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LATEST NEWS

The coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19, is gripping the world with fear. Within a span of a month since the outbreak was first reported in Wuhan, China, reported cases of COVID-19 infection have now reached close to 30 countries. The alarming speed of the spread has triggered global anxiety that is manifested in various forms. The prices of surgical masks suddenly skyrocketed before they disappeared from physical and online stores in many countries. Likewise, many stores quickly ran out of stock of thermometers, disinfectants items and vitamin Cs, and these are increasingly hard to find. Many businesses have suffered too as people stay away from social events, while several conferences, meetings and even religious workshops have been suspended to decrease the possibility of transmission.

Outside China, Singapore is among the hardest hit. By mid-February 2020, Singapore had recorded more than 70 confirmed cases. Although measures to contain the spread are in place, mask-wearing is a rare sight as maintaining good personal hygiene and exercising social responsibility are given greater emphasis.

Given the high volume of travels among countries in the region, regional cooperation is critical in managing this health crisis as demonstrated in Southeast Asia during the time of SARS. The SARS incident has brought health security into the region's security agenda. Such securitisation brought necessary resources in a timely manner, and played a key role in the region's success in containing the outbreak. Some measures that had been put in place include exchanges of information and best practices in containing communicable diseases, cooperation among health, immigration, customs, transport, and law enforcement personnel, and travel procedure harmonisation to screen passengers. One may even argue that the experience of Southeast Asia during the SARS crisis has given them a solid foundation and regional frameworks to respond to similar events in the future.

The current COVID-19 outbreak is another test case for the region's resilience in the face of health security threat.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Coral Bell School of Asia-Pacific Affairs, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University, Australia (ANU)

After the Fires? Climate Change and Security in Australia
28 February 2020 | Canberra, Australia

China Governs Borderless Threats: Chinese Counter-Narcotics and Riverine Law Enforcement in Southeast Asia
02 March 2020 | Canberra, Australia

The Politics of Media in Myanmar Now - Visitor Lecture by Swe Win
04 March 2020 | Canberra, Australia

Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)

Dinner Discussion Club On 'Bangladesh : Economic Outlook 2020'
February 2020 | Bangladesh



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NEWSLETTER TEAM

Mely Caballero-Anthony and Margareth Sembiring

Designed by Joey Liang

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Early this year, we had planned to convene our 5th annual conference in March 2020. While preparations were underway, the COVID-19 situation had compelled us to postpone the meeting to a later date. Such unfortunate decision was necessary in view of the evolving situation and was certainly for the best interest of all of us involved.

Needless to say, the disruptions brought on by a public health crisis like the COVID-19 has underscored the importance of our work in non-traditional security field. As individual countries are working on measures to deal with this trans-boundary issue, concerns arise over variations in capacity to detect and respond. This is an area where our work on governance can contribute to.

We hope that situation will get better soon and we can resume the plans for the annual conference. In the meantime, we are pleased to feature researchers from the NTS Centre at RSIS Singapore in this month's newsletter. Dr Alistair D. B. Cook



and Ms Nanthini D/O Sambanthan are both in the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) research team, and they are sharing their reflections on the changing complexity brought about by the uncertainty surrounding climate change.

As always, you may update the Secretariat on news and events, nominate your

resident researchers, or send in suggestions, by writing to Margareth Sembiring (ismsembiring@ntu.edu.sg) or Joey Liang (isjoeyliang@ntu.edu.sg).

Warmest regards,
Mely Caballero-Anthony
Secretary-General

Senior Researcher Profile

Alistair D. B. Cook

Alistair D. B. Cook is Coordinator of the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme and Research Fellow at the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre), S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore. His research interests focus geographically on the Asia-Pacific and Myanmar in particular and thematically on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), foreign policy and regional cooperation. He has taught undergraduate, graduate and professional development courses at Purdue University, University of Melbourne, Deakin University, Nanyang Technological University, Australian National University, Singapore Civil Defence Academy and SAFTI.



Alistair D. B. Cook
Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre)

REFLECTIONS

Complex and Multi-Hazard Disasters Pose Challenge to Asia and the Pacific

By Alistair D. B. Cook

Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre)



Photo Credit: Angelo Paolo Luna Trias

In 2018 almost half of the world's 281 disaster events occurred in Asia and the Pacific and the region witnessed eight out of the ten deadliest disasters as highlighted in the latest United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's annual disaster report. The most devastating disasters were earthquakes and tsunamis.

For the first time in 2019 the Asia-Pacific Disaster Report includes economic impacts of slow onset disasters such as drought, impacting the way it captures risk exposed communities. It identifies India, Pakistan and Vietnam as countries most exposed to drought as they depend on agriculture as a high percentage of their national GDP.

The Report identifies four transboundary disaster risk hotspots: (1) transboundary river basins, such as the Greater Mekong basin in Southeast Asia, and the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna basin in South Asia to name the largest with poor and vulnerable communities exposed to drought and floods; (2) Ring of Fire, where 90 per cent of world's earthquakes with potential tsunamis occur and threaten ICT infrastructure notably in Japan, China and Republic of Korea. Further hotspots lie in Indonesia, Philippines and west coast of Australia; (3) Pacific Small Island Developing States exposure to cyclones,

while small in absolute numbers affect a high percentage of their population and GDP; and (4) Sand and Dust Storm Risk Corridors that run through East and North-East Asia, South and South-West, and Central Asia as a consequence of land degradation, desertification, climate change and unsustainable land and water use. The transboundary nature of these disaster risk hotspots highlights the need to consolidate existing and develop new multi-stakeholder partnerships across the region.

The Asia-Pacific faces an increasing proportion of climate-related disasters, increasing economic impact, more exposed communities, continuing environmental degradation, greater uncertainty, and more complex and multi-hazard disasters like the 2018 Sulawesi earthquake, tsunami and soil liquefaction in Indonesia. For more detail, please refer to our [RSIS Policy Report](#). These evolving disaster risks are overlaid with a diverse humanitarian landscape across the region.

