

13th ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand (AANZ) Dialogue

ROLE PLAYERS



Mr Herizal Hazri

*Chief Executive
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia*

Mr Herizal Hazri is known for his engagements with think tanks, civil society and governments particularly in the areas of development, democracy, countering violent extremism and contemporary ASEAN issues. Outside Malaysia, he has worked in 11 Asian countries, including Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Cambodia and Bangladesh. In 2004, Mr Herizal managed the only International Election Observation Mission for Afghanistan's Presidential Election and deployed observers to Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran. Mr Herizal also served as a member of the International Contact Group (ICG) for the peace process in Mindanao where he assisted in efforts that led to the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro in 2014. He was a recipient of the Draper-Hills Fellowship at Stanford University and a Chevening Scholar at Birkbeck.



Associate Professor Simon SC Tay

*Chairman
Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA)
Singapore*

Associate Professor Simon SC Tay is a public intellectual as well as an advisor to major corporations and policymakers. He is Chairman of the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA), the country's oldest think tank, and concurrently a tenured Associate Professor, teaching international law at the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Law. He has also taught at Harvard Law School, the Fletcher School and Yale University as well as serving as Senior Consultant at WongPartnership. He served Singapore as an Expert and Eminent Person in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) from 2002 to March 2019. He holds a Masters in Law from Harvard Law School (1993–1994), which he attended on a Fulbright Scholarship and where he won the Laylin prize for the best thesis in international law.



Mr Simon Draper

*Executive Director
Asia New Zealand Foundation (ANZF)
New Zealand*

Mr Simon Draper is an experienced diplomat with an extensive international background in negotiation and relationship management. He joined the Foundation in September 2015, coming from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade where he has worked in various roles since 1991. Most recently he held the role of director United Nations, Human Rights and Commonwealth Division, where he managed New Zealand's engagement and policy with the United Nations in New York, the Human Rights Council in Geneva, and the Commonwealth in London. Simon has held several other leadership positions within MFAT, including New Zealand's Consul-General to French Pacific Territories (2008–2011), director of the chief executive's office (2005–2008) and foreign policy adviser to Rt Hon Simon Upton. Before joining MFAT, he worked in the banking and consultancy sectors.



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Ms Moe Thuzar

*Fellow and Co-coordinator, Myanmar Studies Programme
ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute
National University of Singapore
Singapore*

Ms Moe Thuzar is Lead Researcher (socio-cultural) at the ASEAN Studies Centre of the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute. She concurrently holds responsibilities as co-coordinator of the Myanmar Studies Programme at ISEAS. Prior to joining ISEAS, Ms Moe headed the Human Development Unit at the ASEAN Secretariat, which coordinates regional cooperation on social and human development issues. A former diplomat, she is researching Myanmar's external relations from 1948 to 1988 for her PhD dissertation.



Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak

*Director, Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS)
Professor, Faculty of Political Science
Chulalongkorn University
Thailand*

Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak is Director of the Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS) and Professor of International Political Economy, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University. He has published widely on Thailand's politics, political economy and foreign policy, as well as ASEAN and East Asian geopolitics and geo-economics. He received his BA from the University of California at Santa Barbara, MA from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and PhD from the London School of Economics, where his work on the political economy of the 1997 Thai economic crisis was awarded the United Kingdom's Lord Bryce Prize for Best Dissertation in Comparative and International Politics. In June 2015, he received an award for excellence in opinion writing from the Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA).



Dr Dinna Prapto Raharja

*Associate Professor
International Relations
Bina Nusantara University
Indonesia*

Dr Dinna Prapto Raharja is currently a Faculty Member at Bina Nusantara University in Jakarta while also teaching post-graduate programmes at University of Indonesia, Gadjah Mada University and Paramadina University. She teaches international relations and is passionate in the areas of foreign policy, social protection, and human rights. She is also active as Senior Policy Advisor for the Foundation for International Human Rights Reporting Standards (FIHRRST), among others. She volunteers in the Indonesia's Network to Combat Trafficking in Persons. From 2016 to 2018, she served as Indonesia's Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). She founded Synergy Policies, a consulting company dedicated to building synergy across multi-sectoral



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Mr John McCarthy

*Senior Advisor
Asialink
Australia*

Mr John McCarthy is a former Australian career diplomat whose posts include Ambassador to Vietnam, Mexico, Thailand, the United States, Indonesia and Japan and High Commissioner to India. His assignments in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in Australia included Chief of Staff to the then-Foreign Minister Andrew Peacock, Chief Legal Officer and Deputy Secretary. Since leaving DFAT in 2009, McCarthy has been: National President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs, Chair of the Australian Australia-India Council, Co-Convenor of the Australian-Indonesia Dialogue & Chair of the Advisory Board of the Griffith Asia Institute. He has also had a number of assignments from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and has been involved in the private sector, including as adviser to Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, Tokyo, since 2011.



Dr Vannarith Chheang

*President
Asian Vision Institute
Cambodia*

Dr Vannarith Chheang is a public policy analyst and government relations strategist. He has over a decade of experience as a geopolitical and geoeconomic analyst, with a focus on Southeast Asia. He was honoured a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2013. Some of his previous affiliations include: Visiting Fellow at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (2017–2018), China Institute of International Studies (2016), Institute of Developing Economies in Japan (2012), and East-West Center in the United States (2010); Southeast Asia Consultant at The Nippon Foundation in Japan (2016–2018); Adjunct Lecturer at Nanyang Technological University's School of Social Sciences (2017 – Present). He received his BA in International Relations from the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam in 2002, MA in International Relations from the International University of Japan in 2006, and PhD in Asia Pacific Studies from the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in 2009.



