

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



ISIS MALAYSIA





Institute of Strategic
and International Studies Malaysia

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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ABOUT ISIS MALAYSIA



The Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia was established on 8 April 1983 as an autonomous, not-for-profit research organisation. ISIS Malaysia has a diverse research focus, which includes economics, foreign policy, security studies, nation-building, social policy, technology, innovation and environmental studies. It also undertakes research collaboration with national and international organisations in important areas, such as national development and international affairs.

ISIS Malaysia engages actively in Track Two diplomacy, and promotes the exchange of views and opinions at both the national and international levels. The Institute has also played a role in fostering closer regional integration and international cooperation through forums, such as the Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR), the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS), the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC), the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT), the Network of ASEAN-China Think Tanks (NACT), the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT), and the Silk Road Think Tank Network (SiLKS). ISIS Malaysia is a founding member of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and manages the Council's Secretariat.

As the country's premier think tank, ISIS Malaysia has been at the forefront of some of the most significant nation-building initiatives in Malaysia's history. It was a contributor to the Vision 2020 concept and was consultant to the Knowledge-Based Economy Master Plan initiative. It also produced the first ever National Interest Analysis to be undertaken on Malaysia's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

A portrait of Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, an elderly man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a dark suit and a blue and white striped tie. He is seated in a light-colored armchair with his hands clasped in his lap. The background shows a wooden door and a white wall.

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive ISIS Malaysia

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The ISIS Malaysia Annual Report 2018, in keeping with previous annual reports, features the activities of the Institute and provides information on the projects, published works, presentations as well as media engagement of our research staff.

ISIS Malaysia remains steadfast in pursuing its objectives of promoting independent research and serious discussions as well as providing timely policy advice on various issues of concern to the nation and the world at large. This has been well achieved through the many conferences, meetings, roundtable discussions and seminars that were organised throughout the year, some of which were done in collaboration with other local and foreign institutions. The year 2018 has been another eventful yet fulfilling year for ISIS Malaysia.

On the front of research projects, ISIS Malaysia continued its study on “An Assessment of China’s Belt and Road Initiative on Malaysia”. The study aimed to inform policy makers and the public about key policy benefits, costs and risks arising from Malaysia’s participation in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

ISIS Malaysia also began collaboration with UNICEF Malaysia on a study entitled “Situation Analysis of Children in Malaysia (SitAn)”. The study assesses and analyses the situation with respect to children’s rights and development, highlighting potential or critical issues in such areas as legal and policy framework; demographic and socio-economic status; education and child development; health and nutrition; and child protection. The study aims to make a valuable contribution in identifying the trends and key issues especially towards the agenda of child development in Malaysia.

On behalf of the Malaysia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (MANCPEC), ISIS Malaysia partnered with the New Zealand Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (NZPECC) to lead the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC) Task Force on Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Beyond 2020. The Task Force undertook the drafting of a report detailing APEC’s achievements to date, key drivers of future growth as well as other challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the Asia-Pacific region. Its first report, “Towards a PECC Vision for APEC”, was produced in 2018.

ISIS Malaysia successfully convened the 32nd Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) from 7-9 May 2018. The 32nd APR attracted over 260 participants including ministers, policy makers, security experts, scholars, researchers, journalists and business leaders from the Asia-Pacific, Americas and Europe. The event, which had the full support of the ASEAN-ISIS fraternity as well as other long-time institutional partners, coincided with Malaysia’s 14th General Elections, which brought about a change of government in the country. International participants had expressed excitement at being able to witness one of the most momentous events in Malaysia’s history at the conclusion of the Roundtable.

In addition to the APR, ISIS Malaysia also organised PRAXIS #GAMECHANGERS 2019 to promote robust and constructive discussions on a wide range of issues spanning economics, business and politics. PRAXIS #GAMECHANGERS 2019 attracted a crowd of economists, politicians, government entities, industry players as well as academics from inside and outside the country. The event was graced by His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah, Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan and ISIS Malaysia Royal Fellow. His Royal Highness kindly delivered the Royal Address.

Throughout 2018, ISIS Malaysia held multiple meetings with experts on a number of subject matters. Some of these include a brainstorming meeting on “Strategy and Roadmap to End Child Marriage”; a closed-door meeting on “Cost of Criminalisation vs Treatment for Drug Abuse”; and a strategic meeting on “Promoting the Rights and Well-Being of the Orang Asal in the Era of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”. Moreover, ISIS Malaysia maintained its tradition in organising roundtables on various issues. Among those were “Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare – International Developments and Opportunities for Malaysia”; “Mid-Term Review – Eleventh Malaysia Plan”; and

CHD-ISIS Dialogue on “Managing Philippine-Malaysia Migration in Sabah”.

On 28 November 2018, ISIS Malaysia was honoured to host The Honourable Dato’ Saifuddin Abdullah, Malaysia’s Minister of Foreign Affairs. ISIS Malaysia Board Members and staff were also present to welcome The Honourable Dato’ Saifuddin on his first visit to ISIS Malaysia as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Institute was also able to host prominent leaders, policy makers, legislators, diplomats and scholars who spoke on a variety of subjects through our ISIS International Affairs Forum (IIAF) series. These speakers included Prof Emeritus Dorodjatun Kuntjoro-Jakti, Indonesia’s former Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs; HE Merve Safa Kavakci, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Malaysia; General Zubair Mahmood Hayat, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) of Pakistan Armed Forces; Mr Tamim Madani, Charge d’affaires of the Embassy of Syria in Kuala Lumpur; Dr Shashi Tharoor, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs, India; HE Andrew Goledzinowski AM, High Commissioner of Australia; Professor David Shambaugh, Gaston Sigur Professor of Asian Studies at George Washington University; Dr Chanintira Na Thalang, Associate Professor of International Relations at Thammasat University; Mr Hugh Peyman, author of *China’s Change: The Greatest Show on Earth*; Prof Wongi Choe, Professor and Head of Center for ASEAN-Indian Studies at Korea National Diplomatic Academy; and Air Commodore Bill Boothby (Retd), Associate Fellow at Geneva Centre for Security Policy. Several roundtable discussions were held on diverse areas of interest, featuring speakers from different institutions and countries. In addition, ISIS Malaysia continued to receive visitors from various institutions and organisations in Malaysia and overseas.

ISIS Malaysia continues to actively engage and maintain close links with other think tanks and institutions at home and abroad. The Institute jointly hosted in Malaysia several events with think tanks and institutions from other countries. These included the 49th Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Steering Committee Meeting; a Task Force Meeting for the PECC Structure Project on “Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Beyond 2020”, jointly chaired by the MANCPEC and the NZPECC; the Second Malaysia Scholars on Korea (MASK) Network Seminar on “Recent Events in the Korean Peninsula and Implications for Republic of Korea-Malaysia/ASEAN Relations”, co-organised with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Malaysia; a meeting on “Constructing Multilayered Communication Channels Between Korea and ASEAN”, held in collaboration with the Korean Association of International Studies (KAIS) and Korea Foundation (KF); and the Valdai Club Asian Regional Conference, a first ever collaboration between ISIS Malaysia and the Moscow-based Valdai Club.

ISIS Malaysia also organised and coordinated long-standing annual events – the 7th Malaysian-German Security Dialogue, held in partnership with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), and the 11th ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue, organised jointly with Asialink and the Asia New Zealand Foundation.

Pursuant to the MOU signed in November 2015, an ISIS Malaysia delegation visited Kunming and Nanning, People’s Republic of China, in September 2018 at the invitation of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS). Both institutes participated in the China-Malaysia Strategic Cooperation Forum, which explored ways to achieve win-win outcomes from the BRI. The delegation also met with Yunnan University and Guangxi University as well as visited the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park.

ISIS Malaysia also hosted a delegation from the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) between 29 November and 1 December 2018. The main purpose of the visit was to convene the 4th China-Malaysia Seminar. Furthermore, the delegation had a discussion on the current state of Malaysia-China bilateral relations with YM Dato’ Raja Nushirwan bin Zainal Abidin, Deputy Secretary General (Bilateral Affairs) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia.

As in the past, ISIS Malaysia’s Chairman and Chief Executive and research staff attended numerous conferences, seminars and colloquia at home and abroad, including the Maritime Security Study Group in Tokyo, January 2018; Effects of Digitalisation on Society and Politics in Asia and Germany in Berlin, March 2018; CSIS Global Dialogue and the 25th PECC General Meeting in Jakarta, May 2018; the 18th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) in June 2018; the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, June 2018; the 7th World Peace Forum in Beijing, July 2018; the International Symposium on APEC Post-2020 Vision and Asia Pacific Regional Integration in Sanya, September 2018; and the 15th Annual Meeting of the Valdai Discussion Club in Sochi, October 2018.

I wish to record here that the accomplishments attained by ISIS Malaysia would not have been possible without the support, assistance and encouragement of the Government of Malaysia and other governments as well as various individuals and organisations, public and private, here in Malaysia and abroad. I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all our friends, associates and supporters for their invaluable assistance and generous contributions that enabled ISIS Malaysia to carry out its activities throughout the year.

I would also like to record my appreciation to the members of the Board of ISIS Malaysia for their full support and encouragement. Last, but not least, I thank and commend all staff for their dedication and commitment in ensuring that ISIS Malaysia remains as the nation’s premier think tank.

I look forward to continued success and greater achievements in the coming year for ISIS Malaysia.