This humanitarian landscape can be understood as a series of tactical, operational and strategic disaster partnerships spanning the civil-military domain. These partnerships can be characterized as co-existence/communication, cooperation, coordination or collaborative efforts

illustrating their levels of engagement. Sometimes these partnerships are viewed as competitive rather than complementary. This underlines the need to raise awareness of their comparative advantages and develop higher order trusting relationships among the multi-stakeholder humanitarian community in the Asia-Pacific. For more on disaster partnerships, please refer to our article in the [Australian Journal of International Affairs](#).

It was through the need to connect the multiple humanitarian efforts in the Asia-Pacific that led us to explore the regional efforts in ASEAN and the Pacific Islands States. Both ASEAN and the Pacific Islands are broadly exposed to natural hazards positioning the regional organisations in prime position to share knowledge and information on disaster governance. In both regions we found an appetite to develop partnerships to learn from each other's experience, documented in our [RSIS Policy Report](#). While our region is exposed to increasingly complex disaster risks, there are several efforts underway that demonstrate a commitment by states and societies to tackle these. It is important that we facilitate connections between them to ensure a more comprehensive approach.

Junior Researcher Profile

S. Nanthini

S. Nanthini is a Research Analyst with the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU). She holds a Masters in International Relations (International Security) from the University of Melbourne, and a Bachelor of Arts (Politics and Gender Studies) from La Trobe University. During her time in Melbourne, she volunteered with the humanitarian response agency RedR Australia where

she furthered her interest in the security aspects of humanitarian situations.

Prior to joining RSIS, Nanthini was an intern at the Asia-Europe Foundation in Singapore and has written for the Young Diplomats as their Regional Content Writer for Southeast Asia. Her research interests include human security in Southeast Asia, looking at the HADR landscape through a gendered lens and the role of multilateralism in the security architecture of the Asia-Pacific.



REFLECTIONS

The Future of Disaster Resilience

By Nanthini D/O Sambanthan
Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies
(NTS Centre)

The Asia-Pacific is the most disaster-prone region in the world. Although technology and increased data availability have increased the preparation period for natural hazards, more disasters - especially those triggered by climate change - are increasingly deviating from established norms, reducing the usefulness of the historical record.

Climate Change and Uncertainty

According to UN ESCAP's Asia-Pacific Report 2019, the average annual loss for the region due to disasters is now approximately USD\$675.4 billion, a four-fold increase since the previous report in 2017. Triggered by climate change and environmental degradation, not only are disasters in the region increasing in frequency and intensity, they are also deviating from their usual patterns. These deviations have also added an extra element of uncertainty to disaster resilience - as seen by the bushfires in Australia which have been burning since September 2019. While bushfires have always occurred in Australia - with some parts of the ecosystem even relying on regular fires - climate change in the form of rising temperatures and decreasing rainfall has led to long-term increases in extreme fire weather as well as in the length of the fire season. With the Australian bushfires season starting earlier and with more intense fires over a larger geographical location, including areas usually unaffected, preparations are increasingly unable to use history as guidance - at least for the most dangerous on-the-ground situations that may occur.



Photo Credit: WorldFish via flickr.com under creative commons

Resilience in Disaster Governance

A cornerstone of the current disaster risk management context, resilience refers to the "capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt...in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure". In other words, resilience refers to the preparedness of a system, community or society to bounce back and be better prepared for natural hazards. Resilience is usually viewed through a forward-planning linear lens- when a disaster occurs, it impacts a community and then, lessons are learnt which are later used to strengthen the resilience of a community. Frameworks such as the [Sendai Framework](#) and the [ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response](#) (AADMER) have resilience as a core theme underlying national disaster governance. However, beyond acknowledging the impact caused by climate change on the intensity and frequency of natural disasters, most of these frameworks do not pay enough attention to its effect on the frameworks themselves.

Planning from the Future

The uncertainty caused by climate change means that the importance of historical record has been somewhat diminished

(ESCAP 2019). It is no longer enough to plan and build disaster governance frameworks based on previous patterns as the context in which those disasters occurred has shifted. Rather than simply 'forward-planning', authorities now have to shift their perspective and 'plan backwards'. In other words, rather than plan for the future based on information gathered from past events, they should instead plan from the future and work backwards to identify the actions that need to be taken to achieve a particular future scenario. This will require a multi-sectoral collaborative approach, one which takes into account localised perspectives.

With the effects of climate change growing ever more apparent in the natural disasters unfolding in the region, it is vital that humanitarian actors adapt accordingly. While learning from the past is still key for disaster resilience, understanding future scenarios is equally key. As the region prepares for the humanitarian challenges of this new decade, events such as the upcoming RSIS Workshop on Humanitarian Futures- which will bring together experts to discuss future challenges facing the humanitarian sector as a result of the uncertainties in the Asia-Pacific- are necessary to further the conversation on the future of disaster resilience.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Bangladesh Institute of Peace & Security Studies (BIPSS)

International Conference
On The Digital Revolution :
Understanding The Impact Of
Digitalisation, Conference Report



Click [here](#) to read more.

S M Azharul Islam, Human Trafficking:
A Key Security Challenge for
Bangladesh, Commentary



Click [here](#) to read more.

Faria Ulfath Leera , Artificial
Intelligence: The Future of Warfare,
Commentary



Click [here](#) to read more.

Muhammad Tanbirul Islam,
Environmental Cost: Rohingya Mass
Exodus into Bangladesh, Commentary



Click [here](#) to read more.

