and foreign law enforcement and security personnel, and delivered a holistic perspective by building knowledge and capacity, while strengthening the vital networks between counter-terrorism academics and practitioners. Participants came from the defence and home affairs ministries of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, the United States, as well as Singapore. Guest lecturers included General (Ret.) Luhut Pandjaitan, then Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs, Indonesia; Police General Commissioner Dr Usman Saud Nasution, Head, National Counter Terrorism Agency (BNPT), Indonesia; Mr Angelo Bani, Security Advisor at World Economic Forum; Mr Peter Ong, Senior State Prosecutor, Philippines; and Mr Monirul Islam, Joint Commissioner, Detective Branch, Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Bangladesh.

From 5 to 11 March 2016, staff of ICPVTR visited Kabul to explore and understand the changing dynamics in Afghanistan in the light of current security challenges. The visit included a one-day workshop on global terrorism threats and trends at the Centre for Conflict and Peace Studies (CAPS). The participants came from CAPS, the research, legal and media communities, and the Taliban shura and also included policymakers. The diversity of views reflected in the discussions provided insights into the challenges for Afghanistan through a multiplicity of lenses.

ICPVTR and the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), University of Maryland, again collaborated in the running of a course for the latter’s undergraduate students as part of their summer programme on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). Held from 27 to 30 June 2016, the course aimed at exploring CVE strategies undertaken by governments and at highlighting the challenges and difficulties in conducting effective CVE programmes.

ICPVTR also conducted two joint workshops with the Dhaka Metropolitan Police Training Academy from 21 to 26 May and from 11 to 30 June in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The first workshop on counter-terrorism response strategies and on emerging terrorist trends in the region was attended by 70 senior and mid-level officers from various Bangladeshi agencies such as the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crimes Unit (CTTCU) of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI) of Bangladesh Army and the National Security Intelligence (NSI). The second workshop provided counter-terrorism training to 320 frontline officers of the CTTCU.

RSIS and Madrasah Aljunied Al-Islamiah jointly organised a lecture series for the latter’s pre-university students in September and October. The three lectures on the war in Syria, why and how ISIS came about, and the general political developments in the Middle East were conducted by ICPVTR’s
In October, ICPVTR assisted INTERPOL in its specialised training in Singapore for investigators and intelligence officers from the ASEAN region by delivering a presentation on online extremism in Southeast Asia.

The centre rounded up the year by co-organising the “Asia-Europe Counter-Terrorism Dialogue on Countering Daesh” from 31 October to 1 November with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, and a closed-door international seminar on “The Role of Elite Forces in an Era of Persistent Threat” on 2 November 2016. Ambassador Ong Keng Yong delivered the welcome address at the dialogue while Dato’ Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, and Dr Gunter Krings, Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany’s Federal Ministry of the Interior, gave keynote speeches. The seminar explored how elite forces could secure their countries better with a better understanding of the attack methodology of ISIS.

ICPVTR’s outreach encompasses significant publications in both print and online media. Notable publications in 2016 include *Handbook of Terrorism in the Asia Pacific* (Imperial College Press), edited by Professor Rohan Gunaratna and Stefanie Kam. This handbook provides a historical overview of terrorism in the Asia Pacific, the evolution of the terrorist threat, and the threats faced by countries with the rise of ISIS. Another publication, *Countering Daesh Extremism – European and Asian Responses*, was published in *Panorama: Insights into Asian and European Affairs*, Issue 2/2016. Jointly published by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and ICPVTR, it analyses recent developments in ISIS extremism and the possible future threats. It also examined the counter-measures and de-radicalisation and rehabilitation efforts adopted by various governments.

ICPVTR has forged relationships with many organisations to better understand the threat of terrorism and explore best practices. One of its most important partners is the Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG), a volunteer group of religious scholars and teachers formed to rehabilitate and de-radicalise persons detained for terrorism-related cases. Researchers in the centre’s Ideological Research Unit are involved with the RRG in rehabilitation work. They are also involved in community engagement and in reaching out to students, educators and grassroots personnel on terrorism issues and counter-terrorism measures.

As in previous years, ICPVTR has briefed a wide spectrum of visitors from various governments, security and intelligence communities, academia and the private sector. There were more than 90 visits by individuals, groups and organisations from all over the world. They included delegations from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia; the National Police Agency, Japan; and the European Police Office (EUROPOL).

The centre also organised many seminars such as “Current and Emerging WMD threats – from ISIS to SynBio” by Andrew C. Weber, Senior Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science; and “Dhaka Attack: Threat and Government Response” by Monirul Islam, Chief of Police Counter Terrorism Unit, Bangladesh.
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY

2016 has been a productive year for the Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS) as it released key publications, hosted and participated in significant conferences, and provided expert opinions to various media outlets on issues found within its four research domains of homeland defence, cybersecurity, social resilience and radicalisation studies.

Over the year, outlets for material produced by CENS included academic publishers, newspapers and news websites. To mark the tenth anniversary of its establishment, the book *State, Society and National Security: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century*, edited by Shashi Jayakumar, Head of CENS, was released. Complementing contributions from numerous international leading lights in the field of national security, senior researchers in CENS such as Norman Vasu, Damien D. Cheong and Caitriona H. Heinl contributed chapters on resilience, social media and cybersecurity respectively. In addition, Terri-Anne Teo wrote a chapter on “Invisible Identities in 2015: Uncovering Absences, Conflations and Difference in Race, Religion and Gender” in *Change in Voting: Singapore’s 2015 General Election*; Jennifer Yang Hui contributed “Social Media Analytics for Intelligence and Countering Violent Extremism” to *Combating Violent Extremism and Radicalisation in the Digital Era*; and Nur Diyanah Binte Anwar published “Singapore’s Future Post-LKY: What Do Young Singaporeans Want?” in *Reflections: The Legacy of Lee Kuan Yew.*
With regard to academic journals, newspapers and commentaries, Norman Vasu and Priscilla Cabuyao’s “Gender Equality (And its Absence) in Singapore’s 2015 General Elections” appeared in The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs, Vol. 105, No. 2; Shashi Jayakumar and Benjamin Ang’s “Smart Nation, but Will We be Secure?” and Dymples Leong’s “Telegram’s Secret Chats and Bots a Boon for ISIS” were published in The Straits Times. Cameron Sumpter’s “Indonesia’s De-radicalisation Blueprint” was featured by The Interpreter (Lowy Institute for International Policy), while articles by Muhammad Faizal Bin Abdul Rahman, Eugene E. G. Tan and Juhi Ahuja on “Robocops: Securing the Cities of Tomorrow”, “Checkpoint or Chokepoint: Aviation Security Lessons from Istanbul and Brussels” and “Global Fight Against IS: Singapore’s Role in Counter-Terrorism”, respectively, were published in the RSIS Commentary series.

In April 2016, CENS hosted the tenth edition of the Asia Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers (APPSNO) with the theme “National Security Revisited”. As the annual flagship event of CENS, APPSNO is an established international programme where policymakers, practitioners, experts and academics participate in valuable intellectual exchange and networking. This year’s APPSNO had 38 Singaporean and 22 participants with some from as far as Chile and Norway. CENS also organised a two-day workshop on “Countering Extremism: CVE on the Frontlines” in September 2016 and hosted Distinguished Visiting Fellows Linton Wells II (29 August – 2 September) and Sean Kanuck (31 October – 4 November). In their lectures, Linton Wells II spoke on “National Security Implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution”, “Cyberspace as the Fifth Dimension of Warfare” and “New Approaches to Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Cyber Attack”, while Sean Kanuck discussed “Global Information Risk: From Insecurity to Insurance, Is Strategic Deterrence Possible in Cyberspace?” and “Technical, Legal, and Philosophical Issues in the New Digital World Order”.

There was no shortage in invitations received by CENS staff to speak at conferences or share expert views in print, broadcast and online media over the past year. Joseph Franco was cited by TIME, The New York Times and Bloomberg on issues concerning insurgencies and the new presidency in the Philippines, while Romain Quivooij was interviewed by Channel NewsAsia on the Orlando, Florida, Attacks and invited to participate at a roundtable on de-radicalisation organised by the European Union delegation to Singapore. Pravin Prakash spoke at a forum on “Multicultural Singapore? Really?”, where he discussed the state’s approach to managing diversity in Singapore, and the Singapore Tamil Youth Conference 2016 where he spoke on the potential for an active civil society with ground-up initiatives from the youth. Shashi Jayakumar presented at the Singapore-France Middle East Foreign Affairs Ministry Dialogue in Paris and Norman Vasu was a panel member for “Religiosity – The New Challenge to Our Harmony?” at Raffles Institution. Finally, continuing to maintain as well as build CENS’ international network of think tanks working on national security issues, Shashi Jayakumar, Benjamin Ang and Terri-Anne Teo engaged with their counterparts at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies in Israel.
CENTRE FOR NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

The Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) conducts research and produces policy-relevant analyses aimed at furthering awareness and building capacity to address NTS issues and challenges in the Asia Pacific region and beyond. Non-traditional security issues include the challenges to the survival and well-being of peoples and states that arise from non-military sources. These dangers are transnational in scope, defying unilateral remedies and requiring comprehensive political, economic and social responses, including the multi-dimensional civilian angle to security in conjunction with state, military and governmental actors. The centre's research falls into the following themes: Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief; Food, Health and Energy Security; Climate Change, Environmental Resilience and Sustainable Development; and Peace, Human Security and Development.

2016 marked the completion of the first year of the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme. The programme contributes to the development of Singapore as a global thought leader in the field, by building capacities and innovative approaches for more effective HADR in the region. The inaugural year has seen a conference on inter-regional comparisons of humanitarian action, the drafting of the ASEAN Vision 2025 on disaster management, commemorating World Humanitarian Day with a public panel and exhibition, and fieldwork conducted in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The HADR research team participated in regional consultations in advance of the World Humanitarian Summit, the Regional Consultative Group on Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination, and collaborated with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, UN agencies and humanitarian practitioners. It also drew on the knowledge and experience of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies.

The HADR programme encompasses research in future HADR landscapes, community protection and assistance, humanitarian effectiveness and HADR technology. Throughout 2016, the programme focused on assessing the structures and policy progress in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Timor Leste, as countries in the Asia Pacific most at risk of disaster and most likely to activate a regional response in Southeast Asia. A number of seminars and talks were held by the HADR programme, including “An Assessment of the Hospital Preparedness and Community Readiness for Emergency and Disaster Approach” and “Preparing to Excel in Emergency Response: Local Faith Capacity Building for Emergency Response” by Dr Rahmawati (AMA) Husein, and “Commentaries to the Geneva
Conventions: An Updated Interpretation for Contemporary Humanitarian Challenges” conducted by the regional legal team at the International Committee of the Red Cross. In November, a policy discussion on the “World Humanitarian Summit – Implications for the Asia Pacific” was hosted in collaboration with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) as part of “Five to Life”, a week-long programme to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the AHA Centre.

The centre’s Food Security Research Programme (Phase II), jointly run by NTS Centre and the Inter Ministry Committee on Food Security, was successfully completed in September 2016. The programme included projects on regional stockpiling practices, the impacts of climate change on regional food supplies and the development of dynamic models for Singapore’s food availability.

In April 2016, the NTS Centre organised a seminar entitled “The Future of Food Security in Asia: Emerging Issues and Challenges”, attended by participants from the private sector, government and academia. Presenters included Dr Mark Rosegrant, Director of the Environment and Production Technology Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute, who spoke on the key challenges for water and food security; Dr Jonatan Lassa, NTS Centre’s Research Fellow, who covered the different dimensions of climate change impacts on production, and Professor Paul Teng, RSIS Adjunct Senior Fellow, who highlighted the opportunities for biotechnological solutions to food security challenges.

During the event, the NTS Centre also launched the textbook, An Introduction to Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies: A Transnational Approach, the first textbook on NTS, edited by Associate Professor Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head, NTS Centre.

During the year, members of the food security team were involved in research outreach. Dr Tamara Nair joined the panel of experts at the RSIS-Channel NewsAsia programme, Think Tank, to discuss the topic “Do We have Enough to Eat? Food Security Across Asia” aired on 17 August 2016; Vincent Mack spoke on the development of the modelling methodology of the Water-Energy-Food Nexus at the 6th International Conference on Food Studies (12–13 October 2016), at the University of California, Berkeley, USA; and Jose Montesclaros spoke on urban food security and agricultural innovation at the joint food security meeting with the Centre for Continuing Education on 20 October 2016. RSIS was also involved in the 27th Commonwealth Agricultural Conference, held in Singapore on 2–4 November. Britain’s Royal Highness, Princess Anne, was the Guest of Honour at the conference, which was held for the first time in Asia and opened to non-Commonwealth countries.

In advancing its work on climate change, the NTS Centre in collaboration with the Institute of Geography, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany organised a workshop on “Resilient Cities” held on 23–24 November 2016. The workshop aimed to facilitate dialogue and exchange of ideas on topics relating to resilient cities and their various dimensions, namely, green urban infrastructure, sustainable livelihoods, and food and nutrition security. Themes for discussion included green city concepts and infrastructure, dynamics of the “Just City, the Right to the City”; urban food and nutrition security and new urban food technologies and innovation.