May 2019



ISIS MALAYSIA IN NUMBERS

09

MEMBERS OF
THE BOARD

07

MANAGEMENT

22

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(DOMESTIC)

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VISITS FROM OTHER
INSTITUTIONS
(INTERNATIONAL)

04

PROJECTS

01

BILATERAL
VISITS

WHO'S WHO IN ISIS MALAYSIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

*Chairman and Chief Executive
SIS Malaysia*



Dato' Steven CM Wong

*Deputy Chief Executive
ISIS Malaysia*



General (R) Tan Sri (Dr) Mohd Hashim Mohd Ali

*Chairman
Country Heights Holdings Bhd*



Tan Sri Dr Khoo Kay Kim

*Professor Emeritus
Department of History
University of Malaya*



Datuk Rohana Tan Sri Mahmood

*Chairman and Founder
RM Capital Partners Sdn Bhd*



Tan Sri Dr Sulaiman Mahbob

*Chairman
Telekom Malaysia Bhd*



Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Munir Abdul Majid

*Chairman
Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd*



Tan Sri Ahmad Zaki Ansore bin Mohd Yusof

*Director General
Implementation Coordination Unit
Prime Minister's Department*



Puan Nooraidah binti Abdullah

*Section Head
International Division
Ministry of Finance (until 16th July 2018)*

MANAGEMENT



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

Chairman and Chief Executive



Dato' Steven CM Wong

Deputy Chief Executive



Dr Hezri Adnan

Senior Director of Research



Ms Elina Noor

*Director (until March 2018)
Foreign Policy and Security Studies (FPSS)*



Mr Firdaos Rosli

*Director
Economics, Trade and Regional Integration (ETRI)*



Ms Sohana Enver Azyze

Head of Administration



**Ms Tengku Sheila Tengku Annuar
Zainal**

*Director
Public Affairs and Conference Services (PACS)*

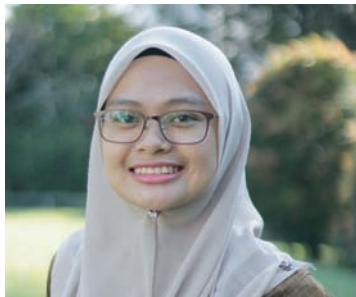
RESEARCH STAFF



Dr Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori

Senior Analyst

Research interests: political reform and contestation processes in Malaysia and the wider Southeast Asian region



Ms Ainun Jaabi

Researcher

Research interests: agriculture, food security, land use management



Mr Alif Iskandar Zabidi

Analyst

Research interest: China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)



Mr Alizan Mahadi

Fellow

Research interests: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), environmental governance, international environmental politics



Mr Bunn Nagara

Senior Fellow

Research interests: ASEAN, Southeast Asian and Asia-Pacific security, East Asian integration, global power relations, major state interests, contemporary China



Mr Calvin Cheng

Researcher

Research interests: inequality and poverty, labour markets, fiscal policy, distributional and sectoral effects of macro trends



Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel

Analyst

Research interests: strategic security challenges and the impact of major power competition in the Asia Pacific (with a specific focus on Southeast Asia and ASEAN), policy implications of refugees and asylum seekers in Malaysia, Malaysian foreign and defence policies



Mr Sholto Byrnes

Senior Fellow

Research interests: nation-building in Malaysia, established and emerging democracies in Muslim-majority countries, Southeast Asian and international relations



Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika

Analyst

Research interests: global and regional economic integration (ASEAN and APEC), trade and investment, digital economy, domestic economic issues, Malaysia-Indonesia relations

RESEARCH STAFF



Ms Farlina Said

Analyst
Research interests: preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE), cyberspace, Korea-ASEAN relations



Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid

Senior Analyst
Research interests: technology and innovation, nation-building



Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

Researcher
Research interests: China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Korea-ASEAN relations, Southeast Asian politics, international law



Mr Muhammad Sinatra

Analyst
Research interest: Malaysia-Indonesia relations, Indonesian politics, preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE)



Mr Naufal Fauzi

Researcher
Research interests: conflict and security law, cybersecurity and international law, forced migration, CSCAP Secretariat



Ms Nursalina Fairuz Salleh

Analyst
Research interests: drug trends and policies, welfare of women and children



Ms Nurul Izzati Kamrulbahri

Researcher
Research interests: preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE), ASEAN politics



Ms Puteri Nor Ariane Yasmin

Analyst
Research interests: forced migration, policy implications of refugees and asylum seekers in Malaysia, drug trends and policies



Mr Shahrman Lockman

Senior Analyst
Research interests: Malaysian foreign policy, Southeast Asia-China relations, South China Sea developments, Malaysia-Indonesia relations, Asian military affairs

RESEARCH STAFF



Ms Tengku Nur Qistina

*Researcher (until August 2018)
Research interests: Malaysia-Middle East relations,
Malaysia at the United Nations*



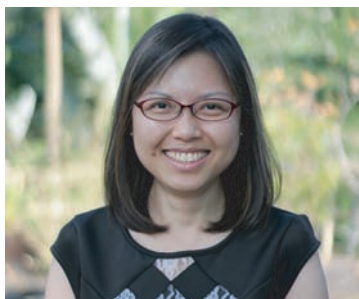
Mr Terence Too

*Fellow
Research interest: social welfare policies and
programmes, labour migration, development policy,
disaster risk reduction and community resilience*



Ms Zarina Zainuddin

*Analyst
Research interest: Malaysia-Japan relations, East Asia*



Ms Joann Saw

Publications Executive

NON-RESEARCH STAFF



Administration

From left: Mr Mohd Azman Mohd Zain, Mr Nik Hasmu Musa, Mr Mohd Zulkefli Udin, Mr Ahmad Syahir Adnan, Mr Hassan Hashim, Mr Asbullah Mohd Isa, Ms Kamarul Azira Mohd Dross, Mr Abu Bakar Mohamed, Ms Norazzah Suleman, Ms Yong Nural'Ain LA Shah, Mr Mohamad Shazli Mohamad Sharif, Ms Sohana Enver Azyze, Mr Krishnasamy Mothiah, Ms Zainun Majid, Mr Mohd Ali Yarmamat, Ms Norshida Hashim, Mr Zulkifli Arshad, Mr Abdul Halil Musa, Mr El-Jeffery Ibrahim, Mr Suhaili Ramli, Mr Kamaruddin Ariffin and Mr Abdul Halid Shafie



Public Affairs and Conference Services (PACS)

From left: Mr Jefri Hambali, Mr Louis Anak Denis, Ms Harizan Zakaria, Ms Tengku Sheila Tengku Annuar Zainal, Ms Nur Atikah Ishak, Ms Mariah Aziz and Mr Mohamad Hanafi Kamaruddin



Library

From left: Mr Abu Bakar Mohamed and Mr El-Jeffery Ibrahim

NON-RESEARCH STAFF



Secretarial

From left: Ms Norazzah Suleman, Ms Zainun Majid, Mr Nik Hasmu Musa, Ms Norshida Hashim and Ms Azimah Othman

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ISIS Malaysia was actively involved in the organisation as well as collaboration of numerous conferences and meetings in 2018. This section highlights six major conferences, one National Affairs Forum (NAF) and a series of ISIS International Affairs Forum (IIAF). ISIS Malaysia also conducted a number of roundtable discussions and hosted a number of meetings with experts and diplomats. A special visit by Malaysia's Minister of Foreign Affairs is also highlighted in this section. Additionally, there were visits by institutions from several countries, including Iran, Pakistan, India, Kuwait, Japan, Singapore, Norway, Germany, Republic of Korea, People's Republic of China, and the United States.

32ND ASIA-PACIFIC ROUNDTABLE

Hilton Kuala Lumpur, 7-9 May 2018

The 32nd Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) was convened from 7-9 May 2018 amidst the 14th Malaysian General Election (GE14). Despite the challenges posed to the organiser, the participants of the APR were generally excited to experience and witness events surrounding the historic Malaysian election that saw a peaceful change of government.

The 32nd APR, attended by about 200 participants, was officiated by U Khin Maung Lynn, the Joint Secretary of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS). U Lynn delivered the Opening Remarks on behalf of the Chairman of MISIS. The Welcoming and Closing Remarks were delivered by ISIS Malaysia's Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Chairman and Chief Executive of ISIS Malaysia.

Prominent role players included Ambassador Pou Sothirak, Executive Director, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), Cambodia; YM Raja Dato' Nushirwan Zainal Abidin, Deputy Secretary General (Bilateral Affairs), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia; Mr Siddharth Varadarajan, Founding Editor, The Wire, India; Professor Tosh Minohara, Professor of US-Japan Relations, Kobe University, Japan; Mr Walter Lohman, Director, Asian Studies Center, Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy, The Heritage Foundation, USA; Professor Xiang Lanxin, Professor, International History and Politics, The Graduate Institute Geneva, Switzerland and Director, Centre of One Belt and One Road Studies, China National Institute for SCO International Exchange and Judicial Cooperation, China; Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Singapore; Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Director, Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS) Thailand, Thailand; Professor Dr Aileen SP Baviera, President Asia Pacific Pathways to Progress, the Philippines; Mr Timofei Bordachev, Programme Director, Valdai Discussion Club, Russia; Professor Dr Dewi Fortuna Anwar, Chairman, Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, The Habibie Center, Indonesia; Dr Lee Jaehyon, Senior Fellow, ASEAN and Oceania Studies Program, the Asan Institute for Policy Studies, Republic of Korea; Professor Dr Nguyen Vu Tung, President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV), Vietnam; Dr Ayman Khalil Director, Arab Institute for Security Studies, Jordan; Professor Natasha Hamilton-Hart, Director, New Zealand Asia Institute, University of Auckland, New Zealand.

The 32nd APR was structured with four Plenary Sessions and six Concurrent Sessions. The theme of the four Plenary Sessions were Politics in Southeast Asia: Change or Status Quo?; America First, China Rising: A New Global Order?; Innovating ASEAN, Preserving Resilience; and The State of the Region: The Future of APEC and Regional Economic Partnership Arrangements. The six Concurrent Sessions covered strategic updates on Northeast Asia, West Asia, South Asia and Central Asia, as well as sessions on Technology and the Battlefield: The Evolving Nature of Warfare and Future-Proofing Against Violent Extremism. In addition, there was a Special Panel on Foreign Policy on the Digital Age. A key difference at this year's APR was the introduction of "Instigators" instead of "Moderators" to better navigate the conference sessions. The move was generally well received by both role players and attendees.



Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa delivered the Welcoming and Opening Address



U Khin Maung Lynn



ISIS Malaysia's Board Members and heads of ASEAN-ISIS

PLENARY SESSION 1



Dr Michael Vatikiotis



Prof Dr Aileen SP Baviera (left) and Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak (right)

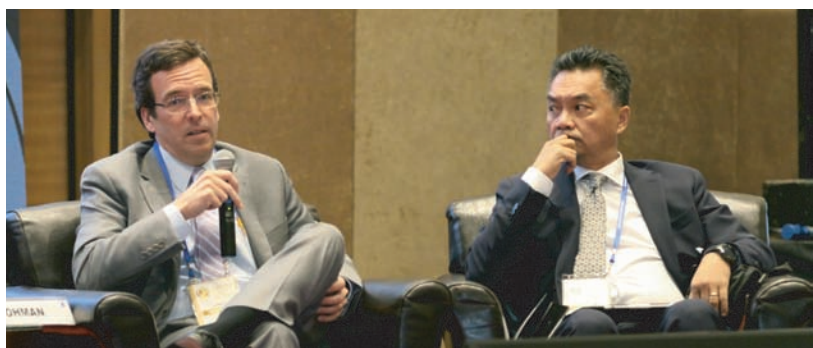


Ambassador Pou Sothirak

PLENARY SESSION 2



From left: Mr Anton Tsetov, Prof Ken Jimbo and Prof Xiang Lanxin



Dr Walter Lohman (left) and Dr Dino Patti Djalal (right)

PLENARY SESSION 3



From left: Prof Dr Dewi Fortuna Anwar, Ms Moe Thuzar, Dr Pavida Pananond and Ms Nur Sulyna Abdullah

PLENARY SESSION 4



Mr Patrick Tay (left) and Dato' Steven CM Wong (right)



Dr Li Wei (left) and Prof Natasha Hamilton-Hart (right)

CONCURRENT SESSION 1



Dr Hoo Chiew-Ping



Professor Tosh Minohara (left) and Dr Yuan Chong (right)



Dr Lee Jaehyon

CONCURRENT SESSION 2



Mr Sholto Byrnes



Dr Morteza Damanpak
Jami



Dr James Dorsey

CONCURRENT SESSION 3



From left: Dr Dinusha Panditaratne, U Khin
Maung Lynn, Dr Iftekhar Ahmed
Chowdhury, Dr Maria Sultan and Mr Dhruva
Jaishankar

CONCURRENT SESSION 4



Mr Timofei Bordachev



Dr Vladimir I Norov



Dr Meirat Omarov



Dr Roy Anthony Rogers

CONCURRENT SESSION 5



From left: Ms Elsa B Kania, Ms Margherita D' Ascanio, Prof Dr Nguyen Vu Tung and Ms Zoe Stanley-Lockman

CONCURRENT SESSION 6



Dr Eliane Ursula Etmüller



Ms Dwi Rubiyanti Kholifah



Dr Rommel Banlaoi



Mr Muhammad Sinatra

PARTICIPANTS



PRAXIS #GAMECHANGERS 2019

Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur Hotel, 4 October 2018

PRAXIS #GAMECHANGERS 2019 was ISIS Malaysia's premiere economic conference. The Opening Remarks was delivered by Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Chairman and Chief Executive of ISIS Malaysia, followed by the Royal Address by His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah, Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan, and Royal Fellow, ISIS Malaysia.

Praxis aimed to promote robust and constructive discussions on a wide range of issues spanning economics, business and politics. The event was divided into four sessions:

- Prospects, Strengths and Vulnerabilities of the Malaysian Economy;
- Raising the Game of Malaysian Manufacturing and Services with New Enabling Technologies;
- Malaysian Exports in an Age of Increasing Protectionism and Bilateralism; and
- The Government's Policies and Priorities in 2019.

Among notable speakers at Praxis include Mr Marzunisham Omar, Assistant Governor, Bank Negara Malaysia; Dr Firas Raad, Country Manager for Malaysia, East Asia and Pacific, World Bank Group, Malaysia; Mr Nurhisham Hussein, General Manager, Economics and Capital Markets, Employees Provident Fund, Malaysia; Mr Rushdi Abdul Rahim, Senior Vice President, Malaysian Industry Government Group for High Technology, Malaysia; Dr Harikrishna Kulaveerasingam, Chief Research and Development Officer, Sime Darby Plantation Berhad; Mr Lim Chee Siong, Chief Strategy and Marketing Officer, Huawei South Pacific Region; Datuk Isham Ishak, Secretary-General, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia; Dr Deborah Elms, Executive Director, Asia Trade Centre, Singapore; Mr Roberto Benetello, CEO, European Union-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Malaysia; Dato' Dr Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff, Ahli Majlis Pimpinan Tertinggi, Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia; YB Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad, Member of Parliament, Setiawangsa; and YB Mr Liew Chin Tong, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Defence, Malaysia



His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah



From left: Mr Nurhisham Hussein, Dr Firas Raad, Mr Marzunisham Omar and Mr Tan Chung Han



From left: Mr Rushdi Abdul Rahim, Mr Lim Chee Siong, Dr Harikrishna Kulaveerasingam and Dato' Steven CM Wong



From left: Mr Roberto Benetello, Dr Deborah Elms, Datuk Isham Ishak and Mr Firdaos Rosli



Tan Sri Mohd Sheriff Mohd Kassim



YB Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad and Dato' Dr Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff



YB Mr Liew Chin Tong

PARTICIPANTS



NETWORK OF MALAYSIAN THINK TANKS MEETING

ISIS Malaysia, 3 July 2018

ISIS Malaysia organised the Fourth Network of Malaysian Think Tanks (NMTT) Meeting with the theme of “New Approaches and Strategies for National Unity and Integration Under the Harapan Government”. The meeting provided an opportunity for participating think tankers to engage in a dialogue with the members of the new Pakatan Harapan government. The panel discussion reviewed the post-GE14 political idealism and realities, including the Pakatan Harapan’s government promises, inter-ethnic relations and rising inequalities and measures to close the income gap.

The meeting was moderated by YB Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah, Malaysian Foreign Minister. The three speakers, representatives from the new government, were YB Tuan Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad (MP), YB Dr Kelvin Yii (MP) and YB Mr Liew Chin Tong, Political Education Director, Democratic Action Party (DAP).



Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah



YB Tuan Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad



YB Dr Kelvin Yii Lee Wuen



YB Mr Liew Chin Tong

7TH MALAYSIAN-GERMAN SECURITY DIALOGUE

Majestic Kuala Lumpur, 29-30 August 2018

The 7th Malaysian-German Security Dialogue, co-organised by ISIS Malaysia and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Malaysia), brought together high-ranking security experts from Germany and Malaysia to analyse and discuss current security challenges from a regional and bilateral perspective. The five objectives of the Dialogue were as follows:

- To review and discuss current security risks from the perspectives of Germany and Malaysia, as well as reach a clearer understanding of those issues;
- To offer ideas and possible conflict resolutions to those security risks;
- A platform for security experts and decision-makers from Malaysia and Germany to network and form possible bilateral cooperation;
- To bring the overall dialogue of the conference into a wider regional context of Europe and Southeast Asia; and
- To foster closer ties between the governments of Malaysia and Germany.

The opening session was officiated by Dato' Steven CM Wong, Deputy Chief Executive, ISIS Malaysia, and Mr Wolfgang Hruschka, Country Director, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. Mr Hruschka and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Chairman and Chief Executive, ISIS Malaysia, gave the Closing Remarks.

The seven Plenary Sessions covered the following topics:

- A Global Order in Transition: Resurgent China, Russia, Japan and India, but Indecisive USA?;
- Belt and Road = Infrastructure + Connectivity: Security Challenges and Policy Directions;
- Law of Unintended Consequences in the Gulf: What Next for Syria and the Region?;
- The Korean Peninsula: De-escalation, Détente, Normalcy and a Summit;
- Mass Migration and "National Heritage" in Host Countries: Between Security Challenges and Social Adjustment;
- Peace Process and Progress in the Sulu Sea; and
- What Lies Ahead for the EU and the ASEAN Community?.



Role Players and participants at the 7th Malaysia-Germany Security Dialogue



From left: Ms Kim Bomi and Mr Stefan Samse



From left: Mr Patrick Rüppel, Brig-Gen Johnny Lim and Dr Geetha Govindasamy



From left: Mr Wolfgang Hruschka and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa



From left: Ms Suzilah Mohd Sidek and Mr Bunn Negara



From left: Dr Gudrun Wackerr, Mr Shariman Lockman and Dr Oh Ei Sun

11TH ASEAN-AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND DIALOGUE

Sheraton Imperial, 22-23 October 2018

The 11th ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue is an annual Track Two initiative led by ISIS Malaysia in close collaboration with Asialink and the Asia New Zealand Foundation (ANZF). The AANZ Dialogue presents an opportunity to bring together key academics, economists, security analysts, business community and diplomats from Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand to converse on major issues facing the region.

This year's programme focused substantially on the following themes:

- China's Growing Influence in Southeast Asia and Oceania;
- Managing Relations with the United States, China and Other Major Powers;
- Economic Diplomacy and Trade Strategies;
- Australia and New Zealand in Asia – Regional Stakeholders or External Players?;
- Evolving Democratic and Liberal Dynamics Within Southeast Asia – Its Impact on ASEAN and Its Dialogue Partners; and
- Perspectives on ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Cooperation and Challenges – Young Delegates/Scholars.



Role Players and participants at the 7th Malaysia-Germany Security Dialogue



Ms Penny Burt



From left: Dr James To and Prof Evelyn Goh



Mr Shahrman Lockman



From left: Mr Emirza Adi Syailendra and Dr Shine Choi



From left: Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika, Mr Gilang Kembara and Ms Erin-Watson Lynn



From left: Dr Luis Cabrera and Ms Pich Charadine



Mr Eduardo Pedrosa



Dr Bryce Wakefield



From left: Mr Simon Draper and Dato' Steven CM Wong



From left: Mr Thomas Nichols, Ms Aster Haile, Dr Pongphisoot Busbarat and Ms Do Mai Lan

THE VALDAI CLUB ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Hilton Kuala Lumpur, 21-22 November 2018

In a first ever collaboration, ISIS Malaysia and the Russian-based Valdai Club co-organised the Valdai Club Asian Regional Conference with the theme of “A Changing Asia in a Transforming World”. YB Senator Dato’ Hj Marzuki Yahya, Malaysia’s Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, delivered the first keynote speech followed by Ms Tatiana Naumova, Deputy Head of the Federal Agency for Press and Mass Media, Russia.

The discussion was divided into four main themes:

- Asia in the World Map of Security;
- The Global Economy: New Rules, Old Rules or a Game Without Rules?;
- Dialogue Russia-ASEAN and EEU-ASEAN: Prospects and Limits; and
- The Asia-Pacific Region (APR) and Indo-Pacific Region (IPR): How to Balance the Concepts?.

One of the Valdai Club’s main objectives is to promote dialogue among the global intellectual elite, which is in line with Russia’s contemporary agenda to build mutual relations with Southeast Asia. Achieving this requires a quality exchange of information between the two sides. Conference attendees included Prof Andrey Bystritskiy, Dr Timofey Bordachev, Maj Gen Muhammad Samrez Salik, Ambassador (R) Dato’ M Redzuan Kushairi, Dato’ Dr BA Hamzah, Dr Viktor Sumky and Lt Gen Dato’ Abdul Halim Hj Jalal.