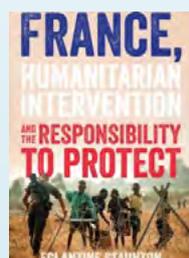
Coral Bell School of Asia-Pacific
Affairs, ANU College of Asia and
the Pacific, The Australian National
University (ANU)

Humanitarian Negotiation With Armed
Groups: The Frontlines of Diplomacy,
Book, 2020



Click [here](#) to read more.

France, Humanitarian Intervention and
the Responsibility to Protect,
Book, 2020



Click [here](#) to read more.

CSCAP Regional Security Outlook 2020,
Book, 2020



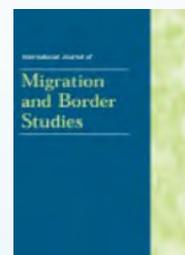
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Replenishing Bodies and the Political
Economy of SRHR in Crises and
Emergencies, Book chapter, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Explaining the Lack of Change in
Southeast Asia: The Practice of Migrant
Worker Rights in the 'ASEAN Migration
Field', Journal article, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

National Versus Human Security:
Australian and Canadian Military
Interventions , Book, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Centre for Non-Traditional
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S. Rajaratnam School of
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Lina Gong, China's Emerging Disaster
Diplomacy: What It Means for Southeast
Asia, Commentaries,
06 February 2020

Click [here](#) to read more.

Mely Caballero-Anthony, The
Wuhan Virus Pandemic: What Next?,
Commentaries,
31 January 2020

Click [here](#) to read more.

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29 January 2020



Click [here](#) to read more.

Angelo Paolo Luna Trias, Networked World: Re-envisioning Disaster Risk, Commentaries, 06 January 2020

Click [here](#) to read more.

Mely Caballero-Anthony, The Wuhan Virus Pandemic: What Next?, Commentaries, 31 January 2020

Click [here](#) to read more.

ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management: Building ASEAN'S Resiliency to Disaster, Event Report, 12 December 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Alistair D. B. Cook, Christopher Chen, Humanitarian Action: Southeast Asia's Local Turn, Commentaries, 08 December 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Angelo Paolo Luna Trias, Alistair D. B. Cook, Recalibrating Disaster Governance in ASEAN After the 2018 Central Sulawesi Earthquake and Tsunami, Policy Reports, 08 December 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Margareth Sembiring, Climate Change: Re-assessing Current Approaches, Policy Reports, 02 December 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Jose Ma. Luis P. Montesclaros, Paul Teng, Supporting Singapore's "30-by-30" Food Security Target: Finding the "Sweet Spot" in Property Taxation, Policy Reports, 02 December 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies Year In Review 2019, Annual Reviews, 02 December 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

S. Nanthini, ASEAN, Myanmar and the Rakhine Crisis: Two Years On, Commentaries, 29 November 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Click [here](#) to read more.

Jose Ma. Luis P. Montesclaros, Manila's Tariff Move on Imported Rice: Implications for the Region, Commentaries, 25 November 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Sofiah Suaad Binte Mohamed Jamil, Climate Crisis: 'Listening to the Science' Not Enough, Commentaries, 22 November 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Click [here](#) to read more.

Tamara Nair, Working Women and Economic Security in Southeast Asia, Policy Reports, 14 November 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

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Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin September 2019, Newsletter, 24 September 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin August 2019, Newsletter, 27 August 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Paul Teng, Jose Ma. Luis P. Montesclaros, Rob Hulme, Andrew Powell, The Evolving Singapore Agrifood Ecosystem, NTS Insight, 19 August 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit, Bangladesh (RMMRU)

Social Cost of Migration, Book, January 2020



Migration Disputes Mediation, Manual, October 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Research Center for Non-Traditional Security and Peaceful Development, Zhejiang University, People's Republic of China. (NTS-PD)

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Xiaofeng Yu, The Frontier Theories of Non-Traditional Security, Book, December 2019



Martin, Susan F., International Migration: Evolving Trends from the Early Twentieth Century to the Present, Translator: Yadi Zhang, Book, December 2019

PAST EVENT SUMMARIES

Bangladesh Institute of Peace & Security Studies (BIPSS)

Expert Meeting on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)



BIPSS organised the second Expert Meeting on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). Eminent experts from law enforcement agencies, law practitioners and eminent journalists took part in the meeting. The participants engaged in a lively interactive session to discuss issues regarding Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) and ways to improve capacity.

6th China – Bangladesh Cooperation Forum



The 6th Joint Forum for China – Bangladesh Cooperation was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 18 – 19 December. This annual Track 1.5 Forum is held in alternate capitals (Dhaka

and Kunming) between Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS) and Yunnan Development Research Center (YDRC) of the People's Government of Yunnan Province, China. It was hosted by BIPSS this year. A ten member visiting delegation from China represented the Chinese side while members of BIPSS and invited delegates represented the Bangladesh side. Presentations were made on a number of areas of bi lateral cooperation followed by fruitful discussion. Click [here](#) to read more.

South Asia in a Changing World



South Asia is one of the most prominent regions in the world, a region of most vibrant of creeds and cultures, fastest growing economies and politically diverse nations. The region is experiencing a massive transition. In order to understand the process of change, BIPSS and The Daily Star organized a roundtable on the topic 'South Asia in a Changing World'. A range of topics related to South Asia, such as

conflicts between states, threat of terrorism, poverty reduction, youth unemployment and climate change were discussed. Click [here](#) to read more.

Valdai Policy Forum in Sochi, Russia

President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) was invited to attend the Valdai Policy Forum in Sochi, Russia. The theme of the Annual Conference this year was 'The Dawn of the East and the World Political Order' and it brought together senior policy makers/influencers, think tank heads, academics and others. An interactive session in the forum was participated by President Putin, King Abdullah, President Duterte and other world leaders. It may be mentioned that Valdai Club is globally well known for its deep analysis of global issues and publishes regular reports on major challenges facing the global system.