The centre’s Nuclear Energy Studies Programme focused on the theme of nuclear safety and security in East Asia for 2016. Several events were organised along this theme. On 19–20 September, the centre co-organised the Nuclear Energy Experts Group Meeting, which deliberated on the outcomes of the nuclear security summit process, nuclear security governance in Asia, nuclear safety, radioactive source management, and nuclear accident/incident response in ASEAN. The centre actively participated in the 6th Annual International Nuclear Security Education Network Meeting at the International Atomic
Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, from 22 to 26 August. The NTS Centre also played a prominent role in the Singapore International Energy Week by organising the RSIS Roundtable on Nuclear Safety and Cooperation in ASEAN on 28 October, which brought together regional experts from Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as Dr Olli Heinonen, the Former Deputy Director-General of the IAEA. Visiting as RSIS’ S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, Dr Heinonen also delivered a seminar on 25 October and a Distinguished Public Lecture on 2 November, focusing on regional norms on nuclear safety and emergency preparedness in the Asia Pacific. On 8–9 December, the centre also co-organised the Asia Pacific Leadership Network for Nuclear Non-Proliferation & Disarmament ASEAN Sub-Regional Meeting which deliberated on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone and the implications of nuclear energy plans in Southeast Asia on nuclear safety, security and safeguards in the region.

In October 2016, the NTS Centre launched the Women, Peace and Security research programme, which is led by Dr Tamara Nair. The ‘soft’ launch culminated after a series of events held in the month of April 2016, involving seminars by Dr Noeleen Heyzer, former UN Under-Secretary General, and Dr Chantal De Jonge Oudraadt, President of Women In International Security. Of special interest was the joint seminar “From Development to Security: The Roles of Women” delivered by both Heyzer and de Jonge Oudraat, and moderated by Associate Professor Mely Caballero-Anthony on 22 April 2016.

Finally, 2016 also saw the re-launch of the NTS-Asia Consortium. The event brought 16 of its 20 founding members together with 50 other representatives from NTS-related institutions and research centres across Asia. Established in 2007, the NTS-Asia Consortium facilitates networking among NTS scholars and analysts in the region, builds regional capacity for NTS research, and mainstreams and advances NTS studies in Asia. Since its last meeting in China in 2012, and the completion of the Ford Foundation grant that funded the consortium, networking activities have been largely virtual; through the online sharing of publications and recent developments in the field, and the e-newsletter. The re-launch of the NTS-Asia Consortium reconnected regional researchers, allowing them to share areas of interest and discuss future plans for collaboration and outreach.
The relaunch of NTS-Asia also saw the unveiling of the revamped NTS-Asia website synced with social media platforms, which is aimed at providing an effective and efficient way of increasing outreach and will allow consortium members to better share NTS resources. The website will also be hosting profiles of regional NTS experts and emerging scholars to facilitate networking and knowledge exchange. Other projects in the pipeline include a webinar series through which consortium members can begin providing online NTS studies content regardless of their geographic location.

CENTRE FOR MULTILATERALISM STUDIES
The Centre for Multilateralism Studies (CMS) conducts cutting-edge research, education and training, and networking on cooperative multilateralism in the Asia Pacific region. The centre aims to contribute to international academic and public discourses on regional architecture and order in the Asia Pacific. It aspires to be an international knowledge hub for multilateral and regional cooperation studies.

A major highlight of CMS’ work in 2016 was the seventh edition of the RSIS-WTO Parliamentarian Workshop held from 17 to 19 May at the Marina Mandarin, Singapore. This reflected the continued capacity-building collaboration between the Temasek Foundation and CMS under the Temasek Foundation Series on Trade & Negotiations (TFSTN). Industry experts and representatives from the World Trade Organisation shared their views and ideas, which helped the parliamentarian participants learn more about how their respective nations could benefit from greater free trade and how the multilateral trading system can work for them and their constituents. The discussions covered recent outcomes that came from the 10th Ministerial Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, in December 2015, including the expansion of the Information Technology Agreement, and the directions the WTO could take in the future to remain relevant in the increasingly decentralised global trading system characterised by the rise of mega regional trade agreements such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership. The three-day event also included a tour of Singapore’s Parliament building and a field trip to PSA International Pte Ltd—one of the world’s biggest port operators—to learn how Singapore organises its port logistically to facilitate trade.

(From left) Mr Keith Rockwell, Chief Spokesperson, WTO; Mr Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive Officer, Temasek Foundation; and Ambassador Barry Desker, Distinguished Fellow, RSIS, 17 May 2016
The Temasek Foundation and CMS also continued to organise in-country capacity-training workshops in Asian nations. In April, the programme was held at the Fortuna Hotel, Hanoi, Vietnam. This workshop trained 50 Vietnamese government officers on the topics “Formulating Trade Policies” and “Global Value Chains”. In October, another in-country training programme was launched at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for 45 Malaysian public officials.

CMS partnered with other international institutions to conduct capacity-building activities. On 17–19 August, CMS together with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), and the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) organised a joint workshop on “Economic Corridor Development” in Furama Riverfront Hotel, Singapore. The participants from ASEAN, South Asia and China discussed the subject of “Economic Corridor Development for a Competitive and Inclusive Asia”, including the core features and the different types of economic corridors and areas where future development opportunities could occur.

On 23–24 August, RSIS held a joint conference along with ADBI on the subject of “Global Shocks and the New Global/Regional Financial Architecture”. The ADBI was represented by its Dean, Naoyuki Yoshino, and Senior Consultant, Peter Morgan, while RSIS was represented by Ambassador Ong Keng Yong and Associate Professor Pradumna B. Rana. Among the speakers were RSIS’ NTUC Professor of International Economic Relations, and former Indonesian Minister of Finance, Dr Muhamad Chatib Basri, as well as experts from esteemed institutions like IMF and AMRO.

CMS worked with NTU’s Nanyang Business School (NBS) to launch the joint NBS-RSIS Capacity-building Programme titled “The ASEAN Advantage: Building Successful Business in ASEAN” at the Nanyang Executive Centre and Marina Mandarin from 29 February to 4 March. The conference provided a platform where various experts explored the theme of managing businesses in an increasingly integrated ASEAN, highlighting key issues, namely, infrastructure, trade deals, human resources, consumerism, investment, and regional diversity. Among the speakers were thought leaders, business leaders and policy makers, including Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, Secretary General of Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; Tan Sri Dr Tony Fernandes, Group Chief Executive Officer of AirAsia; Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman of RSIS; Dr Siriwan Chutikamoltham, Senior Lecturer of NBS; Mr John Pang, Senior Fellow of RSIS; Associate Professor Nigel Phang of NBS; and Professor Gemma Calvert, Director for Research & Development of Asian Consumer Insights.
Beside capacity-building programmes, CMS regularly organised seminars on various policy-relevant topics. In July, the centre rolled out the new RSIS Seminar Series on Multilateralism Studies, with the inaugural seminar on “Brexit and Its Aftermath” on 27 July at NTU. A distinguished panel of experts shared their views on the decision of Britain to leave the European Union and the potential economic and political consequences. The panel discussion was chaired by RSIS Distinguished Fellow Ambassador Barry Desker, and the panellists included Dr Joergen Oerstroem Moeller, former Danish Ambassador; Mr Adrian Chiu, an economist at Singapore’s Government Investment Corporation; Dr Pascal Vennesson, RSIS Professor of Political Science; and Dr Yeo Lay Hwee, Director of the European Union Centre in Singapore.

The second seminar in this series took place on 12 August. Dr Muhamad Chatib Basri, RSIS’ NTUC Professor of International Economic Relations, and former Minister of Finance, Indonesia, delivered a talk on “Recent Development Plans for Indonesia and Its Role in Regional Cooperation”. Dr Basri underscored the sources of Indonesia’s economic issues and offered practical solutions to alleviate the problems. On 12 September, the third seminar was held on “International Law as a Constraint on Foreign Policy” at NTU. The distinguished speaker was Professor Math Noortman of Transnational Law and Non-State Actors at the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, U.K. Professor Noortman provided a basic overview of how international law functions and used its logic to explore the case of the South China Sea issue.

Beyond these seminars, CMS also organised several other activities. In January, an ADBI-RSIS book launch on New Global Economic Architecture: The Asian Perspective was held at the Mandarin Orchard, Singapore. The session focused on the changing trends of the current global economic architecture and presented an overview of the book, which was edited by Masahiro Kawai, Peter Morgan and Pradumna B. Rana. Distinguished speakers, including Pradumna B. Rana; Dr Matthias Helble, Research Fellow of the ADBI; Mr Peter J. Morgan, ADBI; and Mr Robert Wihtol of the Asian Institute of Management, gave their views on different aspects of future developments of the global economic architecture. Topics included the emergence of regional institutions, such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and how these institutions will exist along with the incumbent global economic architecture and how they might cooperate successfully, as well as the role Asia should play in the evolving decentralised architecture.

Also in January, CMS held an event as part of the IPE Seminar series titled “World Trade Organisation for the 21st Century: The Asian Perspective” by Dr Ganeshan Wignaraja, an Advisor in the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department of the ADB. Dr Wignaraja explored the WTO’s roles in global trade and its challenges against the backdrop of rising trade regionalism. On 6 April, Dr Luk Van Langenhove, a Research Professor at the Institute of European Studies at the Free University of Brussels and a Visiting Scholar at CMS, gave a seminar “Can the EU and the UN save the world” at RSIS, where he discussed existing partnerships between the United Nations and regional organisations in the maintenance of regional peace and security, and elaborated on the potential contribution that the EU could make to multilevel security governance. On 8 April, Dr Langenhove delivered his second seminar on “Science Diplomacy as a New Tool for Soft Power” at RSIS. Using the EU as an example, Dr Langenhove demonstrated how science diplomacy could boost the ambitions of a region hoping to become a more significant global actor. The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) was also used as an example of how regions can cooperate on areas like science to strengthen relationships.
STUDIES IN INTER-RELIGIOUS RELATIONS IN PLURAL SOCIETIES PROGRAMME

The Studies in Inter-religious Relations in Plural Societies (SRP) Programme, which is into its third year, has made good progress in implementing its three-pronged strategy of teaching, research and community engagement. It has developed eight academic modules for the MSc (Asian Studies) programme and conducted the second run of its Executive Programme for professionals dealing with inter-religious issues.

The eight SRP modules, which are available in Academic Year 2016/17, aim to equip students with the knowledge of religion in contemporary societies, the encounters between religions, key issues of diversity, the Religious Other, conflict, violence and peacebuilding. The modules are:

- Encountering Religion in Plural Societies: Comparative and Contrastive Perspectives;
- Studying Religion in Plural Societies: Theories, Methods, and Practices;
- Modern Challenges, Contextualisation and the Qur’an;
- Violence and Peacebuilding in Islam and Other World Religions;
- Contemporary Relations of Islam and Politics: Deconstructing Islamism, Salafism and Jihadism;
- Christianity, Religious Violence and Peacebuilding;
- Islam, Diversity and the Religious Other; and
- Dialogue: Inter-religious Encounters and Peacebuilding.

These modules are taught by Professor Abdullah Saeed (RSIS’ Peter Lim Visiting Professor of Peace Studies and Advisor to SRP), Visiting Professor Julius Lipner (Emeritus Professor of Hinduism and Comparative Religion, University of Cambridge), Associate Professor Paul Hedges and Assistant Professor Mohamed Bin Ali. The development of the module on Christianity, Religious Violence and Peacebuilding involved collaboration with the Trinity Theological College (TTC), and the module is taught by Reverend Dr Mark Chan, Director of the Centre for the Study of Christianity in Asia, TTC’s research arm.

The SRP Programme introduced the Certificate in the Comparative Study of Religion in Plural Societies (CSRP) in 2015. It will be awarded to RSIS’ Masters programme graduates who have completed four of the above modules, or two of the modules and a dissertation on a topic related to inter-religious relations in plural societies. Three public sector agencies are currently sponsoring five students to pursue the MSc (Asian Studies) with obtaining the CSRP as a requirement. In addition, under the Community Access Programme introduced by the SRP Programme in 2015, 11 individuals from various religious bodies have enrolled as non-graduating students to take up various SRP modules.

The SRP Programme conducted the second run of its Executive Programme from 7 to 11 November 2016. The five-day programme aimed to provide critical knowledge on the crucial role of religion in society, in various facets of life in plural settings and in relation to extremism and peace. About 50 professionals in the areas of community development, education, international relations, religious leadership and security participated in the programme. The seminar-based
programme saw participants engaging with members of the SRP faculty and other scholars on issues in the study of religion, religious encounters and conflict resolution. The external lecturers included Lieutenant General (Ret.) Syed Ata Hasnain from the Delhi Policy Group and the Vivekananda International Foundation; Professor Lily Kong, Provost and Lee Kong Chian Chair Professor of Social Sciences, SMU; and Dr Matthew Walton, Aung San Suu Kyi Senior Research Fellow in Modern Burmese Studies at St Antony’s College, Oxford University.

Faculty members of the programme continued to contribute to literature on subjects of relevance to religion in the context of plural societies. Among the publications was Associate Professor Paul Hedges’ *Towards Better Disagreement: A Journey into Religion and Atheism*, a book which aims to enhance dialogue between the religious and atheists.

Ongoing projects include research on the framework and resources for understanding inter-religious relations in Singapore, and a survey of Al-Wala’ wal Bara’ (Loyalty and Disavowal) sentiments within the Muslim community in Singapore. The initial findings of the first research study were presented at the 2nd SRP Distinguished Lecture and Symposium on 19–20 January 2016. A paper on the second research study is being prepared for publication, while a research study on the Buddhist landscape in Singapore is also under review.