Participants of Valdai



Dr Timofey Bordachev



From left: Prof Andrey Bystritskiy, Dato' Hj Marzuki Yahya and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa



Dr Viktor Sumskey



From left: Dato' Dr Zakaria Hj Ahmad, Prof Georgy Toloraya and Maj Gen Muhammad Samrez Salik



From left: Mr Muhammad Sinatra, Mr Syahir Naufal Fauzi, Mr Calvin Cheng and Mr Firdaos Rosli



From left: Dr Timofey Bordachev, Dato' Steven CM Wong, Dr Nguyen Vu Tung and HE Valery Yermolov

ISIS INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FORUMS (IIAF)



“60 Years of Malaysia-Indonesia Economic Ties: The Way Forward”

Prof Emeritus Dorodjatun Kuntjoro-Jakti
Former Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, Indonesia

9 March 2018



“A New Perspective in International Relations: Reinventing the Wheel of Idealism in Modern Day Politics – The Turkish Case”

HE Merve Safa Kavakci
Ambassador, Turkish Embassy in Kuala Lumpur

29 March 2018



“Strategic Stability in South Asia and Beyond”

General Zubair Mahmood Hayat
Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), Pakistan Armed Forces

18 April 2018

“The Crisis in Syria: Background and Prospects for a Resolution”

Mr Tamim Madani
Charge d'affaires, Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Kuala Lumpur

26 April 2018





“India in the 21st Century”

Dr Shashi Tharoor

Member of Parliament representing Thiruvananthapuram: and
Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External
Affairs, India

22 May 2018

“Australia in a Changing Geostrategic Environment: Australia’s Foreign Policy White Paper”

HE Andrew Goledzinowski AM

High Commissioner, Australian High Commission Malaysia

27 June 2018





“The United States and China in Southeast Asia: Power Shift or Competitive Coexistence?”

Professor David Shambaugh
George Washington University, the United States
9 July 2018



“Child Marriage Study: Analysis, Drivers and Recommendations”

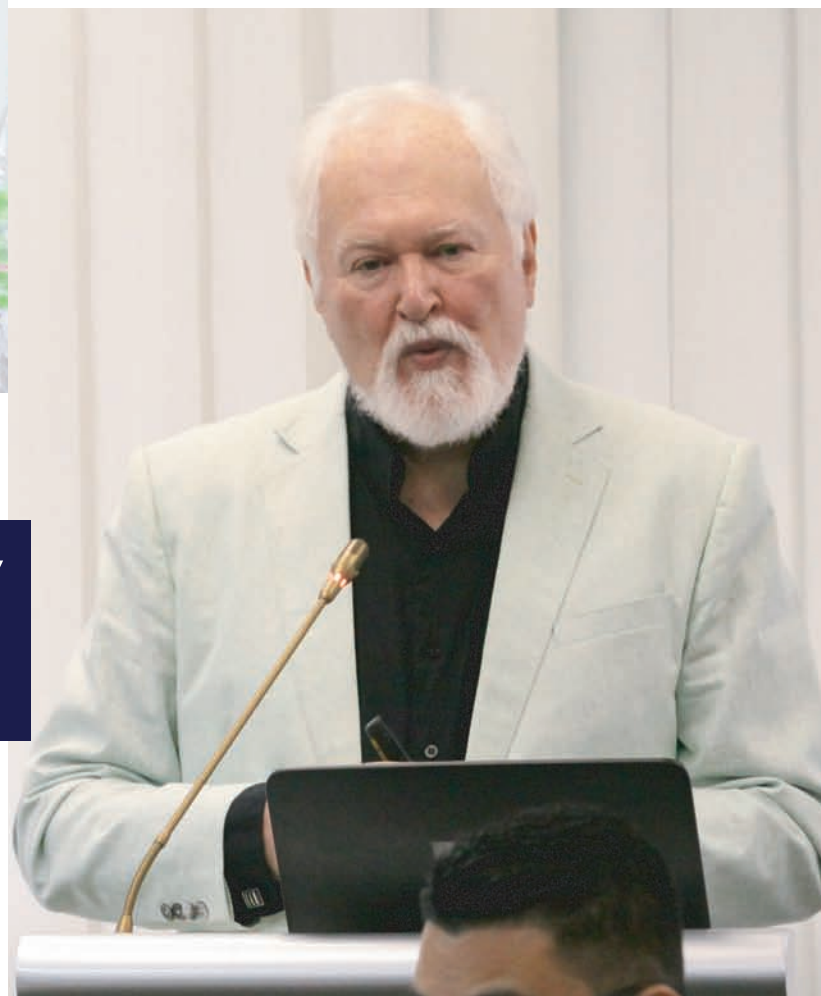
Prof Dato' Noor Aziah Hj Mohd Awal (*Lead speaker*)
Professor
Faculty of Law
National University of Malaysia
19 July 2018



“The Southern Thailand Conflict: Complexities, Obstacles and Opportunities”

Dr Chanintira Na Thalang
Associate Professor of International Relations, Thammasat University,
Thailand

30 July 2018



“How to Understand China Today Through Its Traditional Philosophy: China’s X Factor”

Mr Hugh Peyman
Author of *China’s Change: The Greatest Show on Earth*
8 October 2018



“Korea’s New Southern Policy: Motivations, Aspirations and Implications”

Prof Wongi Choe
Center for ASEAN-India Studies, Korea National Diplomatic Academy,
South Korea

11 October 2018



“Cyber Operations in War and Peacetime – Fundamental Issues and Critical Reflections”

Air Commodore Bill Boothby (Retd)
Associate Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland;
Former Air Commodore (1 star); and Deputy Director, Legal Services,
Royal Air Force, the United Kingdom

6 December 2018

NATIONAL AFFAIRS FORUM (NAF)



“The ‘Other’ Sabah: Identity Positioning in a Borderland”

Dr Fadzilah Majid Cooke

Visiting Professor, University of Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)

12 December 2018

CSCAP MEETINGS



The 20th Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Malaysia National Committee Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 21 February 2018



The 21st Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Malaysia National Committee Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 13 April 2018



The 49th Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Steering Committee Meeting
Hilton Kuala Lumpur, 10 May 2018



The 22nd Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Malaysia National Committee Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 8 November 2018

MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS



The Malaysia Scholars on Korea (MASK) Network Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 24 Jan 2018



Task Force Meeting Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC)
Structure Project on "Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
Beyond 2020"
Double Tree by Hilton, 25-27 March 2018



Constructing Multilayered Communication Channels
Between Korea and ASEAN Meeting
Le Méridien Kuala Lumpur, 19-20 April 2018



Meeting of the Malaysia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (MANCPEC)
ISIS Malaysia, 5 July 2018



Closed-Door Discussion with Prof David Shambaugh
ISIS Malaysia, 9 July 2018



The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Consultative Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 23 July 2018



Brainstorming Meeting on "Strategy and Roadmap to End Child Marriage"
ISIS Malaysia, 27 September 2018



Thai-Malaysia Think Tanks and Scholar Network (TMTT) Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 26 October 2018



Closed-Door Meeting on "Cost of Criminalisation vs Treatment for Drug Abuse"
ISIS Malaysia, 2 November 2018



Technical Meeting of the UNICEF Situation Analysis
(SitAn) Study
ISIS Malaysia, 13 Nov 2018



Strategic Meeting on "Promoting the Rights and Well-Being of the
Orang Asal in the Era of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"
ISIS Malaysia, 16 November 2018

ROUNDTABLES



Roundtable Discussion on “Urban Multidimensional Poverty and Deprivations” initiated by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
ISIS Malaysia, 17 January 2018



CHD-ISIS Dialogue on “Managing Philippine-Malaysia Migration in Sabah”
ISIS Malaysia, 6 March 2018



Roundtable Discussion on “Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare – International Developments and Opportunities for Malaysia”
ISIS Malaysia, 11 July 2018



Mid-Term Review – 11th Malaysia Plan
ISIS Malaysia, 29 October 2018



ASEAN Circle Meeting
ISIS Malaysia, 12 December 2018

SEMINARS



ISIS Malaysia Seminar on "The 2019 Indonesian Presidential Election: The Usual (and the Unusual) Suspects"
 ISIS Malaysia, 14 November 2018



The Fourth Malaysia-China Seminar
 ISIS Malaysia, 30 November 2018



The Second Malaysia Scholars on Korea (MASK) Network Seminar on "Recent Events in the Korean Peninsula and Implications for Republic of Korea-Malaysia/ASEAN Relations"
 InterContinental Hotel Kuala Lumpur, 4 December 2018



SPECIAL VISIT

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Visit by YB Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia
ISIS Malaysia,
28 November 2018

From left: Ms Sohana Enver Azyze, Dato' Steven CM Wong, Tan Sri Dr Sulaiman Mahbob, Gen (R) Tan Sri (Dr) Mohd Hashim Mohd Ali, YB Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah, Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Datuk Rohana Tan Sri Mahmood and Dr Hezri Adnan



YB Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah



Meet and greet with ISIS Malaysia's staff



Briefing by Dr Hezri Adnan



Meeting with ISIS Malaysia's Board Members and staff



VISITS FROM DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS



Maktab Pertahanan Angkatan Tentera (Malaysian Armed Forces Defence College)
11 January 2018



Mr Katsuyuki Kawai, Special Advisor for Foreign Affairs to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and President of the Liberal Democratic Party, Japan
19 January 2018



HE Madam Marzieh Afkham, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Malaysia
22 February 2018



HE Mohammed Nafees Zakaria, High
Commissioner of Pakistan to Malaysia
22 February 2018



The International Department, Central
Committee of Communist Party of China
(IDCPC)
5 March 2018



Center for the Sea and International
Maritime Law (CESEAMLAW), Vietnam
21 March 2018



Japan Economic Foundation
22 March 2018



HE Vanu Gopala Menon, High
Commissioner of the Republic of
Singapore to Malaysia
5 April 2018



International Islamic University Malaysia
6 April 2018



Mr Collie F Brown, Country Manager and Liaison at
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
11 April 2018



ASEAN+3 Macroeconomics Research Officers (AMRO)
11 April 2018



A delegation led by Ms Tone Skogen,
Deputy Minister of Defence, and Mr Nils
Andreas Stenones, Chief of Navy,
Norway
17 April 2018



Universiti Utara Malaysia
17 April 2018



Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff
College, Singapore
23 April 2018



National School of Public Policy (NSPP),
Pakistan
3 May 2018



Nanjing University China led by Dr Zhu
Feng, Executive Director of the China
Centre for Collaborative Studies of the
South China Sea
25 June 2018



2018 Jefferson Fellowships, East-West
Center, the United States
3 July 2018



Hitachi Research Institute, Japan
4 July 2018



A delegation led by Ambassador Lalit Mansingh, Chairman of Kalinga International Foundation, India
6 July 2018