Myanmar – Bangladesh track 1.5 Dialogue in Singapore



President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) attended the tenth round of Myanmar – Bangladesh track 1.5 Dialogue in Singapore on 8 – 9 October. This important dialogue process between the two countries aims at building trust and confidence between the two countries. It specially looks at the current Rohingya crisis and the ways to find an early solution to the problem.

COSATT Meeting and Panel Discussion in Colombo, Sri Lanka



Mr. Shafqat Munir, Head of Bangladesh Centre for Terrorism Research and Research Fellow at BIPSS recently attended a meeting of the Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks (COSATT) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The special authors' meeting was convened to discuss a forthcoming book on the Indo Pacific strategy and its implications for the South Asian region. The meeting brought COSATT members and experts from across the South Asian region.

Subsequently Mr. Munir also spoke as part of a panel on 'Violent Extremism in South Asia'. His presentation was themed 'Radicalisation in a Networked World' The panel discussion was convened by Institute of National Security Studies (INSSSL) the premier Sri Lankan security think tank under the Ministry of Defence and was attended by senior officials, academics, media and members of the strategic community in Colombo. Mr. Munir was appointed as a Senior Fellow at INSSSL earlier this year.

Evolving Nature of International System

Recently BIPSS organized a roundtable titled 'Evolving Nature of International System'. Representatives from NGO, members of academia and students from renowned

educational institutions were present at the roundtable. The participants had a lively discussion on different factors influencing opinions.

Beijing Xinagshan Forum 2019



President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) was an invited delegate to the Beijing Xinagshan Forum (BXF) 2019. Xinagshan Forum is the largest Track 1.5 security conference in the Asia Pacific Region and focuses on a wide range of strategic and security issues of importance to the international security landscape. This year 680 members attended the forum from 77 countries including 38 defence ministers., most of the major international organisations were also present. General Muniruzzaman also had the distinct honour of Chairing a special breakout session on international security cooperation. It may be mentioned that BIPSS is represented in all major security policy conferences in the world.

President Attends Conferences in Belgium



President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) was invited by the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) to speak at an international conference on The Security Implications of Emerging Climate Altering Technologies. The conference was opened by H.E. Alexander De Croo. Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium and attended by an international audience of experts, policy makers and diplomats. General Muniruzzaman's presentation at the conference was titled 'The Security Implications of Climate Geoengineering'. He also spoke at a joint event held by Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC) and EUROMIL in Brussels. His presentation at this event was titled 'Rising Seas and Rising Risks' in which he explained the serious implications of sea level rise. General Muniruzzaman also presided over

the planning meeting of Global Military Advisory Council on Climate

Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai



President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) attended and delivered a talk at the recently concluded Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai. The Forum focused on 70 years of development in China and it's strategic outlook. It was attended by senior policy makers in governments, think tank heads, editors and academics from over 60 countries. General Muniruzzaman's talk at the forum stressed on the link between inclusive economic growth in a country and it's strategic posture. His remarks were widely covered by Shanghai Daily, quoting him "national economic growth in a fluid international system has to be resilient to absorb external shocks". The forum also participated in the policy deliberation sessions conducted at the China International Import Expo being held in Shanghai and participated by over 150 countries including Bangladesh.

COSATT Planning Meeting held in Bangkok



The Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks (COSATT) is a network based platform that brings together leading think tanks in South Asia. Established ten years back it serves as a leading body for policy related research and publication on issues related to South Asia. Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS) has been associated with the network since the beginning as a founding member.

President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) recently attended the Planning Meeting of COSATT in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting set the agenda for 2020 and the way the consortium will charter it's path ahead.

The Patterns and Trends of Labour Migration from Bangladesh in 2019: Achievements and Challenges

29 December 2019

Dhaka



RMMRU organized a press conference to disseminate Annual Migration Trends Report on 29 December 2019 at the VIP Lounge, National Press Club, Dhaka. The conference was chaired by Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Advocate, Bangladesh Supreme Court and Chair of RMMRU. Dr. Tasneem Siddiqui, Founding Chair, RMMRU and Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka made a presentation on the report. The report contained seven sections: labour migration from Bangladesh 2019, reflection on important issues, service providing agencies, Bangladesh in international arena, civil society initiative, new knowledge on migration and recommendations.

Unveiling the report Dr. Siddiqui said that up to November 2019 a total of 6,04,060 Bangladeshi workers migrated to the Gulf, South East Asia and other destination countries. If this trend continues, there will be a drop in migration rate of 10% this year from last year. In spite of high rate of return of female migrants this year, there has been an overall increase in migration of women by 4.52% over 2018 rate. Last year (2018) a total of US\$15.64 billion was received as remittances, which by the end of 2019 is expected to be increased by 17.05% (to around 18.19 billion). The increase in remittance flow to an extent has been due to government initiative to offer 2% incentive on remittances sent through the banking channel. Dr. Tasneem Siddiqui expressed concern about India's initiatives regarding the Citizenship Amendment Act and the NRC. She mentioned that although the Indian authorities have assured Bangladesh that there will be no deportation press reports inform that push in of people from India have already begun.

Emphasizing on skilled migration Advocate Shahdeen Malik said that we need to change the curriculum of our education system as it is not supportive to produce skilled human resource.

Nearly 85 journalists from different electronic and print media were present at the press conference. And 13 electronic and more than 15 media print media covered the news.

Protecting Bangladeshi Migrants: Parliamentarian-Civil Society Dialogue

26 November 2019

Dhaka



Bangladesh Civil Society for Migration (BCSM) organised a dialogue titled 'Protecting Bangladeshi Migrants: Parliamentarian-Civil Society Dialogue' with Parliamentarians' Caucus on Migration and Development to discuss the scope of collaboration with Caucus and set out a road map to achieve SDG and GCM through upholding migrants' rights.