From 1 to 6 August 2016, the SRP team made visits to Shanghai and Xinjiang, hosted respectively by the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) and the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office. While in Shanghai, the team participated in a seminar chaired by Professor Yan Kejia, Director of SASS’ Institute of Religious Studies. The seminar discussed
the localisation of religious practices, religious diversity and extremism. The team also visited academic institutions, government agencies and religious organisations in both Shanghai and Xinjiang where proposals to conduct joint research and conferences were discussed with several of the institutions. The very first development from the visit was the invitation of Professor Yan as a keynote speaker at the 3rd SRP Distinguished Lecture and Symposium in 2017.

The SRP Programme’s community engagement efforts saw further collaboration with the MUIS Academy. Instead of a one-day seminar like the one in 2015, a 10-day workshop was organised for students and new graduates from overseas Islamic universities in July 2016 during the summer vacation. Titled “Islamic Thought in Context”, the workshop was conducted in Singapore and aimed at familiarising participants with the methodologies of how to apply Islamic doctrines in contemporary pluralistic societies. The 35 participants were also given the academic tools to reflect on the need to re-interpret texts and traditions in dealing with important issues in today’s context. The lecturers at the workshop included the faculty of the SRP Programme and the MUIS Academy, as well as external renowned scholars Ebrahim Moosa, Professor of Islamic Studies, University of Notre Dame; and Professor Quresh Shihab, Director of the Center of Quranic Studies in Indonesia.

**NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES PROGRAMME**

In April 2016, the National Security Studies Programme (NSSP) was launched in RSIS with the broad aim of generating intellectual capital pertaining to key milestone episodes in Singapore’s diplomatic and security history, with a view to identifying the enduring fundamentals relevant to the country’s continuing engagement with contemporary and future security challenges. Headed by Associate Professor Kumar Ramakrishna, the NSSP conducts both academic and policy-relevant research into the “Singapore model”, as well as analyse a wide spectrum of national security challenges faced by today’s small, globalised and multi-ethnic city-states.

Since its launch, the NSSP has hit the ground running. It hosted a visiting dignitary while its researchers participated in major regional and international conferences, actively published in various outlets, and gave interviews on primetime media outlets. Through its Distinguished Visitors Programme, the NSSP hosted renowned scholar and practitioner, Dr Gerard Chaliand. An expert in unconventional warfare and guerilla tactics, Dr Chaliand was with the NSSP on 5–9 September 2016. During that week, he delivered two public seminars on “Is the Islamic State in Decline?” and “Understanding Major Fault-lines in the Middle East and their Global Implications”.

Dr Chaliand also participated in a closed-door roundtable discussion with a select group of government officials on how multicultural societies like Singapore could withstand the ISIS onslaught, by drawing appropriate lessons from the French Experience. He also met key government officials as well as noted scholars and researchers from within RSIS and outside. Finally, Dr Chaliand was interviewed by MediaCorp’s Channel 8 and Channel NewsAsia, during which he shared invaluable insights from his many decades of field work in the Middle East and Africa.

In the six months since its launch, NSSP researchers had published 11 commentaries in media outlets and academic platforms. For example, Professor Ramakrishna’s article “The Bangladesh factor behind recent ISA arrests” was published in the *The Straits Times* while his commentaries “There is no such thing as non-violent extremism” and “From radicalism to extremism: The case of Zulfikar Mohamad Shariff” were published in *TODAY*. Meanwhile, Dr Tan Teck Boon’s articles “Striking a bal-
The impact of NSSP's articles did not end with their publication. As a case in point, the RSIS commentary “Remembering 9/11 – Are We Any Safer Today?”, jointly authored by Professor Ramakrishna and Dr Tan, generated sufficient interest on the 15th anniversary of the September 11 attacks in 2001, that Professor Ramakrishna was interviewed on the subject by Channel NewsAsia's FirstLook Asia. Beside this, Professor Ramakrishna also gave interviews for a number of primetime media English and Mandarin channels on a variety of contemporary security issues, particularly related to the launch of the Ministry of Home Affairs’ SG Secure national movement in September. He was also interviewed on regional terrorism issues by foreign media outlets such as NHK, The Star, South China Morning Post, BFM 89.9, The Wall Street Journal, North Wales Daily Post and Raconteur (U.K.).

Going forward, the NSSP will be publishing more academic and policy studies. In December 2016, Professor Ramakrishna's scholarly monograph Singapore Chronicles: The Emergency was published by the Institute of Policy Studies and Straits Times Press (Singapore). Dr Tan’s policy study, “The Coming Fourth Industrial Revolution: Preserving Continuity Amid Disruptive Change”, is also expected to be released later in the year. Likewise, Mr Joshua Ng Wen Jie’s journal article, “Contested histories: Lee Kuan Yew, Poh Soo Kai, and Decolonisation in Singapore – What the primary sources reveal”, is also pending publication. In the months ahead, NSSP researchers will continue to publish pertinent academic and policy studies on the “Singapore model” and other pressing security issues faced by small, globalised and multi-ethnic city-states.
The beginning months of the NSSP’s launch were also marked by the programme’s active engagement in regional and international platforms geared towards the exchange of best practices and ideas. NSSP researchers participated in major conferences that discussed, *inter alia*, contemporary security challenges faced by small states like Singapore. In June 2016, Dr Tan formed part of the RSIS contingent that attended the Asia Pacific Roundtable in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In September 2016, Professor Ramakrishna led a team to London, U.K., for a study project that included meetings with noted academics and researchers as well as participation at a conference called “Development and Dissolution in Societies”. Organised by the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict (CRIC) at Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, the conference brought together experts, scholars and researchers from various security fields. Professor Ramakrishna, who in January 2016 was appointed as an honorary Visiting Senior Research Fellow at CRIC, gave a presentation entitled “Inside the Jemaah Islamiyah Network: Ideological Motivations and Recruitment Patterns – Wider Lessons for today’s CVE efforts”, which was well-received at the conference.

In October 2016, Professor Ramakrishna was invited by the U.S. National Intelligence Council to participate in a small 20-strong group of US and international experts discussing key long-term global scenarios ahead of the formal publication of the *Global Trends 2030* report, a key document used to brief the incoming U.S. president. In November, he was invited to share his perspectives on countering violent extremism at two Track 1.5 meetings—first at the Fifth ASEAN-UN Workshop: Regional Dialogue III on Political-Security Cooperation on “ASEAN-UN Collaboration in Conflict Prevention, Preventive Diplomacy and the Prevention of Violent Extremism”; and then at the Regional Workshop on “Countering Daesh Narratives”, organised by the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

In August and November 2016, NSSP researchers participated in government courses for mid-level and junior civil servants discussing key drivers and trends that had an impact on national and regional security. Of note, in November 2016, the NSSP organised a closed-door dialogue with former senior government official Mr Benny Lim, aimed at exploring Singapore’s security fundamentals with mid-level government officials from various sectors.

Going forward, the NSSP is looking to augment its own research output by working closely with its stakeholders as well as partners within RSIS and beyond. In addition, the NSSP will be hosting Lord Alderdice, Director of the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict at Oxford University, under its Distinguished Visitors Programme in February 2017. Lord Alderdice, who was deeply involved in the 1998 Good Friday Agreement ending the conflict in Northern Ireland, is a trained psychiatrist who has studied sectarian conflicts in Northern Ireland, the Middle East and Latin America. He will share his views with various local academic and policy audiences on the drivers of conflicts driven by identity politics and what can be done to mitigate them, especially if they occur in globalised, multicultural societies.

Mr Benny Lim, former Permanent Secretary for National Development, and also of the Prime Minister’s Office, and National Security and Intelligence Coordination (right) addressing a closed-door dialogue moderated by Associate Professor Kumar Ramakrishna, Head of NSSP, 11 November 2016
POLICY STUDIES IN THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

2016 has been a busy year for Policy Studies in the Office of the Executive Deputy Chairman. One key aim of Policy Studies is to identify research capability gaps in the continually evolving broad national security domain and explore ways of plugging them. To this end, Policy Studies hosted a consultant on science, technology and national security policy, conducted public seminars and sharing sessions, and facilitated research collaboration between RSIS and external partners.

A significant Policy Studies initiative in 2016 was the ongoing engagement with Dr Cung Vu, a respected U.S. defence technologist with over 35 years of experience in industry, academia and government, and was listed in Who’s Who in Science and Engineering. Dr Vu served as consultant in helping RSIS develop a stronger and policy-relevant Science, Technology and Security (STS) research cluster. Recently retired from the U.S. government, Dr Vu visited RSIS three times in 2016, delivering public lectures mapping out the STS landscape and sharing findings from his policy paper on Singapore’s efforts in the cybersecurity domain. He also met with a wide spectrum of business figures, academics, government officials and senior policymakers in the STS domain as part of his remit to help RSIS develop the analytical and conceptual tools to better interpret the policy implications of emerging technologies. He was also instrumental in helping RSIS reach out across disciplinary boundaries to establish potentially synergistic research links with relevant NTU and external technological and scientific experts. In this connection, Dr Vu assisted Policy Studies in substantive and ongoing discussion with the Singapore Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to explore detailed opportunities for collaboration in STS policy-relevant research.

2016 also saw Dr Christopher Lim, formerly of the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) and a neuroscientist in terms of academic background, joining RSIS under the Policy Studies ambit. Dr Lim is keen to examine how emerging combinations of technologies have potentially disrup-
tive implications for national security policies, how national security practitioners can enhance their mental and ethical frameworks to more effectively discern and cope with the effects of rapidly evolving scientific/technological developments, and how current rules-based regulatory regimes can build in the adaptive capacity to efficiently keep abreast of rapidly evolving technological/scientific developments and maintain good governance.

As part of the remit of Policy Studies to engage a range of technical expertise that may be needed to better cope with complex and rapidly evolving national security challenges, Professor Ma Kai-Kuang of NTU’s School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering was invited in December 2016 to lead a sharing session on the use of smart CCTVs to enhance national security. The aim of the session was to bring together RSIS researchers, relevant external stakeholders and the broader NTU community, so as to foster inter-departmental and multi-disciplinary research collaboration and, most importantly, explore ways in which the academic and policy community can build effective research partnerships to help strengthen national/homeland security.

Going forward, it is projected that Policy Studies will continue to engage Dr Cung Vu in the coming year as part of ongoing efforts to build up a strong STS research cluster in RSIS. This will include working with relevant RSIS components at further coordinating various STS research elements, so that they can better complement and reinforce each other’s work. It is also anticipated that Policy Studies will continue substantive discussions with MHA on potential collaboration in STS research with national/homeland security policy implications.

PUBLICATIONS
RSIS’ research activities have resulted in a variety of publications, including books, monographs, journal articles and policy papers. RSIS has several in-house publications: (i) a monograph series on projects carried out by staff and visiting research fellows and collaborating institutions; (ii) the RSIS Working Paper series, which allows resident and visiting scholars to seek feedback on the initial draft of their research papers; (iii) RSIS Commentaries, which offer timely analyses of major developments in regional and international affairs intended primarily for a policy audience; and (iv) Policy Papers and Policy Briefs, which analyse key policy issues and offer recommendations to policymakers and stakeholders. Besides these publications, RSIS faculty and researchers also actively publish in their own areas of interest and specialisation.

The publications of RSIS and RSIS staff members are listed in Annex A and Annex B, respectively.

Sale of the newly-launched Handbook of Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific, 12 July 2016
GRADUATE EDUCATION

Masters Programmes

The 13th QS World University Rankings (WUR 2016), published in September 2016, once again delivered very positive news for NTU and RSIS. NTU maintained its ranking of #13 in the world (after having risen from #39 the previous year) and #2 in Asia. This is an acknowledgement of NTU’s reputation and high academic standards as well as of the outstanding educational experience offered to students, and will enable RSIS to continue attracting highly qualified applicants in an increasingly competitive global graduate education market.

In Academic Year 2016/2017, our MSc programmes have attracted a cosmopolitan student body with a wide range of educational, professional and cultural backgrounds. A total of 245 students from the following countries enrolled in RSIS MSc programmes for the academic year.

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This academic year’s intake of new students has increased overall as well as for the MSc (International Relations), MSc (International Political Economy) and MSc (Asian Studies). Of the 245 students, 40 per cent are Singaporean, and 60 per cent are international students. Twenty-eight students were offered scholarships and study awards in AY2016/2017, including the RSIS Scholarship, the Lee Foundation RSIS Scholarship, Student Research Assistantships, Terrorism Analyst Study Awards, Research Analyst Study Awards and an ASEAN Graduate Scholarship.

To ensure that student applications and admissions remain at robust levels, RSIS will continue to strengthen its marketing initiatives, including information-sharing sessions at RSIS, attendance of leading postgraduate education fairs in Singapore and overseas (for
instance, the QS World Grad School Tours in Jakarta, Manila, Hanoi, Kuala Lumpur and London; the OCSC International Education Expo in Thailand; and the Postgraduate Education Fair in Singapore), marketing visits to selected regional countries by RSIS faculty members, online and print advertising in local and international newspapers and magazines, advertising via social media as well as engaging relevant organisations to continue raising RSIS’ profile as a destination of choice for excellent professional education in the field of international affairs. RSIS will also be tapping on its alumni network to help promote our degree programmes. The overarching goal of these initiatives is to increase the number and quality of applications for AY2017/2018.
Doctoral Programme

Similar to our Masters programmes, the RSIS PhD programme has a diverse and cosmopolitan student body comprising 16 doctoral candidates. Eight nationalities are represented, including one candidate from China who joined us in July 2016. Some of these students are integrated into both RSIS’ institutional and individual faculty research programmes, thus enriching their learning experience whilst also supporting a broad-based collegial research effort.