National Institute for Defense Studies
(NIDS), Japan
17 July 2018



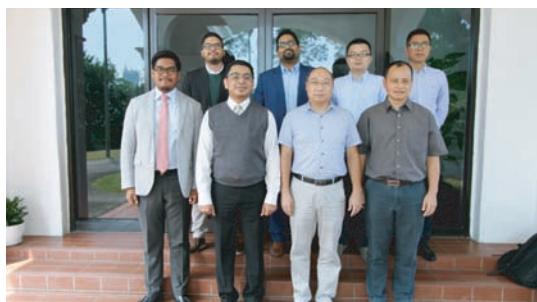
International Department, Communist
Party of China (CPC) Central Committee
31 July 2018



The Prospect Foundation Taiwan
6 August 2018



Mr Jay Collins, Vice Chairman of
Corporate Investment Banking, Citigroup
Inc
20 August 2018



Guangdong Institute for International
Strategies (GIIS), Guangdong University
of Foreign Studies (GDUFS), People's
Republic of China
5 September 2018



HE Toh Kyung Hwan, Ambassador of
Republic of Korea to Malaysia
6 September 2018



Royal Thai Embassy, Kuala Lumpur
14 September 2018



European Union Diplomats
27 September 2018



Wisma Putra Library
27 September 2018



Antall József Knowledge Centre (AJKC), Hungary
1 October 2018



Prof Li Chenyang, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Yunnan University; Dr Ma Bo, Collaborative Innovation Center for South China Sea Studies, Nanjing University; and Mr Wang Shenhao, Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, People's Republic of China
12 October 2018



HE Nikolaus Graf Lambsdorff, Ambassador of German to Malaysia
24 October 2018



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kuwait
14 November 2018



Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS)
People's Republic of China
23 November 2018



HE Manuel Balaguer Salas
Ambassador of the Argentine Republic to Malaysia
5 December 2018



Kristy Hsu
Director of Taiwan ASEAN Studies Center
Chung-Hua Institution for Economic Research
Republic of China
13 December 2018

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

This section lists the research output of ISIS Malaysia — projects, published works, presentations and media engagement.

PROJECTS

The Institute routinely undertakes research and consultancy projects at any one time. Some of the projects, which started in the previous year, were continued in 2018.

An Assessment of China's Belt and Road Initiative in Malaysia

Research staff embarked on a study to conduct an assessment of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Malaysia in September 2017. The study was not a mere assemblage of information or personal opinions, but critically researched, evaluated and debated to reach robust objective conclusions. It addressed the themes and live concerns that were being discussed in the public arena.

In the study, Malaysia's national interest is defined as the policies, action and conditions needed for the nation's wellbeing in the following spheres: (i) political, diplomatic and security; (ii) economic, business, trade and investment; and (iii) social and cultural. The study aims to inform policymakers and the public in a clear and concise manner about key policy benefits as well as costs and risks arising from Malaysia's participation in the BRI. The study was concluded in August 2018.

Memorandum for Majlis Konsultasi Bajet 2019

At the invitation of the Ministry of Finance Malaysia, the Economics, Trade and Regional Integration (ETRI) division offered its views and recommendations to assist the former's endeavour in drafting the Budget 2019. The study project ran from 12 to 29 June 2018, which concluded in the submission of a memorandum to the Ministry via its dedicated Budget 2019 website at <https://budgetconsultation.treasury.gov.my>.

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council Signature Project on APEC Beyond 2020

The Malaysia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (MANCPEC), together with the New Zealand Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (NZPECC), is leading the work of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC) Task Force on Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Beyond 2020. The Task Force was tasked specifically to draft a report detailing APEC's achievements to date, key drivers of future growth as well as other challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the Asia-Pacific region. The Task Force produced its first report titled "Towards a PECC Vision for APEC" in 2018 and has presented findings of the project at APEC and APEC-related meetings in 2018. The Task Force is expected to produce the second report titled "The PECC Vision for APEC" by 2019.

Situation Analysis of Children in Malaysia

UNICEF Malaysia and ISIS Malaysia have embarked on a study entitled "Situation Analysis of Children in Malaysia (SitAn)". A SitAn is a synthesis of statistics, national policies, legislation and trends, and research and analysis. It assesses and analyses the situation with respect to children's rights and development, highlighting potential or critical issues in the following areas: legal and policy framework; demographic and socio-economic status; education and child development; health and nutrition; and child protection. Experts have been commissioned to research the situation of children in each of these sectors, with numerous meetings, workshops and consultations organised to engage with stakeholders from the government, civil society, academia, private sector and others.

To be completed in July 2019, UNICEF and ISIS Malaysia expect this study to make a valuable contribution in identifying the trends and key issues, especially towards the agenda of leaving no child behind, and towards Malaysia's development goals.

PUBLISHED WORKS

Research teams are also encouraged to publicise their research to a wider audience. Their research and articles have been published in books or as book chapters and infographics, in the print and online media, as well as in journals.

Dr Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori

(Co-author) Media's Role In Strengthening The Relationship Between Political Culture And Democratic Transformation In Libya, *Journal of Public Policy & Research*, vol. 8 no.1, 2018.

How Do We Deal With Unknowable Future, *New Straits Time*, 2 February 2018.

Ms Ainun Jaabi

Choosing To Eat Healthy, *New Straits Times*, 23 January 2018.

Private Sector Boost For Agriculture, *New Straits Times*, 17 July 2018.

Seeds Of Change, *New Straits Times*, 18 December 2018.

Mr Alif Iskandar Zabidi

Challenging The Anti-China Narrative, *New Straits Times*, 16 October 2018.

Mr Alizan Mahadi

Look Beyond Govt To Boost Multilateralism, *New Straits Times*, 21 August 2018.

Mr Bunn Nagara

Multipolarity Sets In, *The Star*, 14 January 2018.

Davos On More Time, *The Star*, 28 January 2018.

Double Standards As Norm, *The Star*, 11 February 2018.

Trapped By History, *The Star*, 25 February 2018.

Four Eyes Over Korea, *The Star*, 11 March 2018.

Misunderstanding Asean, *The Star*, 25 March 2018.

Skies Darken Over Syria, *The Star*, 15 April 2018.

Fumbling And Stumbling, *The Star*, 28 April 2018.

The Storm Continues, *The Star*, 13 May 2018.

Art Of The Korean Deal, *The Star*, 27 May 2018.

Non-Western Eurasia Rises, *The Star*, 10 June 2018.

Heeding The Realities, *The Star*, 24 June 2018.

Time For East Asia, *The Star*, 8 July 2018.

More Than Talkfests, *The Star*, 22 July 2018.

Whither The Trade War?, *The Star*, 5 August 2018.

Evolution Of Malaysia-China Relations, in www.china.org.cn, 8 August 2018.

Some Regional Realities, *The Star*, 19 August 2018.

Myanmar's Eternal Shame, *The Star*, 2 September 2018.

Hopes For Peace Remain, *The Star*, 7 October 2018.

G2 Becomes More Pivotal, *The Star*, 21 October 2018.

Renewing Ties Between M'sia And Thailand, *The Star*, 25 October 2018.

When Realities Hit The 'Road', *The Star*, 4 November 2018.

Bigger Thriller In Manila, *The Star*, 18 November 2018.

Democracy Is The Winner, *The Star*, 2 December 2018.

More Than Just A Trade War, *The Star*, 16 December 2018.

Keeping The World On Edge, *The Star*, 30 December 2018.

Mr Calvin Cheng

Consumption Taxation Will Eventually Return, *New Straits Times*, 23 May 2018.

Making BR1M Work, *New Straits Times*, 18 September 2018.

Growing Risks To The ASEAN Economy, *New Straits Times*, 17 November 2018.

Treasure Islands, *ISIS Focus* 7, May 2018.

(Co-author) The US & The Survival Of APEC, *ISIS Focus* 7, May 2018.

(Co-author) How To Make Trade Great Again, *ISIS Focus* 8, October 2018.

(Co-author) Should Malaysia Liberalise Its Rice Imports?, in www.isis.org.my, August 2018.

Can Bantuan Sara Hidup (BSH) Be Further Improved?, in www.isis.org.my, December 2018.

Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel

Rohingya Policy Needed, *New Straits Times*, 20 March 2018.

Issues Impacting Malaysia's Maritime Security Policies And Postures, *Indo-Pacific Focus*, 16 June 2018.

India Must Boost Depth And Durability Of ASEAN Ties, *New Straits Times*, 20 June 2018.

Malaysia's May 2018 General Election And Foreign Policy, *The East West Centre's Asia-Pacific Bulletin*, 7 August 2018.

"America First" Is More Than A Phrase, *New Straits Times*, 13 November 2018.

Mr Sholto Byrnes

The Folly Of Making Predictions (Or, What We Got Wrong In 2017), *The National (UAE)*, 2 January 2018.

Choosing A Nonagenarian Former PM To Head Malaysia's Opposition Is A Regressive Move, *The National (UAE)*, 9 January 2018.

The Most Important Battle Of Our Times Is War Against Fake News, *The National (UAE)*, 30 January 2018.

The Global Appetite For Political Disruption Remains Undimmed, *The National (UAE)*, 6 February 2018.

How To Win Friends And Influence People, The Soros Way, *The National (UAE)*, 13 February 2018.

Complaints About Foreign Meddling In American Elections Are Hypocritical – For The US Is One The Worst Culprits, *The National (UAE)*, 20 February 2018.

The Disappearing Sense Of Shame Once Felt At Consorting With Extremists Is Worrying, *The National (UAE)*, 13 March 2018.

Liberal Democracy Isn't Finished, But Its Advocates Need To Understand Its Progress Isn't Inevitable, *The National (UAE)*, 20 March 2018.

A Godless Society Runs The Risk Of Failing To Understand Its History, *The National (UAE)*, 28 March 2018.

Opposition Talk Of Reforms Rings Hollow, *New Straits Times*, 16 April 2018.

With Brexit Looming, Britain Is Looking For New Commonwealth Allies, *The National (UAE)*, 17 April 2018.

The Dark Side Of Long Rule Is Starkly Demonstrated By One-Time Revolutionary Ortega, *The National (UAE)*, 30 April 2018.

Moduro's Trampling Of The Law Has Dealt A Fatal Blow To The Socialist Model, *The National (UAE)*, 28 May 2018.

The Rise Of Islamophobia In Europe Is Being Normalised By Intellectuals – But They Are Pushing At An Already Open Door, *The National (UAE)*, 4 June 2018.