Ms Penny Burt

*Group CEO
Asialink
Australia*

Ms Penny Burt is the CEO of Asialink. She joined Asialink from the global payments company, Visa Inc, where she served as Vice President Government Affairs, Asia Pacific. Prior to Visa, Penny led External Relations and Client Service Risk for the Asia Pacific with McKinsey&Company. Penny is a former diplomat and represented Australia at a senior level in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and at the United Nations in Geneva and New York. She previously served as an Adviser to the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs. She is a passionate supporter of regional collaboration, and has served on the boards of the Singapore Institute for International Relations (SIIA), the US National Center for Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (NCAPEC) and the American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore.



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Dr Aries Arugay

*Professor of Political Science
University of the Philippines-Diliman
The Philippines*

Dr Aries Arugay is currently Professor of Political Science University of the Philippines-Diliman (UP). He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on comparative politics, international relations, research methodology, and political thought. He obtained his PhD in Political Science from Georgia State University. His doctoral dissertation compared civil society mobilisation and regime legitimacy crises in four young democracies: Bolivia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Venezuela. He has conducted research and published on comparative democratisation, electoral politics, civil-military relations, contentious politics, security sector reform and regionalism in Southeast Asia. In 2015, he was selected as a Young Southeast Asian Fellow by the Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG).



Mr Harris Zainul

*Analyst
Economics, Trade and Regional Integration (ETRI)
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)
Malaysia*

Mr Harris Zainul is an Analyst at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia. His research portfolios include: Southeast Asian and Malaysian politics, human rights, and democratisation; China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI); ASEAN-Korea relations; and the geopolitics of the Mekong River. He had served as a Minister-appointed member of the National Youth Consultative Council of Malaysia, a Minister-appointed member of the Youth Task Force on Foreign Policy, an elected member of the Malaysian Youth Parliament, and the Special Officer and Perdana Fellow to the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia. He holds an MA in International Studies and Diplomacy from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London and a Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB) from the University of Liverpool.



Ms Jessica Wau

*Assistant Director (ASEAN)
Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA)
Singapore*

Ms Jessica Wau is an Assistant Director (ASEAN) at the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA). She is responsible for driving research, reports and conversations on ASEAN matters, focusing on Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand. She was previously an Associate Producer at CNBC and a Senior Producer at Channel NewsAsia. Jessica obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies from Nanyang Technological University (NTU). She completed her Master in International Affairs Programme at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (NUS) and specialised in Regional Studies: The Asia Pacific. She continues to track policy trends in Southeast Asia and is working on a series of dialogues on ASEAN centrality and collective leadership.



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Dr Huong Le Thu

*Senior Analyst
Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)
Australia*

Dr Huong Le Thu is a senior analyst at ASPI, Defence and Strategy Program. Dr Le Thu leads projects on Southeast Asia, including on regional alignment politics, Southeast Asian perceptions of great power competition, defence diplomacy, regional dispute management particularly in the South China Sea, ASEAN regionalism, and Australia's engagement with the near region. She also works on broader issues of foreign policy and grand strategy, including comparative studies on the Indo-Pacific concepts and policies from US, Japan, Australia, India and ASEAN. Dr Le Thu leads the project "Indo-Pacific Election Pulse" which every year covers the most consequential elections for the region and co-manages the ASPI internship program. She previously taught at the Australian National University, held research positions at the ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute and the Institute of International Relations at the National Chengchi University.



Mr Lester Khoo

*Group Director, AUT International
Auckland University of Technology
New Zealand*

Mr Lester Khoo is the Group Director of International at Auckland University of Technology, Co-Director of APEC Voices of the Future, Vice Chairman of the ASEAN New Zealand Business Council and a Board member of Auckland Grammar School. He has lived and worked extensively in Asia, particularly South East Asia for the past 20 years. Lester most recently lived and worked in Thailand for as South East Asia Regional Manager for StudyGroup UK, Management Consultant for PTT (Thailand's national energy conglomerate) and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise in Bangkok in promoting New Zealand's clean technology and services. Lester holds a Bachelor of Law and Arts in English Literature (VUW), Graduate Diploma in Human Resources Management, Masters in Management (Disputes Resolution), Certificate in Thai language from Chulalongkorn University, and is an enrolled Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand.



Professor Anthony Milner

*Professorial Fellow and International Director
Asialink
Australia*

Professor Anthony Milner is the International Director at Asialink, a Visiting Professor at the University of Malaya and an Emeritus Professor at the Australian National University. He is also Co-Chair of the Australian Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific. His previous appointments include Basham Professor of Asian History and Dean of Asian Studies at Australian National University. Tony has written widely on Southeast Asian history – particularly the history of the Malay world – and on Australia-Asia relations. Tony is co-author of *Our Place in the Asian Century: Southeast Asia as the Third Way*. His current research writing is on Southeast Asian, especially Malaysian, foreign policy. He has been a member of a range of Australian Government committees and councils and is a frequent commentator in the media.



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Ms Suzannah Jessep

*Director, Research and Engagement
Asia New Zealand Foundation (ANZF)
New Zealand*

Ms Suzannah Jessep joined the Foundation in March 2019, after serving as New Zealand's Deputy High Commissioner to India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Deputy Ambassador to Nepal and as New Zealand's Deputy High Commissioner to Vanuatu. During her thirteen years in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, she also served in the Ministry's Australia, Pacific and Europe Divisions, and in the area of Antarctic and security policy. Prior to working in the Foreign Ministry, Suzannah worked briefly in film production and is a section winner in New Zealand's World of Wearable Arts Awards. She is a honours graduate of International Relations and Art History from Victoria University of Wellington and recipient of the Alan Robinson Memorial Prize awarded to the top International Relations student. Suzannah is passionate about Asia, and in particular building New Zealand's connections with the fast-growing and dynamic South Asia.