C R Abrar, Chair of BCSM formally introduced BCSM to the Parliamentarian Caucus and Co-Chair; Syed Saiful Haque highlighted the background of the platform. Afterwards, Dr. Tasneem Siddiqui presented a power point presentation on major policy engagement of this platform.

Participants from ASK, BASUG, BRAC, BOMSA, IMA Research Foundation, BCWWF, MJF, INAFI, YPSA, BASTOB, Rights Jessore, BOAF, WARBE DF and RMMRU along with individual members of BCSM were present in the dialogue and denoted their opinion about skilled migration, recruitment in Malaysia and new job markets issues in front of the Caucus.

Mr. Gerry Fox, Team Leader, Prokas expected the collaboration would help achieve SDG and GCM. Mr. Israfil Alam, honourable Member of Parliament and Chair of Parliamentarian Caucus on Migration and Development, expressed his gratitude to BCSM for its policy engagement on behalf of civil society. Pointing out some current issues such as high migration cost and vulnerability of female migrants in KSA, he signified the scope of work in collaboration with BCSM.

Workshop for adoption of the revised draft National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate Induced Internal Displacement

1st October 2019

Dhaka



A national level advocacy workshop for adoption of the revised draft National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate Induced Internal Displacement held on 1st October 2019 at BRAC Centre Inn, Mohakhali, Dhaka. The workshop aims to secure input on the revised strategy document from the wider civil society and advocate for adoption of the draft national strategy by the Ministry. At the concluding session of programme, Dr. Enamur Rahman, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), was present as the Chief Guest and Mr. Md Shah Kamal, Senior Secretary, MoDMR and Ms. Judith Herbertson, Country Representative of DFID Bangladesh was present as Special Guests. The workshop was chaired by Dr. Q K Ahamad, Chairman, Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation.

Training Workshop on Using Photo Voice For Engagement With Migrant Populations in Cities

19-20 August 2019

Dhaka



Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), Chattogram Development Authority (CDA) and University of Exeter jointly organized a two-day training workshop on Using photovoice for engagement with migrant populations in cities, from 19th to 20th August 2019 at The Peninsula Hotel in Chattogram. The training workshop is organized following a successful research project with migrants and city planners in Chattogram, carried out by the University of Exeter and the Refugee

and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) between 2017 and 2019. The research, titled Safe and Sustainable Cities: Migration, Security and Wellbeing, used photovoice to facilitate engagement

between migrants and city planners. The training workshop specifically designed for urban planning and development professionals and provided training on how to engage with communities using

the photovoice method. The workshop is intended as a two-way learning process between urban planners and researchers from RMMRU, CDA, Chattogram City Corporation and University of Exeter.

Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre), S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), NTU

International Conference on Nuclear Security

12 February 2020
Vienna, Austria



Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of NTS Centre, speaking on the panel on Women in Nuclear Security at the International Conference on Nuclear Security at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, 12 February 2020.

International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts

11 February 2020
Vienna, Austria



Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of NTS Centre, and Mr Julius Trajano, Research Fellow, presented their study on nuclear security governance in the Asia-Pacific and the key role of Southeast Asia at the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts on 11 February 2020. The conference, which included a ministerial conference as well as scientific and technical sessions, was organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria from 10 to 14 February 2020.



Nuclear Energy Expert Group Meeting

06-07 February 2020
Singapore



The RSIS' NTS Centre and Pacific Forum jointly organised the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific- Nuclear Energy Experts Group (CSCAP-NEEG) from 6 to 7 February 2020 in Singapore. Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of NTS Centre, and Mr Julius Trajano, Research Fellow, presented their study on sustaining nuclear safety/security education in the Asia-Pacific.

Around 30 nuclear governance experts deliberated on the status of nuclear governance in the era of strategic competition, the role of the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM), capacity-building and education on nuclear safety and security, the role of artificial intelligence and cyber technology in nuclear governance, nuclear energy development in the region, and emerging small modular reactor technology.

Asia-Pacific and the Humanitarian World

05-06 December 2019
Singapore



The HADR Programme hosted the continuation of the 2-part conference series, "Asia-Pacific and the Humanitarian World" on 5th – 6th December 2019 at the NTU

One-North campus. Created to understand perspectives from the Asia-Pacific region on the dynamics, limits and possibilities of humanitarian action, this conference brought together scholars focused on the various aspects of humanitarian work in the region. Topics of discussion included bilateral and multilateral cooperation as well as how different non-traditional actors engage in humanitarian work and the implications for the international humanitarian system. Some participants also focused on how individual countries such as China, Indonesia and Japan operationalize humanitarianism in their foreign policy.

7th ASEAN-UN Workshop-5th Regional Dialogue on Political-Security Cooperation

03-04 December 2019
Hanoi, Vietnam



Head of NTS Centre, Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, speaking on ASEAN mechanisms on conflict management at the 7th ASEAN-UN Workshop-5th Regional Dialogue on Political-Security Cooperation, jointly organised by the UN, ASEAN and Foreign Ministry of Vietnam. The Workshop was held on 3-4 December in Hanoi, Vietnam.

RSIS Seminar by Dr Kristie Barrow

27 & 29 November 2019
Singapore

RSIS Seminars delivered by Dr Kristie Barrow, Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS, NTU, Singapore; Director of International and Domestic Engagement of the Australian Civil-Military Centre.

Dr Barrow gave two seminars titled "Australia's Approach to HADR from a Civil-Military Practitioner's Viewpoint" and "Challenges and Limitations to Foreign Military Responses to

HADR in Asia-Pacific”.

The first seminar on 27th November 2019 discussed how Australia understands HADR preparedness and response in the Asia-Pacific region, and the factors that inform the way Australia undertakes HADR in the region – both in policy and practice. She stated that Australia’s approach to HADR centres on Civilian-Military-Police (Civ-Mil-Pol) coordination and a whole-of-government response. This approach is largely driven by the needs of the region and political dynamics, as well as the aspiration to balance both.