Trump-Kim Summit: A Great Triumph Doesn't Need To Mean Complete Capitulation From North Korea, *The National (UAE)*, 11 June 2018.

Democracy In Turkey Is Looking Ever More Like A Façade For A President With Autocratic Ambitions, *The National (UAE)*, 25 June 2018.

A New Approach To Nato: What Kind Of Security Alliance Would We Choose Now?, *The National (UAE)*, 2 July 2018.

Bangsamoro Will Not Just End A Bloody And Drawn-Out Conflict. It Is About Addressing A Major Historical Injustice, *The National (UAE)*, 23 July 2018.

Only With True Democracy Can Zimbabwe Move Past The Mugabe Years, *The National (UAE)*, 2 August 2018.

The Halo Which Once Crowned Myanmar's De Facto Leader Has Not Just Slipped – It Has Been Replaced By A Badge Of Shame, *The National (UAE)*, 13 August 2018.

A Policy Of Non-Intervention Should Be Respected. So Should Uighur Rights, *The National (UAE)*, 3 September 2018.

While Teflon Trump Might Cause Grievance, The Alternative Is Worse, *The National (UAE)*, 29 August 2018.

The Example Of Sri Lanka Handing Over A Port To China Shows The Belt And Road Initiative Was Never Meant To Be Pure Altruism, *The National (UAE)*, 10 September 2018.

Despite Its Achievement, China Is Losing The Public Relations War, *The National (UAE)*, 17 September 2018.

Brazil's Bolsonaro Is Tapping Into Seething Discontent Over Globalisation – Just Like Trump And Duterte Before Him, *The National (UAE)*, 22 October 2018.

Truth Must Come Before Conveniently Rewriting History – However Uncomfortable That Might Be, *The National (UAE)*, 13 November 2018.

Why Climate Change Should Be A Conservative Cause, *The National (UAE)*, 19 November 2018.

Racism Has Poisoned Malaysian Politics For Far Too Long, *The National (UAE)*, 26 November 2018.

The Occupy Nine On Trial In Hong Kong Are Fighting A Battle They Cannot Win, *The National (UAE)*, 3 December 2018.

Trump Shouldn't Be Impeached – Americans Knew What They Were Getting When They Voted For Him, *The National (UAE)*, 10 December 2018.

New Book Deems Iraq War Britain's "Most Failed Outcome Since Suez", *The National (UAE)*, 16 December 2018.

Where Have All The Good Statesmen And Women Gone?, *The National (UAE)*, 17 December 2018.

Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika

Tackling Protectionism, *New Straits Times*, 10 April 2018.

(Co-author) Will Malaysia Benefit From China's Belt And Road Initiative? *ISIS Focus 7*, May 2018.

(Co-author) The US & The Survival Of APEC, *ISIS Focus 7*, May 2018.

A Legitimacy Crisis, *New Straits Times*, 24 July 2018.

(Co-author) How To Make Trade Great Again, *ISIS Focus 8*, October 2018.

(Co-author) Indonesian Elections: Getting Realistic About Millennial Votes, *The Diplomat*, 12 October 2018.

(Co-author) Should Malaysia Liberalise Its Rice Imports?, in www.isis.org.my, August 2018.

Ms Farlina Said

Building Rust In Cyberspace, *New Straits Times*, 1 May 2018.

Tackling Radical Messages, *New Straits Times*, 11 December 2018.

Mr Firdaos Rosli

Bumpy Road Ahead: Excise Tax Cut Not Practical, *New Straits Times*, 16 January 2018.

SST, A Net Loss To Consumers, *New Straits Times*, 5 April 2018.

Future Is About Attracting Market-Led Technologies, *New Straits Times*, 26 June 2018.

Pressure Mounting To Ratify CPTPP, *New Straits Times*, 8 August 2018.

2019 Budget: Decisive And Pragmatic, *New Straits Times*, 2 November 2018.

(Co-author) Should Malaysia Liberalise Its Rice Imports?, in www.isis.org.my, August 2018.

Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid

Big Data For Social Recovery, *New Straits Times*, 20 February 2018.

Your Face Is Big Data, *New Straits Times*, 13 March 2018.

Navigating ASEAN Innovation, *ISIS Focus* 7, May 2018.

The Trust Deficit In AVs, *New Straits Times*, 15 May 2018.

2030 Vision For ASEAN China Strategic Partnership – Perspectives From Think-Tanks, *World Scientific*, July 2018.

Telling The Real From The Fake, *New Straits Times*, 9 October 2018.

Disinformation – Economic Loss And Short-Run Gains, *Bangi Management Review*, Issue 03/2018, December 2018.

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

Set Up Review Body, *New Straits Times*, 6 February 2018.

Peace For Korean Peninsula? *New Straits Times*, 11 June 2018.

ASEAN-South Korea Ties: Cooperation, Peace, Prosperity, *New Straits Times*, 20 November 2018.

(Co-author) Are We Nearly There Yet? *ISIS Focus* 8, October 2018.

Mr Muhammad Sinatra

A Long Election Season Looms For Indonesia, *East Asia Forum Quarterly*, vol. 1 no. 1, January-March 2018.

Struggle Against Extremism Must Continue, *New Straits Times*, 27 February 2018.

Tough Fight For Jokowi, *New Straits Times*, 24 April 2018.

(Co-author) Will Malaysia Benefit From China's Belt And Road Initiative? *ISIS Focus* 7, May 2018.

What Indonesia Can Learn From Malaysia's Election, *The Jakarta Post*, 12 June 2018.

Who Will Win The 2019 Presidential Election? *New Straits Times*, 12 September 2018.

(Co-author) Are We Nearly There Yet? *ISIS Focus* 8, October 2018.

What's The Matter With Indonesia's VP Picks?, *ISIS Focus* 8, October 2018.

(Co-author) Indonesian Elections: Getting Realistic About Millennial Votes, *The Diplomat*, 12 October 2018.

Mr Naufal Fauzi

Cybersafety In ASEAN, *New Straits Times*, 15 June 2018.

Ms Elina Noor

Disruption Is The New Change, *New Straits Times*, 9 January 2018.

Ms Nursalina Fairuz Salleh

(Co-author) Specialised Drug Court? *New Straits Times*, 23 April 2018.

(Co-author) Focus On The Family To Fight Radicalisation, *New Straits Times*, 25 September 2018.

(Co-author) Drug Abuse In Malaysia, in www.isis.org.my, 12 December 2018.

Ms Nurul Izzati Kamarulbahri

No One Factor Behind Radicalization, *New Straits Times*, 13 February 2018.

The Public Must Fight Too, *New Straits Times*, 31 July 2018.

(Co-author) Focus On The Family To Fight Radicalisation, *New Straits Times*, 25 September 2018.

Ms Puteri Nor Ariane Yasmin

(Co-author) Reducing Stigma For Addicts, *New Straits Times*, 27 March 2018.

(Co-author) What About The Indo-Pacific Strategy? *ISIS Focus* 7, May 2018.

Implications Of Malaysia Acceding To UN Conventions On Refugees, *NTS-Asia Consortium Newsletter*, August 2018.

(Co-author) Eliminating Child Marriages Requires A Shift In Mindset, *New Straits Times*, 15 August 2018.

Asean Centrality To Play Bigger Role, *New Straits Times*, 4 September 2018.

Another Chance To Resolve Thai Issue, *New Straits Times*, 26 October 2018.

There's Life Beyond The Big Two, *ISIS Focus* 8, October 2018.

(Co-author) Drug Abuse In Malaysia, in www.isis.org.my, 12 December 2018.

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

Promoting Dialogue And Cooperation In The Region, *New Straits Times*, 11 May 2018.

Cooperation And Competition In The Asia-Pacific – ASEAN And The Superpower Dynamics Dilemma, *Horizons*, Spring 2018, no. 11.

Dato' Steven CM Wong

Keeping Growth Momentum, *New Straits Times*, 2 January 2018.

Is Trump's Trade War Winnable? *New Straits Times*, 6 March 2018.

Confirmation Bias And The New Malaysia, *New Straits Times*, 29 May 2018.

Making It Work For All, *New Straits Times*, 3 July 2018.

Is The Ringgit Real? *New Straits Times*, 28 August 2018.

PRESENTATIONS

Members of our research staff are often invited to speak and present their research at conferences, seminars, forums or discussion meetings. Below is a list of their presentations in 2018, both nationally and internationally.

Dr Abdul Wahed Jalal Nori

“Youth Participation in the Midst of Economic Growth and Urbanized Development”, the 18th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), 24-28 June 2018, Melaka.

“Rethinking National Integration and Unity: How Do We Craft a Malaysian Ethos of Unity and Cohesiveness”, Seminar on Ethnicity, Religion and the Tunku, 13 December 2018, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Kuala Lumpur.

Ms Ainun Jaabi

“River Beyond Water: Lessons from the Management of Water Resources in Malaysia”, First GCMS Think Tank Forum, 19-22 March 2018, Beijing, China.

“APTERR’s Future-Utilization in Post-Reservation Period”, NEAT Working Group on Enhancing the East Asian Food Security Mechanism – APTERR’s Contribution to Food Security and Disaster Management, 26-27 July 2018, Tokyo, Japan.

Mr Calvin Cheng

Discussant at the “China-Malaysia Strategic Cooperation Forum”, 4 September 2018, Kunming, People’s Republic of China.

“Cash Transfer Programming: Policy Design Considerations”, 9 October 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Global Macro Risk Outlook”, 10 December 2018, Petronas HQ, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-author) “Regional and Global Perspective on Government’s Role and Policy Approaches for Smart Manufacturing”, APEC Seminar on Understanding the Impact of Smart Manufacturing in Policy and Regulatory Approaches, 25 September 2018.

(Co-author) “The New Trilateralism in Asia: US-Japan-ASEAN Relations Under the Second Mahathir Administration—Issues, Challenges and Prospects”, Malaysian Association for American Studies Conference, 27 November 2018.

Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel

“Key Issues Impacting Malaysia’s Security Outlook, International Workshop on Asia Pacific Security”, organised by the National Institute for Defense Studies, 24 January 2018, Tokyo, Japan.

“Issues Impacting Malaysia’s Maritime Security Policies and Postures”, Maritime Security Study Group, organised by Japan Institute of International Affairs, 25 January 2018, Tokyo, Japan.