Four of our PhD students graduated in July 2016, raising the number of RSIS PhD graduates to sixteen. Their final thesis topics included “India-US Relations: Assessing India’s Soft Power”, “Nuclear Disarmament Through A Realist-Liberal-Constructivist Mosaic”, “The Threat of Talibanisation of Pakistan: A Case Study of Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and North-West Frontier Province (NWFP)” and “Rethinking the Consequences of Naval Modernisation in Southeast Asia: A Heuristic Approach”.

Two other candidates have passed their final examinations and will be graduating in July 2017 while one student has submitted her thesis and is awaiting the final viva.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Student Exchange Programmes

Two RSIS Masters students attended the U.S. Foreign Policy Summer Programme 2016 at the Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, and one Elliott School Masters student spent Trimester 3, AY15/16, attending classes at RSIS.

13th RSIS Alumni Dinner

Over 130 RSIS alumni, faculty and staff attended the 13th RSIS Alumni Dinner on 29 July 2016. The reunion saw 18 cohorts of alumni from more than 50 countries congregating at Hilton Hotel Singapore.

The RSIS Teaching Award, recognising teaching excellence and outstanding contributions to the enhancement of teaching and learning at RSIS, was presented at the dinner by the RSIS Dean, Professor Joseph Liow. The award winner was Professor Tan See Seng.

Convocation

The RSIS class of 2016, comprising 145 MSc students (including six NTU-Warwick Double Degree students) and two PhD students joined the 15th NTU Convocation Ceremony on 26 July 2016 at the Nanyang Auditorium.

The RSIS graduates were presented by the Dean of RSIS, Professor Joseph Liow, and included five RSIS academic award winners who distinguished themselves through their outstanding academic performance: Mr Chan Wai Yeap, winner of the Rajabali Jumabhoy Foundation Gold Medal for the best academic performance in the MSc (Asian Studies); Mr Bucknill John Bartholomew, winner of the Lion Group Gold Medal...
for the best academic performance in the MSc (International Political Economy); Ms Kavya Iyengar, winner of the Singapore Technologies Engineering Gold Medal for the best academic performance in the MSc (International Relations); Mr Tan Feng Qin, winner of the United Overseas Bank Gold Medal for the best academic performance in the MSc (Strategic Studies); and Mr Ooi Teck Khim, winner of the Tay Seow Huah Book Prize for writing the best dissertation.

RSIS Alumni Association events
The RSIS Alumni Association organised two successful casual networking events on 7 October 2015 and 22 September 2016 in Singapore’s Central Business District. Both events were well attended by current students and alumni, with some company representatives joining the sessions as well.

Visiting Faculty
In AY2016/2017, RSIS is hosting five visiting faculty members teaching courses in our MSc (Strategic Studies) and MSc (Asian Studies) programmes. They are Professor Geoffrey Till (Globalisation, Maritime Security and Naval Development in the Asia-Pacific), Professor Julius Lipner (Encountering Religions in Plural Societies: Comparative and Contrastive Perspectives), Professor David Shambaugh (U.S.-China Relations, and China’s Foreign and Security Policy), Professor Martin van Bruinissen (Comparing the Dynamics of Islam in Turkey and Indonesia) and Professor Mark Chan (Christianity, Religious Violence and Peacebuilding). We will continue to invite distinguished international scholars to teach at RSIS.
EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

Apart from its graduate programmes, RSIS is actively involved in selected Executive and External Education Programmes in Singapore. RSIS' role in the education of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) goes back to 1996, at its inception, where then-IDSS (Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies) was identified as the main source of strategic studies education, not only for the SAFTI Military Institute (SAFTI MI) but the SAF at large. This relationship culminated with the SAF-NTU Memorandum of Understanding in 2008, recognising RSIS as the main conduit of senior officer education in the areas of strategic studies and military affairs in the SAF Continuing Education Master's Programme. In this programme, RSIS is responsible for the teaching of modules at the Command and Staff Course and the Command and Staff Course (Executive), which are accredited modules which students can transfer as part of their post-graduate pursuits in NTU.

Another key component of this defence education is the Undergraduate Professional Military Education and Training (UGPMET), an accredited module for young SAF officers in tertiary institutions. UGPMET aims to provide a strong foundation in the military arts and sciences, before these young officers embark on their professional careers in the SAF. UGPMET, together with a wide spectrum of courses taught at SAFTI MI for the professional development of SAF junior and senior officers, ensures that the SAF is at the forefront of current and relevant education in the areas of strategic studies, military affairs and geopolitics. These executive and external programmes are primarily helmed by the Military Studies Programme, a component of IDSS, here at RSIS.

Since 1999, RSIS has organised the Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO), bringing together senior military officers to discuss key issues of security and defence. This platform has allowed military officers from a broad spectrum of nations to engage with one another. Other than the robust relationship of supporting the defence education of our nation's professional military force, RSIS is involved in the executive education of senior officers and officials from other governmental agencies. These lectures, seminars and conferences are primarily in the areas of regional security, non-traditional security and international geopolitics. RSIS has emerged as the primary source of executive education and expertise, especially in the fields discussed above.
RSIS MSc Students of Academic Year 2016/2017

MSc Class of 2016/2017 (Strategic Studies)

MSc Class of 2016/2017 (International Relations)
RSIS MSc Students of Academic Year 2016/2017

MSc Class of 2016/2017 (Asian Studies)

MSc Class of 2016/2017 (International Political Economy)
**Master of Science (Strategic Studies)**

### Core Courses
- S6005 The Analysis of Defence/Security Policies
- S6014 The Evolution of Strategic Thought

### Primary Fields
- S6010 Technology and Military Innovation: A Revolution in Military Affairs, Defence Transformation, or Something Else?
- S6019 Terrorism, Intelligence and Homeland Security
- S6028 Countering Religiously-Motivated Terrorism in Southeast Asia: Issues and Challenges
- S6029 Nuclear Politics in Asia
- S6031 Globalisation, Arms-Racing & Naval Development in the Asia Pacific
- S6034 Jihadist Strategic Thought and Practice
- S6035 Insurgency & Counterinsurgency in Modern Asia
- S6037 Selected Issues in Terrorism and Counterterrorism
- S6038 Conflicts in the Digital Age: Information and Cyber Warfare
- S6039 The Ethics of War
- S6040 Intelligence in Peace & War
- S6041 Comparative Civil-Military Relations: In Theory & Practice
- AS6024 Nationalism & Multiculturalism
- AS6025 Introduction to Discourse Analysis, With A Special Emphasis On Religio-Political Discourse
- IP6015 Quantitative Methods in the Study of International Politics
- IM6999 Independent Study Module

### Electives
- AS6007 Government and Politics of Southeast Asia
- AS6008 Maritime Security & Territorial Disputes in the Indo-Pacific
- AS6010 Indonesia Rising: Politics, Society & Strategic Thought
- AS6011 State, Society, and Politics in Malaysia
- AS6013 State, Society & Politics in China
- AS6015 Non-Traditional Security Issues in Asia
- AS6020 Islam, State & Society in South Asia
- AS6021 Government-Business Relations in Asia
- AS6022 China's Foreign & Security Policy
- AS6023 India's Foreign & Security Policy
- AS6025 Introduction to Discourse Analysis, with a special emphasis on Religio-Political Discourse
- AS6027 State, Society and Politics in the Philippines
- AS6028 Studying Religion in Plural Societies: Theories, Methods and Practices
- AS6029 Governance and Security in Myanmar
- AS6030 Encountering Religions in Plural Societies: Comparative and Contrastive Perspectives
- AS6032 Contemporary Relations of Islam and Politics: Deconstructing Islamism, Salafism and Jihadism
- AS6033 Reading the Qur'an: Context and Diversity
- B6058 Technology Platforms & Digital Business Strategy (MBA elective course)
- B6084 Global Risk Analysis (MBA elective course)
- B6260 Global Financial Markets, Institutions & MNCs (MBA elective course)
- B6631 Strategic Technology & Innovation Management (MBA elective course)
- B6834 Strategy Implementation (MBA elective course)
- B6840 Emerging Markets Strategy (MBA elective course)
Master of Science (Strategic Studies)

CC6001 The Making of Modern China: Historical & Social Perspectives (MACC elective course)
CC6204 Chinese Foreign Policy (MACC elective course)
CC6290 Special Topics in Politics & International Relations: The Politics of the Rise of China (MACC elective course)
IP6000 Theories and Issues in International Political Economy
IP6001 Economics for International Political Economy
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Senior Faculty of MSc (International Political Economy)
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European Soccer Duel: A Proxy Battle Between Qatar and the UAE

FIFA, Human Rights and Politics: One Step Forward, Two Steps Backwards

Global Soccer’s Backslapping, Backstabbing Backroom Deal-making Politics
Gulf Autocrats and Sports Corruption: A Marriage Made in Heaven

ILO to Qatar: Put Your Money Where Your Mouth is or Else

Jihadist Soccer: Contrary Visions of a Future Syria

Kuwaiti Rulers Fight Their Internal Battles on the Sports Field

Lee Kuan Yew and Japan

Men's Hair Takes Centre Stage in Battle Over Legitimacy of Political Islam

Mired in Problems: Egypt's President Reaches Out to Ultras

Playing Politics: The AFC Gets Tied Up in Knots

Port Said Emerges as Egypt's Focal Point of Soccer-driven Protest

Power in Turkey: Islamist Power Struggle Returns to the Pitch

Pressure Builds on Sheikh Salman to Respond to Human Rights Allegations

Pushing the Envelope: The World Cup and Arab Revolts Drive Change

Putting One's Ear to the Ground: Rumblings of Mounting Discontent
Rare Agreement Between Saudi and Iranian Islamic Scholars: Soccer Poses a Threat

Recognising Fan Power, Egypt’s Regime Boosts Calls for Security Sector Reform

Religious Conservatism Redefines Symbolism of National Sports Teams

Salman’s Moral Rectitude or Everything You Wanted to Know About FIFA but Never Dared to Ask

Saudi Arabia Projects Change, Albeit at a Snail’s Pace

Saudi Player’s Public Haircut Spotlights Kingdom’s Existential Dilemmas

Saudi Soccer Crisis: A Microcosm of What Reform Means for the Kingdom

Soccer Investments’ Reputational Risk Catches Up with UAE – Analysis

Sports: A Barometer of Saudi Reform

Struggling for Women’s Rights: International Sports Associations Duck the Gun

A Study in Soft Power Strategy: Iceland 1, Qatar –1

Subtle Policy Changes Could Reinforce Qatari Focus on Sports
Turkey and Egypt: The Battle to Control Dissent Pitches Fans Against Autocrats

Turkish Soccer Brawls: The Battle for the Future of the Kemalist State

Turkish Soccer Pitches Tell the Story of Hardening Fault Lines

Turkish Stadiums: A Contested Political Battleground

Upholding the Rights of Religious Minorities in Islamic Societies
− Iulia Lumina, TODAY, 8 April 2016

U.S. Adds to Pressure on Qatar to Move on Labour Reform

Volleyball in Iran: A Litmus Test for Women’s Rights

Women: A Benchmark of Saudi and Iranian Reform
RSIS Conferences and Workshops

1. Workshop on “Political Reform and Social Stability in China”, organised by the China Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 8–9 January 2016


4. 9th Annual Terrorism Analyst Training Course, organised by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, RSIS, 25 January – 5 February 2016

5. Workshop on “India and Japan: Towards A Global Partnership”, organised by the South Asia Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 29 January 2016

6. HSS-GPN@NUS-RSIS Workshop on “Pluralising Global Governance? China, BRICS and Global Governance”, jointly organised by RSIS and Global Production Networks Centre, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, NUS, 15 February 2016


8. RSIS-NBS Capacity-Building Programme on “The ASEAN Advantage: Building Successful Business in ASEAN”, jointly organised by the Centre for Multilateralism Studies, RSIS and Nanyang Business School, NTU, 29 February – 4 March 2016

9. ASEAN Regional Forum Experts and Eminent Persons Informal Working Group Meeting, organised by RSIS, 29 February 2016

10. 10th Meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum Experts and Eminent Persons, organised by RSIS, 1–2 March 2016

11. Strategic Assessment of Regional Threats (START) Programme, organised by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, RSIS, 21–22 March 2016


13. 10th Asia Pacific Programme for Senior National Security Officers (APPSNO), organised by the Centre of Excellence for National Security, RSIS, 10–15 April 2016

15. Conference on "Islam in the Contemporary World", organised by RSIS, 28 April 2016

16. RSIS-World Trade Organisation Parliamentarian Workshop, organised by the Centre for Multilateralism Studies, RSIS, 17–19 May 2016


18. Workshop on “Countering Violent Extremism”, jointly organised by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, RSIS, and the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses Against Terrorism, University of Maryland, 27–30 June 2016

19. Workshop on “Maritime Security in the Asia Pacific”, jointly organised by China Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, and the Center for Collaborative and Innovative Studies of the South China Sea, Nanjing University, 4 July 2016, Nanjing