During the second seminar on 29th November 2019, Dr Barrow highlighted the theoretical, policy, and doctrinal challenges of foreign military engagement in HADR in the region. She presented the ways it affects non-military actors, the limitations and drawbacks of utilising extensive military assistance, and the structural issues and long-term viability of the current regional approach. In particular, she highlighted that an over-reliance on militaries in HADR creates the expectation that they can solve all problems. At the same time, this undermines the ability of civilian agencies to respond to disasters.



Conference in Rethinking AHA Centre

18 November 2019
Jakarta, Indonesia



Head of NTS Centre, Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, speaking at the Conference in Rethinking AHA Centre, held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 18 November 2019. Prof Anthony spoke on Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Response in Complex Conflict Environment.

Philippines Fieldwork

20-26 October 2019
Philippines



Philippines Fieldwork: 20 – 26 October 2019. The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies’ Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme research team travelled to the Philippines to document the experiences and reflections of different actors involved in HADR efforts of the 2017 Marawi Conflict. Mr Angelo Trias and Dr Lina Gong conducted interviews with key informants to examine the disaster management structures, mechanisms and arrangements in the Philippines for addressing man-made hazards and threats. Data collected from the fieldwork will help identify the main challenges to address, broad trends to look out for, and key partnerships to develop to enhance capacities to protect and assist vulnerable communities in conflict-affected settings in the Philippines and the wider Southeast Asian region.

Initial analysis of findings reveal that: i) understanding and respecting religio-cultural norms are critical to humanitarian access, ii) strengthening civil-military-police relations is essential to aid and relief worker security, iii) disaster management and peace-building activities compliment and support each other, iv) communications remain to be strengthened between national governments and international donors, despite the existing mechanisms, v) local governments and community leaders play a critical role in disaster response and early recovery, vi) urbanisation should be considered in disaster management. The recent crisis highlights the changing risk environment and transforming humanitarian landscape, particularly the growing prominence of armed conflict and mass violence in the region.

RSIS-IAEA Faculty Development Course on Nuclear Security

21-25 October 2019
Singapore

The RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) co-organised a faculty

development course on nuclear security in Singapore from 21 to 25 October 2019. Around 20 faculty members and trainers from universities and training institutions in the Asia-Pacific region participated in a series of lectures and activities aimed at developing academic programmes and training courses on nuclear security education in their respective institutions. Key outcomes of this course are three draft graduate programme and training curricula on nuclear security in policy and social sciences, engineering and natural sciences.



RSIS – GCSP Crisis Management: Navigating the Storm Course

14-18 October 2019
Singapore



RSIS – GCSP Crisis Management: Navigating the Storm Course, Singapore, 14th to 18th October 2019. The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) co-hosted a crisis management course on how to lead effectively in a turbulent and fast-moving world. Co-organised by Mr David Horobin from GCSP and Dr Alistair Cook, Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme, the course sought to educate policymakers and executives to think and act more creatively in times of crisis, and to develop the skills and knowledge required to navigate through them. Over the course of five days, participants from academia, military, non-governmental organisations, civilian agencies, private sector and international organisations – which included Ms Nanthini Sambanthan from the NTS Centre – learnt to recognise and adapt the psychological and organisational elements of crisis management. They also participated in real-time simulations – facilitated by the co-organisers including Angelo Trias of the NTS Centre – that enabled them to put into practice the various theoretical concepts taught during the course.

Southeast Asia Security Sector Governance Forum

7-9 October 2019

Antipolo City, the Philippines



Mr Julius Trajano, Research Fellow at the NTS Centre, attended the Southeast Asia Security Sector Governance Forum held in Antipolo City, the Philippines from 7 to 9 October 2019. The Forum was jointly organized by the DCAF Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance and the Ateneo de Manila University. Mr Trajano spoke on best practices in maintaining good security sector governance and the impact of contemporary non-traditional security issues on security sector governance. The forum facilitated the first regional meeting of the network of security sector governance experts and practitioners from Southeast Asian countries.

International Conference on "The European Union and New Competition between China and the US"

7-8 October 2019

Madrid, Spain



Head of NTS Centre, Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony delivering a keynote on "Deepening Cooperation between Asia and Europe in the Preservation of Global Public Goods", at the International Conference on "The European Union and New Competition between China and the US", jointly organised by Royal Elcano Institute, Madrid and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. The conference was held on 7-8 October, in Madrid, Spain.

Pacific Islands (Fiji and Tonga) Fieldwork

23 August – 6 September 2019

Fiji and Tonga

Pacific Islands (Fiji and Tonga) Fieldwork: 23 August – 6 September 2019. The S.

Rajaratnam School of International Studies' Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme research team travelled to Fiji and Tonga to conduct fieldwork. Dr Alistair Cook and Mr Christopher Chen conducted interviews with representatives from the Government, international organizations, regional bodies, NGOs, local community partners and faith-based groups to understand the disaster management structures, mechanisms, and arrangements in place in the two Pacific Island States. In the process, the team hoped to identify some of the challenges faced by small island states when responding to disasters. Data gathered from the fieldwork identified broad trends and key partnerships in the Pacific region. Some of the key findings from our forthcoming report are as follows: 1) positive perception of military involvement in HADR operations, 2) push towards integrating traditional knowledge into disaster preparedness initiatives, 3) openness towards ASEAN-PIS collaboration in disaster management.