“The Rohingya and the Rakhine State – Where To From Here?” 30 March 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Malaysia’s National Security Concerns”, Presentation to the Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College, 23 April 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Mahathir’s Policy Priorities”, East-West Centre’s Jefferson Fellowship 2018 Luncheon Discussion, 4 July 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Malaysian National Security Concerns”, Presentation to the Indian National Defence College, 27 August 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Malaysian and Chinese Perspectives on Global Issues”, 4th Malaysia China Seminar, 30 November 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Foreign Policy of the New Pakatan Harapan Government and Security Concerns in Southeast Asia”, Presentation to Norwegian Ambassadors in ASEAN, 11 December 2018, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Kuala Lumpur.

Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika

“Making the BRI Work: A Socio Economic Perspective”, Session 2 on Continuing Cooperation Under the Belt and Road Initiative, China-Malaysia Strategic Cooperation Forum, organised by Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), 4 September 2018, Kunming, People’s Republic of China.

(Co-Presenter) “How to Create Visually Attractive and Engaging Infographics Using Piktochart for Social Media”, 25 September 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in Session 6 on “Perspectives on ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Cooperation and Challenges – Young Delegates/Scholars”, the 11th ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue, 23 October 2018, Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-Presenter) “The 2019 Indonesian Presidential Election: The Usual (and The Unusual) Suspects”, 14 November 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Ms Farlina Said

“Malaysia’s Cybersecurity Landscape”, Effects of Digitalisation on Society and Politics in Asia and Germany, organised by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 1 March 2018, Berlin, Germany.

Discussant on “Maximum Pressure and Détente on the Korean Peninsula: Implications for Southeast Asia”, the 3rd KF-ASEAN Next Generation Policy Experts Forum, organised by ISIS Thailand and Korea Foundation, 23 April 2018, Bangkok, Thailand.

“Cybersecurity Norms in Malaysia”, organised by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 12 July 2018, Singapore.

Discussant on “The Recent Situation on the Korean Peninsula”, Roundtable Conference on the Situation on the Korean Peninsula, organised by Myanmar ISIS, 16 July 2018, Yangon, Myanmar.

Discussant on “Information Disorder Through Social Media and Instant Messaging Platforms Forcing Content Regulation”, 5 October 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“The Issue of Cyber Security: What are the Biggest Threats in Southeast Asia? Big Power Competition or Internal Challenges”, ASEAN Think Tanks Workshop on Cyber Security, organised by CSIS Indonesia, 12 November 2018, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Mr Firdaos Rosli

“Towards Building a Resilient Network for Regional Health Cooperation in East Asia”, International Symposium organised by the Council of East Asian Community, 15 January 2018, Tokyo, Japan.

“2030 Vision for ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership”, Network of ASEAN-China Think Thank (NACT) Special Working Group Meeting, 26 January 2018, Beijing, People’s Republic of China.

“Leveraging on the ASEAN Economic Community”, the 10th SDC Anniversary Carnival – National Conference on Economic Corridors, 30 January 2018, Kota Kinabalu.

“Malaysia’s National Interest Analysis in China’s Belt and Road Initiative”, March 2018.

“Think Tank Research Projects”, United by Research Symposium Series 1 (URSS), 18 April 2018, Monash University, Subang Jaya.

“BRI: Capitalising on China’s Vision on Connectivity”, the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturer’s Supply Chain Conference, 19 April 2018.

“Experience, Challenge and Opportunity – How to Reach Agreement on the RCEP”, China-ASEAN Think Tanks Seminar, organised by the CDI-ASLI,

22 June 2018.

Panellist at “Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on APEC Beyond-2020”, APEC SOM III 2018, 14-18 August 2018, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

“APEC Beyond 2020 Framework”, International Symposium on APEC Post-2020 Vision and Asia Pacific Regional Integration, 19-20 September 2018, Sanya, China.

“High Cost of Living or Low Pay? Which is the Real Problem?”, IDEAS’ 3rd Liberalism Conference, 22 September 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

“Malaysian Economy Today”, Inspired SME Event, 9 October, Kuala Lumpur.

“ASEAN Ascending: Emerging Global Powerhouse”, MIA International Accountants Conference 2018, 10 October 2018.

“Malaysia’s Economic Policy Under Pakatan Harapan Government”, Taiwan-Malaysia Relations Half-Day Seminar, organised by Institute of China Studies, 22 October 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in Session 3 on “Economic Diplomacy And Trade Strategies”, 11th ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue, 22 October 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Presenter at the Kuala Lumpur International Automotive Conference, hosted by Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI), 21 November 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in Session IV on “Trade Tensions and Reforms – Impact to Malaysia”, organised by Ministry of International Trade and Industry”, 23 November 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

“Public Policy Drafting Workshop/Talk”, organised by the Bachelor of Economics Students Council, International Islamic University Malaysia, 23 November 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Dr Moonyati Mohd Yatid

“Design Thinking to Strengthen Market Research for Innovative SMEs”, 18 January 2018, Perbadanan Nasional Berhad, Bangsar South City, Kuala Lumpur.

“2030 Vision for ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership: Malaysia’s Perspective”, Network of ASEAN-China Think Thank (NACT) Special Working Group Meeting, 26 January 2018, Beijing, People’s Republic of China.

“Business Perspectives on Frontier Innovation Challenges and Opportunities”, Second ABAC Meeting 2018, 18 April 2018, Tokyo, Japan.

“ASEAN-China E-Commerce for Regional Growth and Cooperation – Malaysia’s Perspectives”, Network of ASEAN-China Think Thank (NACT) Special Working Group Meeting, 6 July 2018, Singapore.

“Information Disorder on Social Media Influencing Public Opinion”, International Symposium on Social Sciences, Gadjah Mada University, 5 September 2018, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

“Smart Manufacturing via Smart Policies”, Regional and Global Perspective on Government’s Role and Policy Approaches for Smart Manufacturing, 25 September 2018, Penang, Malaysia.

“Information Disorder Through Social Media and Instant Messaging Platforms Forcing Content Regulation”, 5 October 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

“Vision 2020-25 – Perspective from Science and Technology”, 19 October 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

Moderator in Session 5 on “ASEAN, ROK and China”, the International Workshop for Southeast Asia-North Korea Relations, organised by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and the Korea Foundation, 24 August 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-Presenter) “How to Create Visually Attractive and Engaging Infographics Using Piktochart for Social Media”, 25 September 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Discussant on “Information Disorder Through Social Media and Instant Messaging Platforms Forcing Content Regulation”, 5 October 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Moderator in “The ASEAN Agenda: Searching for the Southeast Asian Identity”, Youth Economic Forum 2018, organised by the Perdana Fellows Alumni Association, 27 October 2018, Securities Commission, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in “ASEAN-South Korea Cooperation Under the New Southern Policy”, 2018 Northeast Asia Plus Community of Responsibility Conference, organised by the Jeju Peace Institute, 12 November 2018, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

“Moving the Status Quo Forward in the South China Sea”, the 4th Program of China-ASEAN Academy on Ocean Law and Governance, organised by the National Institute for South China Sea Studies, 20 November 2018, Hainan, People’s Republic of China

Moderator in Session 1 on “Looking East, Heading South: Towards a Malaysia-ROK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership”, the Second Malaysia Scholars on Korea (MASK) Network, organised by ISIS Malaysia and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, 4 December 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Muhammad Sinatra

“Overview”, 23 April 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in “Concurrent Session 6: Future-Proofing Against Violent Extremism”, the 32nd Asia-Pacific Roundtable, 7-9 May 2018, Hilton Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-Presenter) “The 2019 Indonesian Presidential Election: The Usual (and The Unusual) Suspects”, 14 November 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Ms Nursalina Fairuz Salleh

(Co-presenter) “Drug Abuse in Malaysia – Growing Trends and Challenges”, 1 November 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Puteri Nor Ariane Yasmin

“Disruptions in Rakhine State and Its Implications to Malaysia”, NTS-Asia Consortium Annual Conference: Resilience in the Face of Disruptions, organised by the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), 27 March 2018, Singapore.

(Co-presenter) “Drug Abuse in Malaysia: Growing Trends and Challenges”, 1 November 2018, ISIS Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

Dato’ Steven CM Wong

Speaker at the Book Launch of “China, India and Southeast Asia: Paths to Development and State-Society Relations”, co-edited by Terence Gomez, Cheong Kee Cheok and Vamsi Vakulbharanam, The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs and The Royal Commonwealth Society, organised by Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, 10 January 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in “Session Discussion”, Research Institute Network (RIN) Meeting in FY2017 and Roundtable on “Connectivity & Innovation”, organised by IDE-JETRO/JETRO Bangkok, 29-30 January 2018, Bangkok, Thailand.

Speaker in Session on “Law and Policy Engagement in Malaysia”, Civil Society Stakeholder Consultation: Immigration Detention and Forced Displacement in Malaysia, co-organised by UNHCR, IDC and SUHAKAM, 5 February 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Speaker in Panel Discussion on “Embracing the Rising Asian Economy”, The Sweden-Southeast Asia Business Summit, organised by the Embassy of Sweden in cooperation with the Swedish Trade and Invest Council/Business Sweden, 6 February 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Panellist in Forum on “Industrial Revolution – Aspirations and Realities”, organised by MIDF Amanah Investment Bank Berhad, 26 February 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Speaker in Session 2 on “Other ASEAN Country Experiences and Perspectives on BRI”, Roundtable Discussion on the Prospects and Challenges of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) from Southeast Asian Perspective, organised and hosted by Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Indonesia, 6 March 2018, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Panellist in Plenary Session 3 on “The Mega-Regional Trade And Development Initiatives”, CSIS Global Dialogue, PECC 25th General Meeting, PECC Standing Committee and Related Meetings, organised by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Indonesia and PECC, 7-8 May 2018, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Discussant in Session 5 on “ASEAN, ROK and China”, The First International Workshop on Southeast Asia-North Korea Relations, organised by EAIR Caucasus Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Korea Foundation, 24 August 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

(Co-Presenter) “The Asia Dialogue for Forced Migration’s (ADFM) Preliminary Assessment of the Human Trafficking Risk in Bangladesh and Myanmar”, Bali Process Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) and Bali Process Ministerial Meeting, co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia, 7-8 August 2018, Bali, Indonesia.

Speaker in Panel 2 of Session 1 on “BRI & Indo-Pacific Region”, Asia-Pacific Think-Tank Summit (APTS), organised by Institute for National Policy Research (INPR), 29-30 September, Taipei, Taiwan.

Speaker in Session 4 on “The Future of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)”, 14th East Asian Institutes Forum, organised by Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) and ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, 15 October 2018, Singapore.