21. Think Tank Seminar on “The South China Sea and Regional Cooperation and Development”, organised by the China Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 18 July 2016


24. 3rd Conference on "Partnership for Regional Peace: Operationalising ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership in Southeast Asia", jointly organised by the Maritime Security Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and National Institute for South China Sea Studies (NISCSS), 21–22 July 2016


26. 18th Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO), organised by the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 4–10 August 2016


33. Conference on “Securing the Belt and Road Initiative: Risk Assessment, Private Security, and Special Insurances Along the New Wave of Chinese FDI”, jointly organised by the China Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, SacWATERs and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati, 27 October 2016

34. RSIS Panel at the Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW) on “Nuclear Safety and Cooperation in Southeast Asia”, organised by the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS, 28 October 2016


36. Workshop on “Inaugural Meeting of the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention”, jointly organised by the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS, and Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, Australia, 7–8 November 2016

37. 2nd SRP Executive Programme 2016, organised by the Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies Programme, RSIS, 7–11 November 2016

38. Conference on “World Humanitarian Summit – Implications for the Asia Pacific”, organised by the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS, 14 November 2016, Jakarta


41. Workshop on “Arms Racing in Asia”, organised by Military Transformations Programme and Maritime Security Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 18 November 2016

42. Workshop on “Towards Resilient Cities, Green Urban Infrastructure and Sustainable Livelihoods: Dynamics of the Just City, the Right to the City, and Food and Nutrition Security”, organised by the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS, 23–24 November 2016

43. Workshop on “New Dynamics in the South China Sea Dispute”, organised by the China Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 28 November 2016

44. Workshop on “The Trajectory of the South China Sea Territorial Disputes: A Multilateral Perspective”, organised by the Regional Security Architecture Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, 1 December 2016

45. Workshop on “Asia Pacific Leadership Network for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (APLN)”, organised by the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS, 8–9 December 2016
RSIS Lectures and Talks

STRATEGIC TRENDS IN THE 21ST CENTURY COLLOQUIUM SERIES

1. Dr Kent Calder, S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS; and Director, Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, on “Shinzo Abe’s Japan in a Global World”, 12 January 2016

2. Professor Chu Shulong, RSIS Distinguished Visiting Fellow; and Professor of Political Science and International Relations, School of Public Policy and Management; and Director, Institute of International Strategic and Development Studies, Tsinghua University, Beijing, on “Is China’s Foreign Strategy Changing?”, 26 January 2016

3. Mr Randal Phillips, Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, RSIS; and Managing Partner for Asia, The Mintz Group, on “China Military Modernisation Trends and Developments”, 2 March 2016

DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

1. Dr Kent Calder, S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS; and Director, Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, on “The New Continentalism: Implications for the Global Future”, 11 January 2016

2. Professor Chu Shulong, RSIS Distinguished Visiting Fellow; and Professor of Political Science and International Relations, School of Public Policy and Management; and Director, Institute of International Strategic and Development Studies, Tsinghua University, Beijing, on “China’s Military Modernisation and Security Strategy”, 28 January 2016

3. RSIS-ZICO Distinguished Lecture on ASEAN and Partners by Mr Randal Phillips, Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, RSIS; and Managing Partner for Asia, The Mintz Group, on “One Belt One Road and AIIB: Implications for ASEAN”, 26 February 2016

Mr Randal Phillips, RSIS’ Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, signing his Distinguished Public Lecture poster, 26 February 2016

Dr Kent Calder, RSIS’ S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, giving a talk on “Shinzo Abe’s Japan in a Global World”, 12 January 2016
4. Mr Eduardo Frei, Ambassador-at-Large for the Asia Pacific Region, Former President of Chile, and Former Chairman of the Senate, Chile, on “Enhancing Latin America’s Relations and Cooperation with East Asia”, 11 March 2016

5. Professor Michael Brown, RSIS Distinguished Visitor; and Professor of International Affairs and Political Science, Elliott School of International Relations, The George Washington University, on “U.S. Foreign Policy in a Time of Transition”, 14 April 2016

6. Mr Shaarik H. Zafar, Special Representative to Muslim Communities, Department of State, United States of America, on “The Importance of Muslim Communities in the United States’ Rebalance to Asia”, 16 May 2016

7. The Honorable John McCain, United States Senator for Arizona, on “America’s Enduring Commitment to Security and Prosperity in Asia”, 3 June 2016

8. RSIS Distinguished Book Launch by Dr Kurt M. Campbell, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, The Asia Group, LLC; and Former Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, U.S. Department of State, on “The Pivot: The Future of American Statecraft in Asia”, 3 June 2016
9. Professor Jia Qingguo, Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, RSIS; and Dean, School of International Studies, Peking University, on “Whereto? China-U.S. Relations at a Crossroad”, 11 August 2016

10. RSIS-MPA Distinguished Public Lecture by Mr Koji Sekimizu, RSIS-MPA Distinguished Visiting Fellow and former IMO Secretary-General, on “What I Dreamed About at IMO”, 23 August 2016

11. Dr Muhamad Chatib Basri, NTUC Professor of International Economic Relations, RSIS; and Former Minister of Finance, Indonesia, on “The Fed’s Tapering Talk: A Short Statement’s Long Impact on Indonesia”, 31 August 2016

12. Dr Olli Heinonen, S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS; Senior Associate, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School of Government; and Senior Advisor on Science and Nonproliferation, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Washington, D.C., on “Regional Norms for Cooperation on Nuclear Safety and Radiological Emergency in Southeast Asia”, 2 November 2016
1. RSIS Roundtable with Professor Margaret Pearson, Professor of Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, U.S. on “China and International Economic Governance”, 6 January 2016

2. ADBI-RSIS Book Launch and Seminar on “New Global Economic Architecture: The Asian Perspective” by Dr Matthias Helble, Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute; Dr Peter Morgan, Senior Consultant for Research, Asian Development Bank Institute; Professor Euston Quah, President, Economics Society of Singapore, and Head of Economics, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, NTU; Dr Pradumna B. Rana, Associate Professor, RSIS; and Dr Robert Wihtol, Adjunct Professor, Asian Institute of Management, Philippines, 6 January 2016

3. RSIS-HSS Seminar by Dr Gunter Schubert, Chair of Greater China Studies, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies, University of Tübingen, Germany, on “Cross-Strait Relations at the End of the Ma Ying-jeou Era”, 6 January 2016

4. Professor Susan K. McCarthy, Professor of Political Science, Providence College, on “Socialist Legacies and Market Imperatives in Chinese Muslim Charity”, 7 January 2016

5. Ifti Rashid, Endeavour Scholar and PhD candidate, School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts, Monash University, on “Radicalisation Trends in Bangladesh”, 7 January 2016


7. Dr Kent Calder, S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS; and Director, Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, on “Asia in Washington: Comparative Perspectives”, 8 January 2016

8. RSIS Panel Seminar on “Contemporary Developments in Singapore-Malaysia Relations: Prospects and Challenges for Bilateral Ties”, by Mr Wan Saiful Wan Jan, Chief Executive, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia, and Mr John Pang, Senior Fellow, Centre for Multilateralism Studies, RSIS, 11 January 2016

9. RSIS Luncheon Seminar by Dr Wu Shang-Su, Research Fellow, Military Studies Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, on “Thailand’s International High Speed Railway Network: A Sophisticated Project in Southeast Asia and Beyond”, 12 January 2016


11. Dr Peter Chalk, Senior Political Analyst, RAND Corporation, on “Maritime Violence in Southeast Asia”, 13 January 2016

12. Dr Kent Calder, S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS; and Director, Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, on “Smart State, Smart City: Singapore as Global Policy Paradigm”, 15 January 2016

13. Professor Chu Shulong, RSIS Distinguished Visiting Fellow; and Professor of Political Science and International Relations, School of Public Policy and Management; and Director, Institute of International Strategic and Development Studies, Tsinghua University, Beijing, on “Trends of China’s Economic and Political Development”, 25 January 2016

Discussion moderated by Professor Pascal Vennesson, following an RSIS Luncheon Seminar presentation by Dr Wu Shang-su (standing), 12 January 2016
14. Dr Sophie Lemière, Research Fellow, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, on “The Spring of Ennahda: (R)Evolution in the Tunisian Islamist Party”, 26 January 2016

15. Professor Amin Abdul Aziz, Adjunct Professor, Institute of Policy Studies, University of Brunei Darussalam, on “The Implementation of Islamic Law in Southeast Asia”, 27 January 2016

16. Associate Professor Alice D. Ba, RSIS Visiting Fellow; and Associate Professor of Political Science & International Relations, University of Delaware, on “The Changing Logics of Regional Order? The United States, China, and ASEAN in East Asia”, 27 January 2016

17. Professor C. Raja Mohan, Founding Director, Carnegie India, on “India’s Minilateralism: Reviewing India’s New International Coalitions”, 28 January 2016


20. Mr James M. Dorsey, Senior Fellow, RSIS, on “Saudi Arabia and Iran: The Battle for Hegemony that the Kingdom Cannot Win”, 3 February 2016

21. Dr John Harrison, Associate Professor, Senior Analyst Cyberpoint Associate, and Editor, Journal of Transportation Security, on “Challenges and Implications of Daesh”, 12 February 2016

22. RSIS Closed-door Roundtable Discussion on “Global Developments in Humanitarian Affairs”, 15 February 2016


24. RSIS Luncheon Seminar by Dr Wu Fengshi, Associate Professor, China Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, on “China and Global Governance: Four Pathways to Cross a Threshold”, 18 February 2016

25. Dr Cung Vu, RSIS Visiting Senior Fellow; and Former Associate Director, Office of Naval Research Global (Singapore), United States Department of the Navy, on “The Smart Nation Unpacked – Issues, Challenges and Policy Implications”, 19 February 2016

27. Professor Azar Gat, Ezer Weitzman Chair for National Security, Department of Political Science, Tel Aviv University, on “The Past and Future of War”, 23 February 2016


29. Dr Melissa Crouch, Lecturer, Law Faculty, University of New South Wales, Sydney, and Deputy Director, Comparative Constitutional Law Project, on “Understanding Religious Diversity in Myanmar”, 24 February 2016


32. Mr Arman I Rashid, Doctoral Researcher and Endeavour Scholar, School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts, Monash University, Australia; and Director, Institute of Conflict, Law and Development Studies, Dhaka, on “(Un)Branded Radicalisation: The Dynamics of Politics, Religion and Security in Bangladesh”, 3 March 2016

33. Mr Randal Phillips, Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, RSIS; and Managing Partner for Asia, The Mintz Group, on “Decision-making Under Xi Jinping: Decoding China’s Power Dynamics and Reform Agenda under Xi Jinping”, 4 March 2016

34. Dr Arnold Puyok, Head of Department of Politics and International Relations, Faculty of Social Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, on “Prospects of Sarawak’s 11th State Elections”, 7 March 2016

35. RSIS-Embassy of Sweden Seminar by Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Former UN Under-Secretary General, on “Moving Beyond UNSCR 1325? Women in Conflict-Affected Countries and Peace Building”, 7 March 2016

36. Ambassador Bilahari Kausikan, Ambassador-at-Large and Policy Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on “Evolving Regional Architecture in East Asia – Challenges and Implications for ASEAN”, 8 March 2016

37. Dr Feng Zhang, Visiting Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore; and Fellow, Department of International Relations, Australia National University, on “Can China Achieve Hegemony in East Asia?”, 10 March 2016

Mr Randal Phillips, RSIS’ Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, giving a seminar on “Decision-making under Xi Jinping: Decoding China’s Power Dynamics and Reform Agenda under Xi Jinping”, 4 March 2016

Dr Noeleen Heyzer (right), Distinguished Visiting Fellow and former UN Under-Secretary General, sharing her insights on “Moving Beyond UNSCR 1325? Women in Conflict-Affected Countries and Peace Building” at the Residence of the Swedish Ambassador, 7 March 2016
38. Professor Ian Clark, School of Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland, on “What’s the Problem with the Laws of War?”, 22 March 2016


40. Professor Michael Brown, RSIS Distinguished Visitor, Professor of International Affairs and Political Science, Elliott School of International Relations, The George Washington University, on “Balancing Acts: U.S. Policy toward Asia, Europe, and the Middle East”, 5 April 2016

41. Professor Luk Van Langenhove, Research Professor, Institute of European Studies, Free University of Brussels, on “Can the EU and the UN Save the World”, 6 April 2016

42. Emeritus Professor Omar Farouk Bajunied, Centre for Policy Research and International Studies, Science University of Malaysia, on “The Role of Muslim Institutions in Building Inter-Faith Relations in Southeast Asia”, 6 April 2016

43. H.E. Ngurah Swajaya, Ambassador of Indonesia, Singapore, on “Indonesia’s Foreign Policy in East Asia and the World”, 8 April 2016

44. Professor Luk Van Langenhove, Research Professor, Institute of European Studies, Free University of Brussels, on “Science Diplomacy as a New Tool for Soft Power?”, 8 April 2016

45. Dr Greg Lopez, Research Fellow, Murdoch University Executive Education Centre, on “Ungku Aziz and Syed Hussein Alatas – Different Types of Intellectuals”, 12 April 2016


47. Professor Douglas Pratt, University of Waikato, New Zealand, and University of Bern, Switzerland, on “An Extremist Ideology: Understanding the Religious Appeal of ISIS”, 13 April 2016


49. Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony, Dr Jonatan Lassa, Maxim Shrestha, and Vincent Mack Zhi Wei of RSIS’ Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, on “The Future of Food Security in Asia: Emerging Issues and Challenges”, 20 April 2016


51. RSIS and Embassy of France Seminar Series on Muslim Societies in Asia by Dr Sophie Lemière, Political Anthropologist, MED-RSCAS-EUI, Florence, on “Islamophobia: Anti-Islam and Anti-Muslim Echoes in France and Southeast Asia”, 21 April 2016

52. RSIS Luncheon Seminar by Dr Anit Mukherjee, Assistant Professor, South Asia Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, on “We Don’t Need No Education: Professional Military Education and Civil-Military Relations in India”, 21 April 2016
53. Dr Inomjon I. Bobokulov, Associate Professor, UNESCO Chair on International Law and Human Rights, University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED), Uzbekistan, on “Current Trends of Central Asian Security: From Geopolitics to ISIS”, 21 April 2016

54. Dr Noeleen Heyzer, RSIS Distinguished Visiting Fellow; and Former UN Under-Secretary General, and Dr Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, RSIS Visiting Senior Fellow; and President, Women in International Security (WIIS), on “From Development to Security: The Roles of Women”, 22 April 2016

55. RSIS Roundtable by Major William B. Easter, Singapore Desk Officer, United States Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, on “Southeast Asia: The View from Hawaii”, 22 April 2016

56. Fireside Chat with Dr Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, RSIS Visiting Senior Fellow; and President, Women in International Security (WIIS), and Dr Tamara Nair, Research Fellow, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS, on “The Relevance of Women, Peace and Security Agenda to Southeast Asia”, 26 April 2016

57. Dr Ebrahim Moosa, Professor of History and Islamic Studies, University of Notre Dame, on “What is a Madrasa?”, 29 April 2016


59. RSIS-MEI Book Launch by Mr James Dorsey, Senior Fellow, RSIS, on “The Turbulent World of Middle East Soccer”, 4 May 2016

60. Dr Yeo Lay Hwee, Adjunct Fellow, RSIS; Director, European Union Centre in Singapore; and Council Secretary and Senior Research Fellow, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, on “To Leave or Not To Leave: Brexit and What It Means for U.K. and the European Union”, 5 May 2016

61. RSIS Roundtable with China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) on “Asia Pacific Security”, 9 May 2016
62. Mr K. Srinivasan, Founder & Chairman, Prime Point Foundation; Editor in Chief, PreSense; and Chairman and Managing Trustee, Digital Journalists Association of India (DiJAI), Chennai, India, and Ms Bhavani K., Adjunct Senior Fellow, Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS), RSIS, on “Community Responses during Crises and Emergencies”, 13 May 2016

63. RSIS Luncheon Seminar by Dr Paul Hedges, Associate Professor, Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies Programme, RSIS, on “Deliberative Democracy and Interreligious Dialogue in the U.K. and Singapore: Comparative and Philosophical Explorations”, 18 May 2016

64. RSIS Roundtable with Center for American Progress (CAP) and China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) on “U.S.-China-ASEAN Relations”, 27 May 2016

65. Celine C. Cocq, PhD Candidate, Centre de Droit Européen, Université Libre de Bruxelles, on “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Information and Intelligence Sharing in ASEAN to Fight Serious Transnational Crime: Towards a Regionalisation in Criminal Matters”, 2 June 2016

66. Dr Nelly Lahoud, Senior Fellow for Political Islamism, International Institute for Strategic Studies, Middle East, on “Islamic State: Aspirations vs Reality”, 6 June 2016

67. RSIS Roundtable with Dr Leif-Eric Easley, Division of International Studies, Ewha University; and Research Fellow, Asan Institute for Policy Studies in Seoul, Korea, on “Farewell to ‘Lips and Teeth’ and ‘Kinship Ties’: China’s Relations with North Korea and Myanmar”, 6 June 2016

68. Dr Julie Chernov Hwang, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations, Goucher College, on “Reconsidering Violence: The Disengagement of Indonesian Jihadists”, 6 June 2016

69. RSIS Roundtable with Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) on “Sino-U.S. Competition; ASEAN-China Relations; and the South China Sea Disputes”, 10 June 2016

70. Mr Andrew C. Weber, Senior Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and Deputy Coordinator for Ebola Response at the U.S. Department of State, on “Current and Emerging WMD Threats – from ISIS to SynBio”, 20 June 2016

71. Dr Emmanuel Karagiannis, Senior Lecturer, Department of Defence Studies, King’s College London, on “The New Face of Political Islam in Central Asia: The Rise of Islamo-Democrats”, 24 June 2016

72. RSIS Roundtable with Institute of Chinese Borderland Studies, China Academy of Social Sciences, on “South China Sea Disputes”, 27 June 2016


74. SAF Day Seminar on “Future Challenges for the SAF”, organised by RSIS’ Military Studies Programme with Dr Thomas X. Hammes, Distinguished Research Fellow, National Defense University, on “Keeping Legacy Systems Relevant for the SAF”, and Dr Paul T. Mitchell, Director of Academics and Associate Dean of Arts, Canadian Forces College, on “Designing Design: Teaching Strategy and Operations for Small Militaries”, 30 June 2016

75. Dr Cung Vu, RSIS Visiting Senior Fellow; and Former Associate Director, Office of Naval Research Global (Singapore), United States Department of the Navy, on “The Role of Science and Technology in Contemporary Society”, 4 July 2016


77. Dr David Lai, Research Professor of Asian Security Affairs, Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College, and Mr Frederick J. Gellert,
Professor of Resource Management, U.S. Army War College, on “The Future of the U.S. Strategic Rebalance Toward the Asia Pacific”, 8 July 2016

78. Book Launch and Seminar on “Handbook of Terrorism in the Asia Pacific”, on 12 July 2016

79. RSIS-MUIS Academy Seminar by Dr Ebrahim Moosa, Professor of Islamic Studies, University of Notre Dame, on “Morality and the Public Sphere: Harnessing Islamic Ethics for the Common Good”, 22 July 2016

80. Mr Richard Walton, Former Head of the Metropolitan Police Counter Terrorism Command, New Scotland Yard, on “British Counter Terrorism Model”, 22 July 2016

81. RSIS-CNA Live Recording of “Think Tank” Panel Discussion Programme: Episode 1 on “Are We Safe? Evolving Threat of Terrorism”, by Nur Azlin Mohamed Yasin, Associate Research Fellow, International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, RSIS; Arnaud Vaissié, Co-founder, Chairman and CEO, International SOS; Ridzwan Rahmat, Senior Defence and Security Analyst, IHS Jane’s; and Sumanto Al Qurtuby, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore, 25 July 2016

82. RSIS Seminar Series on Multilateralism Studies on “Brexit and Its Aftermath”, by Mr Joergen Oerstroem Moeller, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, on “Brexit and Implications for EU and Eurozone”; Dr Yeo Lay Hwee, Director of the European Union Centre in Singapore, on “Brexit: Implications for Asia”; Mr Adrian Chiu Ting Fung, Economist (European Macro and Global Fixed Income Markets), GIC, on “Brexit: An Investor’s Perspective”; and Professor Pascal Vennesson, Professor of Political Science, RSIS, on “Political Dimensions and Implications of the Brexit”, 27 July 2016

83. Dr Nader Hashemi, Associate Professor of Middle East and Islamic Politics and Director of the Center for Middle East Studies at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, on “The Role of Islam in the Transition to Democracy”, 28 July 2016

84. RSIS-CNA Live Recording of “Think Tank” Panel Discussion Programme: Episode 2 on “Do We Have Enough To Eat? Food Security Across Asia”, by Dr Tamara Nair, Research Fellow, Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies, RSIS; Ms Kym Blechynden, Regional Emergency Health Coordinator, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Dr Rajen Manicka, Chairman and CEO, Holista Colltech; and Ms Kavita Prakash-Mani, Executive Director, Grow Asia, 1 August 2016

85. RSIS Roundtable with Ambassador K V Bhagirath, Secretary-General, Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), 2 August 2016

87. Dr Sumanto Al Qurtuby, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, on “Christian-Muslim Relations and Peacebuilding in the Post-Violence Maluku, Eastern Indonesia”, 3 August 2016

88. Professor Jia Qingguo, Ngee Ann Kongsi Professor of International Relations, RSIS; and Dean, School of International Studies, Peking University, on “Identity Conflicts: An Alternative Explanation of China’s Foreign Policy Behaviour”, 3 August 2016

89. Dr Diptendu Sarkar, PhD Graduate, Department of South and South East Asian Studies, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India, on “A Paradigm Shift of the Conflict in South Thailand: From the Quest of Identity to Terrorism”, 12 August 2016

90. Dr Muhamad Chatib Basri, NTUC Professor of International Economic Relations, RSIS; and Former Minister of Finance, Indonesia, on “Recent Development Plans for Indonesia and Its Role in Regional Cooperation”, 12 August 2016

91. Ms Maria A. Ressa, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Editor, Rappler Inc., on “From Bin Laden to Facebook: Terrorism’s Social Networks in Southeast Asia”, 15 August 2016

92. RSIS-CNA Live Recording of “Think Tank” Panel Discussion Programme: Episode 3 on “Why Law Matters? Rule of Law in the South China Sea”, by Ms Jane Chan, Research Fellow and Coordinator of the Maritime Security Programme, RSIS; Professor Lucy Reed, Director, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore; Ms Maria A. Ressa, CEO and Executive Editor, Rappler Inc.; and Dr Malcolm Cook, Senior Fellow, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, 15 August 2016

93. RSIS Roundtable with Guangxi University, China, on “China’s New Maritime Silk Road Initiative and China ASEAN Connectivity”, 16 August 2016

94. Professor Stuart Anderson, Professor of Physics, Space and Atmospheric Physics Group, University of Adelaide, on “Strategic and Operational Implications of HF Radar Surveillance Technologies in The Asian Sector”, 17 August 2016

95. Ambassador Joergen Moeller, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, on “EU and Brexit: Challenges for EU and Prospects”, 17 August 2016

Ms Maria A. Ressa, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Editor, Rappler Inc., giving a talk on “From Bin Laden to Facebook: Terrorism’s Social Networks in Southeast Asia”, 15 August 2016
96. Ms Janet Lim, Former UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, Fellow, Singapore Management University, and Executive-in-Residence, Geneva Centre for Security Policy; Mr Xavier Castellanos, Regional Director, Asia Pacific, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); and Mr Egan Hwan, Communications and Media Manager, Asia, Save the Children, on “RSIS Celebrates World Humanitarian Day: Voices From The Field”, 18 August 2016

97. Professor David Cohen, Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS; and Director, WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University, on “The Rule of Law in ASEAN Under the ASEAN Economic Community”, 18 August 2016

98. Hamoon Khelghat-Doost, PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore (NUS), on “Women and State-Building Jihadism”, 22 August 2016

99. RSIS-CNA Live Recording of “Think Tank” Panel Discussion Programme: Episode 4 on “Will There be an ASEAN 5 Years From Now?”, by Dr Kaewkamol Pitakdumrongkit, Assistant Professor, Centre for Multilateralism Studies, RSIS; Mr John Pang, Senior Fellow, Centre for Multilateralism Studies, RSIS; Ms Sanchita Basu Das, Fellow and Lead Researcher, Economic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Centre, and Coordinator, Singapore APEC Study Centre, ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute; and Ms Shanti Shamdasani, President, ASEAN International Advocacy; and Board of Governors, Amcham Indonesia, 24 August 2016, Jakarta

100. RSIS Roundtable by Vivian Claire Liew, Founding Director, Philanthropy Works, Singapore, on ”Asia Toxic Haze Crisis – Our Black Swan”, 25 August 2016

101. Mr Walter Lohman, Director, Asian Studies Center, Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy, The Heritage Foundation, on “Future of the Rebalance”, 25 August 2016

102. Dr Math Noortmann, Professor on Transnational Law and Non-State Actors, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR), Coventry University, and Dr Juliette Koning, Reader in Organisation Studies and Asian Business, Faculty of Business, Oxford Brookes University, U.K., on “PhD Research in the U.K.: From Proposal to Viva”, 25 August 2016

103. Dr Math Noortmann, Professor on Transnational Law and Non-State Actors, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR), Coventry University, on ”The Role and Position of Private Military and Security Companies in Transnational Security Governance”, 29 August 2016

104. Dr Linton Wells II, Centre of Excellence National Security Distinguished Visiting Fellow, and Distinguished Research Professor serving as the Transformation Chair at National Defense University (NDU), on “National Security Implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution”, 29 August 2016

105. RSIS-CNA Live Recording of “Think Tank” Panel Discussion Programme: Episode 5 on “Where To Go? Promises and Perils of Mass Migration”, by Ms Anna Olsen, Technical Officer, TRIANGLE II Project, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) Bangkok, Thailand, International Labour Organisation (ILO); Mr Ezekial (Zeke) Simperingham, Regional Migration Advisor, Asia Pacific Regional Office, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Ambassador Dr Michael Pulch, Ambassador of the European Union to Singapore; and Ms Moe Thuzar, Lead Researcher, Socio-Cultural Affairs, ISEAS Fellow and Coordinator of the Myanmar Studies Programme, ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, 29 August 2016