World Humanitarian Day 2019

19 August 2019

Singapore



World Humanitarian Day 2019 celebrated Women Humanitarians and their undying contribution in making the world a better place. The RSIS World Humanitarian Day 2019 Public Panel & Exhibition was held on 19 August. The annual event brings together local players in the humanitarian sphere to celebrate the dedication of humanitarian workers around the world, and to remember those in most need of assistance. The event drew an audience of over 60 people including seven exhibitors – Mercy Relief, ReliefSG, Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation (RLAF), Singapore Red Cross, Yonah, World Vision, and the RSIS HADR Programme. The panellists this

year included Mr Euan Wilmshurst, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, IBM Asia Pacific; Mr Sim Zhi Min, Co-Founder, Yonah; and LTC Zhou Yan Sheng, Senior Assistant Director Force Transformation, Singapore Civil Defence Force. This year's panel discussion focused on exploring ways to use "Technology for Good". The panellists reflected on their engagements with technology and gave insights into how their respective organisations are employing new and innovative solutions in emergencies and disaster situations, particularly in saving lives and alleviating suffering.



ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management

21 August 2019

Singapore



On 21 August, the RSIS HADR Programme participated as the knowledge partner for the ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management, which was co-organised by the Singapore Civil Defence Force, ASEAN Secretariat, and the AHA Centre in Singapore. Mrs Josephine Teo, Singapore's Minister for Manpower and 2nd Minister for Home Affairs, gave the opening remarks as the Guest-of-Honour. The dialogue emphasized the need to continuously build ASEAN's resiliency to disasters by forging multi-stakeholder partnerships for future challenges, leveraging on sustainable development efforts to mitigate disaster impacts, and adapting to localisation as a new norm in humanitarian response.

RSIS Workshop 2019: "Realizing ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management, Making Strategy a Reality"

19-20 August 2019
Singapore

On 19 to 20 August, the HADR Programme of the NTS Centre hosted the RSIS Workshop 2019: "Realizing ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management, Making Strategy a Reality". The workshop brought together more than 50 stakeholders in Southeast Asia to discuss practical ways to fulfil the strategy set forth by the ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management through a whole-of-society approach. The Workshop engaged existing and potential champions for cross-sectoral partnerships in disaster management to identify (i) what worked well and how, and (ii) what did



not work and why in the past 5 years. This was followed by several breakout group sessions where participants discussed how to develop a working model to enhance successful sectoral partnerships and to build less-developed ones. Output from the workshop will be used to produce concrete

recommendations for the development of 2021-2025 ASEAN Work Plan for the realisation of the declaration on One ASEAN, One Response: ASEAN Responding To Disasters As One In The Region And Outside The Region.

Conference on "Australia-Japan-India Trilateral: Leadership, Partnership and ASEAN Centrality in the Emerging Indo-Pacific"

06 August 2019
Brisbane, Australia

Head of Centre, Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, speaking at the panel on Challenges and Disruption: Leadership Resilience in an Age of Uncertainty, at the conference on "Australia-Japan-India Trilateral: Leadership, Partnership and ASEAN Centrality in the Emerging Indo-Pacific", organised by the Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, on 6 August at Stamford Plaza Brisbane, Australia.



Research Center for Non-Traditional Security and Peaceful Development, Zhejiang University, People's Republic of China. (NTS-PD)

The 2nd International Forum On Non-Traditional Security (Hangzhou) Attracting 100+ Experts From Related Stakeholders Discussing "Non-Traditional Security And Overseas Interest Protection"

9-10 November 2019
Hangzhou, China

The 2nd International Forum on Non-Traditional Security (Hangzhou) was opened in Hangzhou on November 9-10th, 2019, with the theme of "Non-traditional Security and Protection of Overseas Interests", sponsored by Zhejiang Association of Security Technology & Protection, The Center for Non-traditional Security and Peaceful Development Studies, Zhejiang University and OSS International



Collaboration Center, in conjunction with CGE Peace Development Foundation.

100+ experts and scholars from international organizations, security technology industry, security service industry and well-known

research institutions participated in the forum to exchange views on digital and intelligent security and overseas security service and best practices of private security service.

Dr. Zhou zhanggui, Secretary General of The 2nd International Forum on Non-Traditional Security (Hangzhou) presided over the opening ceremony, introduced the participating leaders and guests, and elaborated the objectives, characteristics and agenda of the forum. The forum was divided into four parts. Part I: International regulation of security service industry. Invite representatives of international organizations and experts to give keynote speeches; Part II: Digital and Intelligent Security. Invite experts and industry representatives to make theme speeches and round-table dialogue; Part III: Overseas security cases and best practices. Invite experts and scholars to speak on overseas security threats and service cases. Part IV: International Security Cooperation Dialogue. Invite Security Industry Stakeholders to discuss on demand and supply of security service.

In his opening speech, Mr. Zhao Yonghua, Secretary General of Zhejiang Association of Security Technology & Protection, pointed out that "China Security manufacturing" products have achieved new leaps in technology level and scale, and overseas revenue is becoming a new growth pole of China security company performance. The member enterprises of Zhejiang Association of Security Technology & Protection, such as Hikvision, Dahua, Univision and other security enterprises, have reached the international advanced level in video monitoring, online alarm, face recognition and other technical fields, with market share ranking the top in the world. Based on the close cooperation in the early stage, the three sponsors of this forum have set up an international cooperation platform for intellectual industry research and carried out cooperation in various aspects, including receiving and organizing officials and industrial delegations from SCO, Latin America, Cuba, etc., and will further use the platform to play their respective advantages, promote industry university research and international cooperation, and promote the development of security industry.

In his opening speech, Founder and Executive Chairman of CGE Peace Development Foundation, Dean of Hainan Institute For Public Security Studies, Former Vice Mayor of Sanya, pointed out that traditional security threats have evolved from potential and local problems into global real threats. He believed that promoting the research on international security service norms and standards

will help Chinese security enterprises to integrate with the world. In addition to strengthening the "pragmatic" aspect such as the law enforcement cooperation mechanism, the security response also needs to carry out exchanges in the "retreat" aspect, especially expanding the normalized international dialogue and cooperation mechanism. The foundation is willing to work with all parties to build an international high-end dialogue platform.