Speaker in Panel 2 on “Economic, Trade, Investment and Cultural Cooperation to Enhance US-Japan-ASEAN Interactions”, International Conference on The New Trilateralism in Asia: US-Japan-ASEAN Relations Under the Second Mahathir Administration – Issues, Challenges and Prospects, organised by Malaysian Association for American Studies, Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), 27 November 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

Speaker in Roundtable Session 1 on “Building New Paradigms of Multilateral Economic Engagement”, ASEAN-UK Dialogue: Cooperation and Collaboration Post Brexit, co-organised by Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) and Chatham House, 8 November 2018, Singapore.

Keynote Address on “China, Malaysia and a Region in Transition”, International Forum on New Inclusive Asia 2018, co-organised by the Centre for New Inclusive Asia Studies, the Institute of China Studies, University of Malaya and the School of International Studies & Academy of Overseas Chinese Studies, Jinan University, 6 December 2018, Kuala Lumpur.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

ISIS Malaysia staff frequently provides expert input on local and international affairs, including media interviews as well as commentaries and opinions, on Astro, BFM 89.9, Bloomberg TV Malaysia, Capital TV, Channel NewsAsia, RTM, and other news media. Listed below is the media engagement of our staff in 2018.

Mr Thomas Benjamin Daniel

“Mahathir Stress Tests Malaysia-Singapore Relations”, quoted in Nikkei Asian Review, 31 May 2018.

“Can ASEAN Be Counted On When It Matters?”, quoted in The ASEAN Post, 4 June 2018.

Ms Dwintha Maya Kartika

“Realita Pemilih Milenial Di Pilpres 2019: Sebesar Itukah Pengaruhnya?”, quoted in Mata Mata Politik, 13 October 2018.

“ISIS: Jokowi-Ma'ruf Berkesempatan Besar Menang Pilpres”, quoted in Antara News, 15 November 2018.

“Peneliti Ini Sebut Jokowi Bakal Menang Lagi, Karena Demokrat?”, quoted in Warta Ekonomi, 15 November 2018.

“Lembaga Studi Malaysia Sebut Peluang Jokowi-Amin Lebih Besar”, quoted in Media Indonesia, 15 November 2018.

“Lembaga Riset Malaysia Unggulkan Pasangan Jokowi-Ma'ruf”, quoted in Suara Pembaruan, 16 November 2018.

“Kiina ostaa maailmaa”, quoted in Helsingin Sanomat, 16 December 2018.

Mr Firdaos Rosli

“Grab Takeover Of Uber Raises Concern Of Monopoly”, quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 10 March 2018.

Interview on minimum wage and living wage, BFM 89.9, 30 March 2018.

Interview on the United States' intention to return to the TPP, TraxxFM, 13 April 2018.

Interview on the cost of living, Astro Awani, 18 April 2018.

Interview on household income, Astro Awani, 30 April 2018.

“GST Better Than SST, Say Experts”, quoted in New Straits Times, 3 May 2018.

Interview on expectations as Malaysia heads to the polls, Bloomberg Markets, 9 May 2018.

Interview on Lim Guan Eng's first media release as finance minister, BFM 89.9, 22 May 2018.

Interview on current economic issues, TV3, 23 May 2018.

Interview on latest economic development after GE14, Berita Radio RTM, 29 May 2018.

“Debt Donation Drive More Populist Than Economic”, quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 30 May 2018.

“Putrajaya's Frank Debt Disclosure Unusual But Positive In Long Term, Say Experts”, quoted in Malay Mail online, 30 May 2018.

Interview on the termination of KL-Singapore HSR project, TV3, 30 May 2018.

Interview on kereta selepas pengumuman 0% GST, RTM1, 6 June 2018.

Interview on Tun M's desire for new national car, BFM 89.9, 11 June 2018.

Interview on solving high cost of living, BFM 89.9, 13 July 2018.

"SST Will Raise Prices Of Cars And Services", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 13 July 2018.

"Come Clean On Fuel Subsidies, Finance Ministry Urged", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 20 July 2018.

"Will The SST Lead To Lower Prices? Well, It Depends", quoted in Malay Mail Online, 24 July 2018.

"Malaysia Must Be Vigilant On US-China Trade War", quoted in The Malaysian Reserve, 25 July 2018.

"Malaysia's Budget Goals Still Possible With Sales Tax, But Future Pain Awaits: Experts", quoted in Today Online, 27 July 2018.

"SST Berjaya Jika Harga Barang Murah", quoted in Utusan Malaysia, 9 August 2018.

Interview on CPTPP, BFM 89.9, 28 August 2018.

"No Replacement For Chinese Investors If They Pull Out, Warns Economist", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 5 September 2018.

"Jurang Pendapatan Akan Terus Melebar", quoted in Utusan Malaysia, 17 September 2018.

"Economist: An Ageing Nation Needs GST", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 22 September 2018.

"Many Question Marks Over Lynas Review, Says Think Tank", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 3 October 2018.

"Lynas Review: Govt Committed In Ensuring Environment-Friendly Operation, Says Fuziah Salleh", quoted in New Straits Times, 3 October 2018.

"Khazanah Nasional Not The Government, Dr M Tells MCA Man", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 5 October 2018.

Interview on RMK-11 review and budget 2018 snippets, RTM, 15 October 2018.

Interview on pre-2018 budget talk and tackling challenges, RTM, 29 October 2018.

Interview on Budget 2019 aspirations, RTM, 2 November 2018.

Interview on pre-2019 Budget snippets, Channel W, 2 November 2018.

Interview on Budget from Mahathir, BFM 89.9, 2 November 2018.

"Where Will 4.9% GDP Growth Come From, Economist Asks After Budget", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 3 November 2018.

Interview on dinamisme Belanjawan 2019, Bernama News Channel, 5 November 2018.

"Pacific Trade Deals, Digital Commerce Push Lead APEC Agenda", quoted in Bloomberg BNA, 9 November 2018.

"Economist: Inflation Likely To Rise With Return To Previous Fuel Pricing System", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 21 November 2018.

Interview on wage and price increase, BFM 89.9, 6 December 2018.

"Real Cause Of Ringgit's Decline Is Not Politics, Say Economists", quoted in Free Malaysia Today, 29 December 2018.

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

“Trump, Kim Summit Ends With Signing Of Joint Declaration”, quoted in The ASEAN Post, 12 June 2018.

Mr Muhammad Sinatra

“Realita Pemilih Milenial Di Pilpres 2019: Sebesar Itukah Pengaruhnya?”, quoted in Mata Mata Politik, 13 October 2018.

“ISIS: Jokowi-Ma`ruf Berkesempatan Besar Menang Pilpres”, quoted in Antara News, 15 November 2018.

“Peneliti Ini Sebut Jokowi Bakal Menang Lagi, Karena Demokrat?”, quoted in Warta Ekonomi, 15 November 2018.

“Lembaga Studi Malaysia Sebut Peluang Jokowi-Amin Lebih Besar”, quoted in Media Indonesia, 15 November 2018.

“Lembaga Riset Malaysia Unggulkan Pasangan Jokowi-Ma'ruf”, quoted in Suara Pembaruan, 16 November 2018.

Dato' Steven CM Wong

Interview on opinion and analysis on the current Inter-Korean Summit, AWANI Global, 20 September 2018.

BILATERAL VISIT

ISIS Malaysia Delegation to Kunming and Nanning, People's Republic of China, September 2018

A delegation from ISIS Malaysia visited Kunming and Nanning at the invitation of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS). The main purpose of the visit was to convene the China-Malaysia Strategic Cooperation Forum and deliberate how both countries can better achieve mutually beneficial outcomes from the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The delegation also met with Yunnan University and Guangxi University to discuss avenues for Malaysia-China cooperation. Furthermore, the delegation visited the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park, the sister park to the Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park.



APPOINTMENTS

Mr Bunn Nagara

Affiliate of the Thai Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya
Member of the Perak Academy
Member of the Malaysia-Thailand Think Tank and Scholar Network (MTTTS)

Mr Thomas Daniel

Graduate Fellow of the Advance Security Cooperation Course of the Daniel K Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies

Mr Farlina Said

Member of the Experts on Violent Extremism and Community Engagement (EVOKE) Council, under the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), 9 August 2018-31 May 2019.

Mr Firdaos Rosli

Executive Committee Member of Malaysia-Japan Economic Association (MAJECA), 2017 and 2018
Country Coordinator of the Network of East Asian Think-Tanks (NEAT) Malaysia

Dr Moonyati Yatid

Staffer for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Malaysia

Mr Muhammad Harris Zainul

Elected Representative for Selangor, Malaysian Youth Parliament, 2017–2018
Ministerial-Appointed Member, National Youth Consultative Council, 2018

Ms Elina Noor

Commissioner for the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace

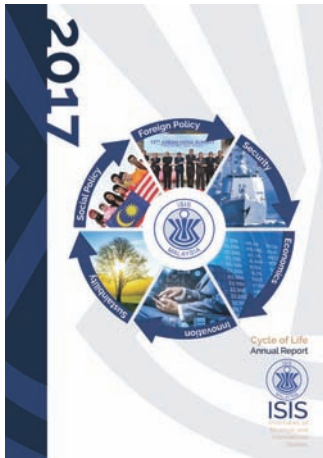
Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

Member of the National Consultative Committee on Political Financing, Malaysia
Member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council (ABAC)
Board Member of the China-Southeast Asia Research Center on the South China Sea

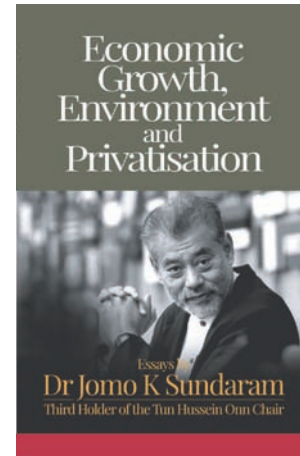
PUBLICATIONS

ISIS Malaysia produced several publications in 2018.

BOOKS



ISIS Malaysia Annual Report 2017
Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2018.



Economic Growth, Environment and Privatisation: Essays by Dr Jomo K Sundaram
Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2018.

ISIS FOCUS

The ISIS Focus is a magazine that features articles, research findings and commentaries on the important issues of the day and of concern to researchers, policymakers and the public. This publication is intended to reach a wider audience.



The Redrawing of Regional Architecture
ISIS Focus 7, Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2018.



Southeast Asia's Democratic Conundrum
ISIS Focus 8, Kuala Lumpur: ISIS Malaysia, 2018.

Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

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