

# 35<sup>TH</sup> ASIA-PACIFIC ROUNDTABLE

## *Sustaining Cooperation Amid Competition*

5-7 July 2022

Online (*Registration link/details to be confirmed*)

**Time zone:** Kuala Lumpur, UTC+8

### **Programme**

(As of 23 May 2022)

#### **Day 1**

**Tuesday, 5 July**

(All times in UTC+8)

0900-0930      **Participants and role-players admitted to 'networking/ waiting room'**

0930-0950      **Welcoming remarks**

**Assoc Prof Dr Hoang Anh Tuan**

Chair, Asean-ISIS Network

Vice-President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

Vietnam

**Herizal Hazri**

Chief Executive

Institute of Strategic & International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

0950-1010      **Keynote remarks by the prime minister of Malaysia (to be confirmed)**

1010-1020      **Break**

1020-1150      **Session 1: China's Dual-Circulation Strategy - A regional gamechanger**

China's Dual-Circulation Strategy (DCS) aims to strengthen its domestic market and technological capabilities while balancing foreign economic activities amid a volatile global economy. As the second largest economy in the world, the DCS has immense economic and geopolitical implications on supply chains, trading relationships and growth. How does this strategy change the way China engages with the world? What role does the DCS play in post-pandemic recovery and the region? And what does China's aspiration for technological self-reliance mean in the context of the US-China competition?

*Instigator*

**Dr Yose Rizal Damuri**

Executive Director

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Indonesia

*Main remarks*

**H.E. Ambassador Ouyang Yujing**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Malaysia

*Speakers*

**Assoc Prof Simon Tay**

Chairman

Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA)  
Singapore

**Prof Justin Yifu Lin**  
Dean  
Institute of New Structural Economics  
Peking University  
People's Republic of China

**Assoc Prof Asei Ito**  
Institute of Social Science  
University of Tokyo  
Japan

**Prof Jane Golley**  
College of Asia & the Pacific  
Australian National University (ANU)  
Australia

1150-1200      **Break**

1200-1230      **Ambassadorial Session 1**

**H.E. Dr Justin Lee**  
Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia

1230            **End of Day 1**

## **Day 2**

**Wednesday, 6 July**

(All times in UTC+8)

1330-1400      **Participants and role-players admitted to ‘networking/ waiting room’**

1400-1520      **Session 2: Impact of climate change and COP26 in Asia-Pacific**  
Asia-Pacific is projected to be one of the hardest-hit regions from climate change. Among the key outcomes of the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) to mitigate its effects are strengthened targets to curb greenhouse gas emissions, phasing down of coal, phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and financial support for developing countries. Yet, there is the risk of backtracked and unmet commitments. What are the most pressing challenges for the region? How would they impact on strategic security and trade concerns? Will COP26 catalyse a transition point for climate action? How can countries adapt to climate change?

*Instigator*

**Alizan Mahadi**

Senior Director (Research)

Institute of Strategic & International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

*Speakers*

**Sangmin Nam**

Director

Environment and Development Division

United Nations ESCAP

Thailand

**Dr Chhinh Nyda**

Lecturer

Department of Economic Development

Royal University of Phnom Penh

Cambodia

**Polly Hemming**

Adviser

The Australia Institute

Australia

**Tom Moody**

Regional Director Southeast Asia, Climate and Energy

British High Commission

Singapore

1520-1540      **Special address**

1540-1550      **Break**

1550-1710      **Session 3: A resurgent Europe in Asia- / Indo-Pacific**

The “Indo-Pacific” construct, once considered contentious in Europe, is now at the heart of its engagement with Asia-Pacific. The European Union’s (EU) Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific outlines its engagement approach. What are some of the key features of the strategy and how can they be realistically operationalised? How will the EU balance between economic and strategic approaches, including in the maritime domain? What is the value-add that the EU can bring to the region, specifically to Asean? Could a more proactive and structured European engagement temper conflicting interests from other Dialogue Partners?

*Instigator*

**Dr Nguyen Nam Duong**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam  
Vietnam

*Speakers*

**H.E. Ambassador Michalis Rokas**  
Head  
European Union Delegation to Malaysia

**Dr Maria Thaemar C. Tana**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science  
University of The Philippines Diliman  
The Philippines

Speaker 3 to be confirmed

1710-1720	<b>Break</b>
1720-1750	<b>Ambassadorial Session 2</b>
1750	<b>End of Day 2</b>

### Day 3

**Thursday, 7 July**

(All times in UTC+8)

0900-0930      **Participants and role-players admitted to ‘networking/ waiting room’**

0930-1050      **Session 4: Nuclear rearmament – Re-run of the arms race?**

Recent unilateral decisions by nuclear-weapon states in Asia-Pacific to modernise and rearm their deterrence capabilities have reignited concerns of a new nuclear arms race. These developments are exacerbated by declining effectiveness of arms control regimes and overlaps between the nuclear and conventional weapon delivery systems. Will technological advancements, such as “missile renaissance”, threaten the capability and survivability of second-strike systems of nuclear weapon states? Are there more effective approaches to arms control? What options are there for non-nuclear-weapon states to mitigate these developments?

*Instigator*

**Dell Higgle**

Former Ambassador for Disarmament  
New Zealand

*Speakers*

**Dr Tong Zhao**

Senior Fellow  
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace  
People’s Republic of China

**Dr Manpreet Sethi**

Distinguished Fellow  
Centre for Air Power Studies  
India

**Andhika Yudha Prawira**

Lecturer  
Department of Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Physics  
Universitas Gadjah Mada  
Indonesia

1050-1100      **Break**

1100-1230      **Session 5: Impact of major power minilateralism on Asean’s multilateralism**

A feature of ongoing major power competition in Asia-Pacific has been the proliferation and entrenchment of new and competing multi- and mini-lateral mechanisms. These include the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, the Aukus trilateral pact and a revised Belt and Road Initiative. Could such developments and their impacts undermine Asean-centred mechanisms? Are there opportunities for cooperation with competing initiatives? What are the conditions for Asean to engage and recalibrate its strategic responses in the face of these developments?

*Instigator*

**Melissa Conley Tyler**

Programme Lead  
Asia-Pacific Development, Diplomacy and Defence Dialogue (AP4D)  
Australia

*Speakers*

**Datuk Seri Saifuddin Abdullah**

Foreign Minister  
Malaysia

**Dr Dino Patti Djalal**

Founder  
Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia  
Indonesia

**Dr Sarah Teo**

Assistant Professor  
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)  
Nanyang Technological University  
Singapore

**Prof Aries A. Arugay**

Department of Political Science  
University of The Philippines Diliman  
The Philippines

1230-1250

**Closing remarks**

**Herizal Hazri**

Chief Executive  
Institute of Strategic & International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

### END ###