Professor Yu Xiaofeng, Director of the Research Center for Non-Traditional Security and Peaceful Development Studies of Zhejiang University, said in his opening speech that today's non-traditional security threats we are facing have transcended the "boundaries" of any traditional discipline, and we must have an "interdisciplinary" perspective to review them and find good governance solutions, which requires not only a national level perspective, but also a global perspective. The protection of overseas interests is an important field of non-traditional security research and a research topic interwoven with national security, national development and human security. It is of theoretical and practical significance to hold the second International Forum on non-traditional security (Hangzhou).



At the keynote speech stage of the forum, Mr. Jamie Williamson, Executive Director of ICoCA, introduced the normative documents and accreditation standards in the field of international private security, the development process of ICoCA, the current operation and the plan for the next five years, under the title of "international security service regulations and accreditation standards", and expressed his willingness to work with Chinese counterparts Stakeholders engage in active dialogue and collaboration to

jointly improve international security standards to provide globally responsible security services and oversight functions in complex environments.



Dr. Alessandro Arduino, Co-Director Security & Crisis Management International Center, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences - UniTO, introduced the challenges and risks faced by enterprises and personnel in the process of promoting the "one belt and one road" project with the challenges of China's security and security enterprises' overseas operations.



In the second part of the forum, six experts at home and abroad made active speeches on "digital security and security challenges". Taking ISIS's multifaceted nature and the potential threat to China's overseas interests as the topic of her speech, Dr. Anat Hochberg-Marom, Israel's Counter-Terrorism Expert and Strategic Adviser to Government Security Agencies, introduced the new activities planned and implemented by international terrorist activities using network means, and the possible threats and Countermeasures to China's overseas interests in the future.



Mr. Motty Presler, Israeli M-Pro79 Consulting, gave a speech entitled "Israel's defense and security industry: from survival needs to innovation", introduced the transformation and innovation development of security industry since the founding of Israel, and put forward experiences and suggestions for China to learn from.



Ms. Wu Lin, Director of International Market Communication of Hikvision, introduced the main trend of video monitoring industry towards more intelligent development in the future and various applications in the field of public security under the title of "From Seeing to Insight -- the Development of Intelligent Security Business".



Mr. He Xiaonan, Senior Marketing Manager of International Cooperation Department of Dahua Technology Co., Ltd., Former Technical Director of African Region, introduced Dahua's comprehensive solutions and technical advantages in the development of smart cities with "Dahua HOC (Heart of City) solution under the development of smart cities in China".



Mr. YUAN Bo, Senior Marketing Manager, Huawei Company, intelligent security product line, focused the Topic of "5g + AI, accelerate upgrading of the intelligent security industry", showing the technical framework and application prospect of the intelligent development of security industry with the coming of 5g era and the application of intelligent technology in the future.



Mr. ZHU Min, Chief engineer of Public Security Industry, Deputy General Manager of City Traffic Brain Department, Zhejiang SUPCON Information Technology Co., LTD., introduced the transformation of public security industry from passive response to active early warning gradually under the title of "above the cloud, think about security", and thought that police informatization construction not only implemented the technology to liberate police force, but also brought benchmark for other industries.



In the third part of the forum, three speakers focused on "overseas security cases and best practices". Dr. ZHOU Zhanggui, Director of OSS International Collaboration Mechanism (Center), Observer and CSO member of International Code of Conduct Association (ICoCA), systematically introduced the development process, main text and certification of international security standards, including regulatory elements such as the four Geneva Conventions, Montreux documents, the international security code of conduct (ICoC), ISO18788, ISO28007, and the process of China's overseas security regulation and future international cooperation challenges are analyzed.



Mr. FAN Shouzheng, Expert of "BRI" counter terrorism program, Ministry of public security, associate professor of Chinese People's Public Security University, introduced the experience of joint law enforcement cooperation between the state and public security departments in Lancang-Mekong region and the experience gained from the mechanism.

Mr. Yaniv Bar Oz, Former Head of Security Team of the U.S. Embassy (Israel) and Israeli VIPs Security Expert, introduced Israel's main experience and methods in the field of Park guarding and key personnel's

security from a specific case under the title of international security threat and Israel's customized security system. He expressed his willingness to cooperate with Chinese stakeholders to provide customized training.



The fourth part of the forum is a round table dialogue on international security cooperation between China and foreign countries, chaired by the Secretary General of the forum, Dr. Zhou zhanggui, who invited 8 leading experts to have a dialogue with their own practical experience based on the cooperation needs of the Chinese market, they are Mr. Jamie Williamson, Executive Director of International Code of Conduct Association (ICoCA), Dr. Alessandro Arduino, Co-Director Security & Crisis Management International Center, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences – UniTO, Mr. Yaniv Bar Oz, Former Head of Security Team of the U.S. Embassy (Israel) and Israeli VIPs Security Expert, Mr. LI Baiqing, Founder and Executive Chairman of CGE Peace Development Foundation, Dean of Hainan Institute For Public Security Studies, Former Vice Mayor of Sanya, Mr. Fan Shouzheng, Expert of "BRI" counter terrorism program, Ministry of public security, associate professor of Chinese People's Public Security University, Mr. HE Zhuo, Deputy General Manager, ZJJH SECURITY / Overseas Security Guardians, Mr. ZHENG Xuelin, President, Hangzhou Security Service Group, Mr. XU Min, President, Nanhu Security Service Company, Jiaying City, who introduced the risks, challenges and future cooperation space of the international security market, and had an interactive exchange on interested topics.

During the forum, a study tour on intelligent security was also organized. Forum participants visited the smart city and intelligent security exhibition Hall of Hikvision, and made in-depth exchanges with the management of Hikvision.