106. RSIS-ARI Seminar by Associate Professor Teresita Cruz-Del Rosario, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, and Dr James Dorsey, Senior Fellow, RSIS, on ”Can the Middle East Learn from Southeast Asia? A Comparative Analysis of Political Transitions in Volatile Regions”, 30 August 2016

107. RSIS Roundtable with Commodore Dr Lee Cordner, Fellow, Indo-Pacific Governance Research Centre (IPGRC), University of Adelaide, on “The Indian Ocean: A Risk-Based Approach to Maritime Security”, 30 August 2016

108. RSIS Roundtable with Mr Patrick Cronin, Senior Director of the Asia Pacific Security Program at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), 31 August 2016
109. Dr Linton Wells II, Centre of Excellence National Security Distinguished Visiting Fellow, and Distinguished Research Professor serving as the Transformation Chair at National Defense University (NDU), on “Cyberspace as the Fifth Dimension of Warfare”, 31 August 2016

110. Dr Linton Wells II, Centre of Excellence National Security Distinguished Visiting Fellow, and Distinguished Research Professor serving as the Transformation Chair at National Defense University (NDU), on “New Approaches to Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Cyber Attack”, 2 September 2016

111. Dr Math Noortman, Professor on Transnational Law and Non-State Actors, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR), Coventry University, on “International Law as a Constraint on Foreign Policy”, 2 September 2016

112. Dr Gerard Chaliand, Distinguished Visiting Fellow, National Security Studies Programme, RSIS, on “Is the Islamic State in Decline?”, 5 September 2016


114. RSIS-CNA Live Recording of “Think Tank” Panel Discussion Programme: Episode 6 on “No Longer Safe Online? Emerging Cybersecurity Threats”, by Ms Catriona Helena Heil, Research Fellow, Centre of Excellence for National Security, RSIS; Mr David Koh, Deputy Secretary (Technology) and Deputy Secretary (Special Projects), Ministry of Defence; and Chief Executive, Cyber Security Agency, Prime Minister’s Office; Mr Keshav Dhakad, Regional Director, Digital Crimes Unit, Microsoft Asia; and Mr Vincent Loy, Asia Pacific Financial Crime & Cyber Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 8 September 2016

115. Dr Gerard Chaliand, Distinguished Visiting Fellow, National Security Studies Programme, RSIS, on “Understanding the Major Faultlines in the Middle East and their Global Implications”, 9 September 2016


117. RSIS Roundtable by Lt. Gen. (Ret) S. L. Narasimhan, and Brig. (Ret) Rumel Dahiya, SM, Deputy Director, Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi, on “Perspectives on India’s China Strategy”, 13 September 2016

118. Dr Christopher Lim, Senior Fellow, RSIS, on “Are WTO and FTAs Passé?”, 16 September 2016


120. RSIS Roundtable with Mr Tim Ryan, Senior Intelligence Officer, Energy Division of the Defence Intelligence Agency, U.S., 21 September 2016

122. Dr Rahmawati (AMA) Husein, Assistant Professor, Jusuf Kalla School of Government, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta; and Visiting Fellow, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme, RSIS, on “An Assessment of the Hospital Preparedness and Community Readiness for Emergency and Disaster Approach”, 29 September 2016

123. RSIS Roundtable with Thai Government Delegation, 30 September 2016

124. Dr Zamihan Mat Zain, Religious Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysia and President, Association of Sunni Malaysia (Aswaja), on “ISIS in Malaysia: Doctrine, Threat and Solution”, 30 September 2016

125. Dr Vasily Kashin, Visiting Fellow, Military Transformations Programme, RSIS; and Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, on “Russian-Chinese Military and Defence Industry Cooperation Since the Beginning of the Ukrainian Crisis”, 3 October 2016

126. Dr Steven Metz, Director of Research, Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College, on “Deciphering the American Approach to War and Security”, 4 October 2016

127. Professor Madawi al-Rasheed, Visiting Research Professor, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore; Dr Mohamed Ali-Adraoui, Senior Visiting Research Fellow, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore; and Assistant Professor Mohamed Nawab Osman, Coordinator of Malaysia Programme, RSIS, on “The Making of Contemporary Salafism: Comparative Perspectives from the Middle East, Europe and Southeast Asia”, 5 October 2016

128. Dr Rahmawati (AMA) Husein, Assistant Professor, Jusuf Kalla School of Government, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta; and Visiting Fellow, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme, RSIS, on “Preparing to Excel in Emergency Response: Local Faith Capacity Building for Emergency Response”, 6 October 2016

129. RSIS Roundtable with PLA National Defense University on “U.S.-China Relations, South China Sea, Singapore-China Relations”, 10 October 2016

130. Mr Satvinder Singh, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, International Enterprise Singapore, on “Challenges and Opportunities to Enhance Singapore’s External Economy in the Coming Years”, 7 October 2016

131. RSIS Roundtable with PLA National Defense University on “U.S.-China Relations, South China Sea, Singapore-China Relations”, 10 October 2016

132. Professor Liyakat Takim, Sharjah Chair in Global Islam, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada, on “Charismatic Leadership and the Struggle for Authority in Shi‘i Islam”, 13 October 2016

133. RSIS-DSO Seminar by Dr Ahmed Salah Hashim, Associate Professor, Military Studies Programme, RSIS, on “Understanding ISIS and its threat to Southeast Asia”, 14 October 2016


135. Datuk Dr Fathul Bari Mat Jahya, Exco UMNO Youth; and Committee Member, Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA), Malaysia, on “ISIS’ Appeal in Malaysia – Internal and External Factors Contributing to ISIS’ Popularity Among Malaysians”, 17 October 2016

Datuk Dr Fathul Bari Mat Jahya (centre), Exco UMNO Youth; and Committee Member, Prevention of Terrorism Act, Malaysia, speaking on “ISIS’ Appeal in Malaysia – Internal and External Factors Contributing to ISIS’ Popularity Among Malaysians”, 17 October 2016
136. Professor Jorgen Schlundt, Professor, NTU Food Technology Centre, CoE, SCBE, on "Antimicrobial Resistance: A Major Global Crisis Looming – Do We Have Global Solutions, and Do They Include Both Animals and Humans (i.e. One Health)?", 17 October 2016

137. RSIS Roundtable with Dr Cung Vu, Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS, on "Promoting Cyber-Security in Singapore: Some Personal Reflections", 17 October 2016

138. Book Launch by Dr Wu Shang-su, Research Fellow, Military Studies Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, on "The Defence Capabilities of Small States: Singapore and Taiwan's Responses to Strategic Desperation", 20 October 2016

139. RSIS Roundtable with United States Congressional Staff Members Delegation, 21 October 2016

140. Professor Tosh Minohara, Professor of Japanese Diplomacy, Graduate School of Law and Politics, Kobe University, on "The Geostrategic Transformation of Asia: The Future of Pax Americana and the Role of Japan", 24 October 2016


142. Dr Olli Heinonen, S. Rajaratnam Professor of Strategic Studies, RSIS; Senior Associate, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, The Harvard Kennedy School of Government; and Senior Advisor on Science and Nonproliferation, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Washington, D.C., on "Strengthening Regional Cooperation on Nuclear Safety in the Asia Pacific", 25 October 2016


144. Dr Wong Marn Heong, Former Assistant Dean (Academic Affairs) and Assistant Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, giving a seminar on "Mindfulness – a Panacea for the World’s Ills?", 28 October 2016


146. Professor Farkhad Tolipov, Director, Bilim Karvoni, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on "The Changing Geopolitics in Eurasia", 31 October 2016

147. Professor Farkhad Tolipov, Director, Bilim Karvoni, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on "Political and Security Challenges in Central Asia", 1 November 2016

148. Mr Sean Kanuck, Centre of Excellence for National Security Distinguished Visiting Fellow, RSIS, and Attorney and Strategic Consultant, U.S., on "Is Strategic Deterrence Possible in Cyberspace?", 2 November 2016

149. RSIS Luncheon Seminar by Dr James Dorsey, Senior Fellow, RSIS, on "Creating Frankenstei: the Saudi Export of Ultra-conservatism", 2 November 2016

150. Closed-Door International Seminar on "The Role of Elite Forces in an Era of Persistent Threats", 2 November 2016

152. APR2P-RSIS Joint Seminar by Dr Surin Pitsuwan, Chair, High Level Advisory Panel, and Former ASEAN Secretary General, on “High Level Advisory Panel’s Report on Mainstreaming the Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia: Pathway Towards a Caring ASEAN Community”, 7 November 2016


154. Dr Srisompob Jitpiromsri, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Political Sciences, Prince of Songkla University, Pattani Campus; Director of the Centre for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity (CSCD); and Director of Deep South Watch (DSW), and Mr Ernesto H. Braam, Regional Strategic Advisor for Southeast Asia, Netherlands Embassy in Singapore, on “Understanding the Religious Dimensions of the Conflict in South Thailand”, 10 November 2016

155. Ambassador Kenji Shinoda, Ambassador of Japan, Singapore, on “Japan’s Foreign and Defence Policies: Engaging Asia and Beyond”, 11 November 2016

156. Dialogue with Mr Benny Lim, Former Permanent Secretary (National Development, National Security and Intelligence Coordination, and Prime Minister’s Office), on “Singapore’s Internal Security Fundamentals Explored: A Dialogue with Mr Benny Lim”, 11 November 2016

157. Rear Admiral (Ret) James Goldrick, Adjunct Professor, UNSW at Canberra (ADFA); Adjunct Professor SDSC, The Australian National University; and Professorial Fellow, ANCORs, University of Wollongong, on “Australia’s Submarine Acquisition”, 14 November 2016

158. H.E. Philip Green, Australia’s High Commissioner to Singapore, on “Anatomy of a Relationship Jump-Shift”, 14 November 2016

159. Dr Woo Jun Jie, Assistant Professor, Public Policy & Global Affairs Programme, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, on “The Policy and Politics of Singapore as an International Financial Centre”, 15 November 2016

160. Mr Hamoon Khelghat-Doost, PhD candidate, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore (NUS), on “Women of the Caliphate: Roles and Contributions”, 21 November 2016

162. Dr Bhavna Davé, Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS; and Senior Lecturer in Central Asian Politics, Department of Politics and International Studies, and Chair of the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus, SOAS, University of London, on "China's Silk Road Initiatives: Economic, Political and Social Consequences for Central Asia and Russia", 29 November 2016

163. Dr Sorpong Peou, Professor, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Ryerson University; and Visiting Senior Fellow, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme, RSIS, on "Human Security: An Evolving and Contested Concept", 29 November 2016

164. Dr Sorpong Peou, Professor, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Ryerson University; and Visiting Senior Fellow, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme, RSIS, on "Human Security through Formal Trials?", 1 December 2016

165. RSIS Roundtable with Mr Stanley Roth, Former Vice President of International Government Relations, Boeing, 2 December 2016

166. Dr Bhavna Davé, Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS; and Senior Lecturer in Central Asian Politics, Department of Politics and International Studies, and Chair of the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus, SOAS, University of London, on "Russia's 'Pivot to the East' and the Changing Geopolitical Scene in Eurasia: EEU, SCO and the Implications for South and Southeast Asia", 7 December 2016

167. Ms Jana Hajzlerova, Chair of the Czech-Korean Society; and PhD candidate at the Institute of East Asian Studies, Charles University in Prague, on "In Search for New North Korea Policies: Remembering the Past – A Way towards the Future?", 8 December 2016

168. H.E. Andrey Tatarinov, Ambassador of Russian Federation, Singapore, on "Russia’s Foreign and Defence Policies: Is Russia Enhancing Engagement with East Asia?", 9 December 2016

169. Mr Gabriel Facal, Social Anthropology Researcher, Institute of Asian Research (IrAsia, Marseille) and South East Asia Research Center (CASE, Paris), on "ISIS Development in Banten Region, Indonesia", 12 December 2016

170. Mr Gabriel Facal, Social Anthropology Researcher, Institute of Asian Research (IrAsia, Marseille) and South East Asia Research Center (CASE, Paris), on "Case Study of Banten Indonesia: Islamic State Organization's Support Networks, Their Rival and Opposition Groups", 12 December 2016

171. Dr Alan Bollard, Executive Director, APEC Secretariat, Singapore, on "APEC’s role in East Asia Regional Development: Challenges and Prospects in the Next Five Years", 12 December 2016

172. Dr Denis Hew, Director, Policy Support Unit, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, on "FTAAP and Economic Trends in the Asia Pacific Region", 13 December 2016

173. RSIS Luncheon Seminar by Mr Emirza Adi Syailendra, Research Analyst, Indonesia Programme, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, RSIS, on "In Search of a People-Centric Order in Asia" and "Contested Ideas of Regionalism in Asia", 14 December 2016

174. RSIS-HSS Book Launch Seminar by Professor He Baogang, Head, Public Policy and Global Affairs, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University; and Alfred Deakin Professor and Chair in International Relations, Deakin University, on "In Search of a People-Centric Order in Asia" and "Contested Ideas of Regionalism in Asia", 14 December 2016

175. YB Nurul Izzah Binti Anwar, Member of Parliament for Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on "The Prospects of Post-Islamism in Malaysia", 16 December 2016

176. Book Launch Seminar by Associate Professor Alan Chong, Coordinator of MSc (International Relations) Programme, RSIS, on "Forward Engagement: RSIS as a Think Tank of International Studies and Security in the Asia Pacific", 28 December 2016
Forthcoming Events

10TH ANNUAL TERRORISM ANALYSTS TRAINING COURSE (TATC), 16–27 JANUARY 2017
The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) will be conducting its 10th Terrorism Analysts Training Course from 16 to 27 January 2017. Bringing together analysts and scholars on terrorism and security, this annual training course at RSIS aims to maintain and improve the professional competence and development of analysts. In addition, it also explores new frontiers in counter-terrorism researches, analyses and practices. Covering four broad areas, namely Terrorism Primer, Global and Regional Threat Landscape, Counter-Terrorism Response, as well as Research and Methodology, this training course strives to deliver a holistic perspective aimed at building the knowledge and capacity of analysts specialising in counter-terrorism.

WORKSHOP ON INDIA-CHINA MARITIME COMPETITION, 20 JANUARY 2017
The South Asia Programme of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) will hold a workshop to study the dynamics of the India-China relationship in the Indo-Pacific region. Strategic competition between the two powers is rising, despite their growing economic relationship. While the land border problem is relatively static, the maritime domain is more dynamic and carries considerable potential for conflict, especially in the context of growing Indian concerns about China’s One Belt One Road initiative. The workshop will examine the nature of the security dilemma playing out between India and China, and explore how major and regional powers are reacting to this changing security dynamic.

3RD SRP DISTINGUISHED LECTURE & SYMPOSIUM, 1–2 FEBRUARY 2017
Religion can be used to rationalise violence and conflict, but is also a source of peacebuilding. The many territorial battles and conflicts over resources in the contemporary world are often a response to either perceived ethnic, cultural or social oppression or exclusion. As such, in this world of rising uncertainty marked by identity politics, plurality and populism, it is imperative that religion be harnessed for building peace and harmonious coexistence. This will be addressed in the Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies Programme (SRP) Distinguished Lecture and Symposium. The Distinguished Lecture will seek to show how narratives of peace and justice also exist within those religions and may be strengthened and developed in communities today. The keynote lectures and panel discussions in the Symposium will look at the impact of the global interplay of religion and politics on ethnic and religious communities across the globe, with views from experts from the United States, China as well as Singapore.

WORKSHOP ON HEADING TO THE 19TH PARTY PLENARY: MAIN TRENDS IN CHINESE POLITICS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 10 FEBRUARY 2017
This workshop, which the China Programme of IDSS will be holding, will explore the recent developments, emerging challenges and future prospects in regards to China’s economy, politics and social affairs. It aims to explore the new socio-political and economic dynamics in the run-up to the 19th Party Congress, which is expected to be convened in late 2017.
MILITARY STUDIES PROGRAMME SEMINAR SERIES, 15 FEBRUARY AND 1 JULY 2017

The Military Studies Programme of IDSS will hold these annual seminars on 15 February and 1 July 2017 respectively to commemorate Total Defence Day and Singapore Armed Forces Day. The seminar series offers a platform for experts to speak on contemporary security issues affecting Singapore, particularly its armed forces.

NSSP’S DISTINGUISHED VISITING PROFESSOR, LORD ALDERDICE, FEBRUARY 2017

The National Security Studies Programme will be organising two seminars by Lord Alderdice in February 2017. Lord Alderdice is currently Professor and Director of the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict (CRIC), Oxford University, in the United Kingdom. He was Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly (1998–2004) and Leader of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland (1987–1998), and since 1996, has sat in the House of Lords as a Liberal Democrat. He has played an important role in closing down terrorist organisations and overseeing the normalisation of security activity in Northern Ireland (2004–2011). Lord Alderdice has a background in group psychology and identity, conflict and its resolution, terrorism studies, and has published extensively. Lord Alderdice will be visiting RSIS under NSSP’s Distinguished Visitors Programme from 13 to 17 February 2017. While here, besides meeting key policymakers, he will also be giving two seminars on the psychological roots of violent extremism and strategies for fostering social cohesion in plural societies.

RSIS POLICY DISCUSSION ON HUMANITARIAN TECHNOLOGY, FEBRUARY 2017

RSIS will hold a policy discussion on humanitarian technology in February 2017. The Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme will convene a substantive discussion that will focus on global technological developments in military and civilian domains that impact on humanitarian action in the Asia Pacific. The discussion will be anchored by relevant case studies in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief by scholars and humanitarian professionals, to identify challenges and opportunities for the region.

NTS-ASIA ANNUAL MEETING, 22–23 MARCH 2017

As the Secretariat of the NTS-Asia Consortium, RSIS will host the annual NTS-Asia Conference, which brings together about 40 members of the Consortium, to exchange research findings, advance research collaboration and share best practices in dealing with non-traditional security challenges in the Asian region and beyond. The theme of the 2017 NTS-Asia Conference is “Climate Change and Environmental Security in the Asia Pacific”, and is aimed at taking stock of the significant global events that impact on the climate change and environmental security agendas. The one-and-a-half day event will provide a platform for its members to discuss strategies on how the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies epistemic communities engage with these issues in a novel way and co-produce ‘emancipatory’ knowledge for effective policy making.

WORKSHOP ON FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION, MARCH 2017

The one-day “Workshop on Freedom of Navigation (FON)” will be conducted by IDSS’ Maritime Security Programme. It will bring together academic perspectives from the Asia Pacific, in particular Southeast Asia, regarding the notion of FON in the region. Various aspects of FON, including legal and security, as well as their security ramifications will be examined during the discussion.
WORKSHOP ON FUTURE MARITIME SECURITY ENVIRONMENT IN THE ASIA PACIFIC, MARCH 2017

The one-day “Workshop on Future Maritime Security Environment” will be conducted by IDSS’ Maritime Security Programme. It will bring together academic perspectives from the Asia Pacific regarding how the region’s maritime security environment has evolved and will examine the latest topical issues and their ramifications.

2ND WORKSHOP ON TERRORIST FINANCING, MARCH 2017

ICPVTR together with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will host the second “Workshop on Terrorist Financing”, which aims to build Asian capacities to counter the Islamic State’s (IS) financial infrastructure. ICPVTR has already produced indicators for detecting terrorist finance in the collection, movement, storage and disbursal stages. With the Al-Qaeda-centric threat groups being supplanted by IS-centric threat groups, the Asian region is witnessing both a flow of IS resources into the region as well as IS directed and inspired fund raising efforts. Law enforcement, national security and military partners will work with banking and financial institutions in the region to map threat finance with a view of disrupting the financial capabilities of threat groups, networks and cells.

11TH ASIA PACIFIC PROGRAMME FOR SENIOR NATIONAL SECURITY OFFICERS (APPSNO), 2–7 APRIL 2017

APPSNO is a flagship conference series of the Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS). Held annually, it is organised specifically for senior government officials from the Asia Pacific and beyond, who are responsible for national security matters. As a platform that facilitates participant engagement with world-class foreign and local speakers, APPSNO promotes the development of analytical frameworks, mindsets and skills needed for effective national security management amongst its internationally diverse participants. The theme for the 2017 conference is “Innovation and National Security”. This theme allows participants to discuss a broad range of national security issues, affected both positively and negatively by rapid change and the resulting need for adaptation. More specifically, such issues include cybersecurity, strategic communications, counter-terrorism and multiculturalism.

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE, 16 MAY 2017

The International Maritime Security Conference (IMSC 2017) will be jointly organised by IDSS’ Maritime Security Programme and the Republic of Singapore Navy. The event, which is held on a biennial basis, will bring together key naval practitioners of the region to discuss the ways forward to promote practical cooperation with the aim of building safer and more secure seas in the Asia Pacific.

KAS-RSIS ASIA-EUROPE COUNTER-TERRORISM DIALOGUE, 17–19 MAY 2017

ICPVTR together with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) will co-host the Asia-Europe Counter-Terrorism Dialogue in Berlin, Germany. The Dialogue will focus on the most recent developments in the threat landscape and the best practices to manage the threat. At the Dialogue, counter-terrorism practitioners and scholars will also share their experience and expertise from Asia and Europe. With IS expanding from its heartland in Syria and Iraq to provinces in Africa, the Middle East, the Caucasus and Asia, the experts will discuss how best to respond to the current and emerging threat.
REGIONAL MARSEC PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME, 12–16 JUNE 2017
The week-long Regional Marsec Practitioner Programme (RMPP 2017) will be jointly organised by IDSS’ Maritime Security Programme and the Republic of Singapore Navy. It will convene maritime security practitioners from Singapore, regional and extra-regional navies, as well as law enforcement agencies. It aims to foster interaction, networking and sharing of diverse perspectives on maritime security challenges in the region.

RSIS-WTO PARLIAMENTARIAN WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE, JUNE 2017
RSIS-WTO Parliamentarian Workshop is a three-day workshop for regional parliamentarians on international trade issues. This workshop is organised by RSIS and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), and is sponsored by the Temasek Foundation under the Temasek Foundation Trade & Negotiations Series. The workshop is intended to increase the capacity of regional legislators to engage in international trade issues, and aims to provide participants a deeper understanding of the WTO, as well as current and future negotiating issues in international trade. Participants will include up to forty members of parliament from ASEAN and Asia.

RSIS-TDSI SEMINAR, 27–28 JULY 2017
IDSS’ Military Studies Programme will work with the Temasek Defence Systems Institute (TDSI) to host the second RSIS-TDSI Seminar. This seminar brings together two institutions involved in the education and development of future military and security professionals. The TDSI offers a masters programme for weapons systems engineers and defence scientists, while RSIS, in addition to its own Masters programmes, also provides tomorrow’s policy thinkers and government officials a platform to engage in discussions on security and strategic issues. The institutions will provide their respective students with speakers, from both fields of theory and practice. Practitioners of strategic thought will meet with defence scientists to discuss how the social and hard sciences can provide a more holistic understanding of their respective fields.

19TH ASIA PACIFIC PROGRAMME FOR SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS (APPSMO), 3–10 AUGUST 2017
Started in 1999, this annual event organised by IDSS’ Military Studies Programme will be held in August 2017. Aimed at fostering trust and developing mutual understanding among military organisations in the region, the conference will bring to Singapore an impressive group of senior military officers representing Asia, Oceania, North America and Europe, to participate in an extensive series of seminars and discussions, with guided tours to places of security significance in Singapore. The tentative title for APPSMO 2017 is “International Politics in the Asia Pacific: Implications on Security Policies and Defence Relations”.

RSIS WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY PUBLIC PANEL AND EXHIBITION, AUGUST 2017
RSIS now marks World Humanitarian Day annually as one of the activities of the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme. The programme will convene a public panel discussion to debate challenges faced in the field, and will concurrently host an exhibition to provide the space for a multi-stakeholder networking session, to celebrate those who dedicate their lives to humanitarian work. The event will bring together practitioners, policy professionals, the research and scholarly community, and the wider public.
RSIS ROUNDTABLE AT THE SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY WEEK, OCTOBER 2017

This annual event, organised by the NTS Centre in collaboration with the Energy Market Authority, brings together nuclear experts, policymakers, NGOs, scientists and nuclear industry representatives. To be held in October 2017, the roundtable will facilitate policy discussions and constructive debates on pertinent issues related to nuclear energy governance in the Asia Pacific region, in the context of the lessons from the Fukushima nuclear meltdown and Nuclear Security Summits. The roundtable will focus on national and regional efforts to strengthen both nuclear safety and security in the Asia Pacific, and the challenges that need to be addressed by key stakeholders, including regional institutions and networks. Roundtable discussions and speakers' presentations will provide participants with a platform to critically examine nuclear energy developments as well as burgeoning nuclear safety and security cooperation in the Asia Pacific.

GOH KENG SWEE COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE SEMINAR, OCTOBER 2017

IDSS’ Military Studies Programme, with the assistance of the SAF-NTU Academy, will conduct the annual Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College Seminar in October 2017. Now into its seventh year, this seminar will assemble academics to present their expert views on topics of relevance to the military officers attending the 2017 Command and Staff Course, as well as interested individuals from Singapore’s security community. The speakers will be drawn from the programme’s global networks with universities, think tanks and military education institutions.

SEMINAR ON THE ROLE OF ELITE FORCES IN AN ERA OF PERSISTENT THREAT, NOVEMBER 2017

In November 2017, ICPVTR will host a meeting of counter-terrorism practitioners who are engaged in the development of counter-terrorism tactical responses to the current and emerging threat. Based on its work with elite forces from around the world, the centre is working with partners in the region to develop a model that will effectively respond to the types of attacks that had occurred in Dhaka, Orlando, Bataclan (Paris), Westgate (Kenya) and Mumbai. Participants of the seminar will come from Southeast Asia and Europe.

SRP EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME, NOVEMBER 2017

This Executive Programme provides foundational, yet incisive knowledge, on the crucial role of religion in society, in various facets of life in plural settings, and in relation to extremism and peace. Grounded in empirical research on communal conflicts in Asia and around the world, as well as conceptual frameworks established by leading scholars, the programme aims to provide professionals in community development, defence, education, humanitarian relief, international relations, and in religious leadership and security, the practical knowledge and skills in managing and navigating religious diversity in times of peace and conflict. Participants will have hands-on experience in discussing case studies on specific religious issues in Singapore. Visits to religious institutions are part of the Executive Programme.
FURTHER INFORMATION

Up-to-date information about the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies and its activities are available at our webpage:

www.rsis.edu.sg

If you wish to contact us or to visit us, we are at:

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