

Speaker Bios

Dr. Pichamon Yeophantong is an Australian Research Council Fellow and Senior Lecturer at UNSW Canberra—Australian Defence Force Academy. She also leads the Responsible Business Lab and Environmental Justice and Human Rights Project, and convenes the HASS Asia-Pacific Development and Security Research Group. A political scientist and China specialist by training, her research focuses on Chinese foreign policy and the political economy of sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific.

Dr. Chu Minh Thao is a senior research fellow in the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, where she has been working since 2010. Her research interests lie on the areas of regional economic integration, global governance, trade issues relating to APEC, ASEAN, and trade politics, global and regional security and non-security alliances. She has written largely for the *International Studies Review* and participated in various international symposiums, regional workshops and seminars. Previously, she got her B.A and M.A in Political Science in Delhi University under the India-Vietnam Cultural Exchange Program Scholarship. Later, she received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Murdoch University, Australia under the Australia Awards Scholarship.

Mr. Tom Corben is a Research Associate in the Foreign Policy and Defence Program at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney. He was previously a resident Lloyd and Lilian Vasey Fellow with Pacific Forum, where he worked primarily on Japanese and Korean politics and foreign policy, and Australia's engagement with Northeast Asia. Tom has published widely on these issues for platforms including *Issues and Insights*, *The Diplomat*, *East Asia Forum*, and *The Strategist*. Tom is also a Pacific Forum Young Leader and a tutor in Australian Foreign Policy at the University of New South Wales, and holds a BA in Asian Studies and International Relations with Honors from the same institution.

Mr. Kangkyu Lee is a Research Fellow with the Humane AI Initiative at the East-West Center, where he researches the implications of artificial intelligence, and other frontier technologies on international relations and global security. He was formally a Korea Foundation Fellow at Pacific Forum and research assistant at the Berggruen Institute China Center. He was awarded the Franklin M. Andrews Fellowship to study advanced survey methods at the Institute in Survey Research Techniques at the University of Michigan. He is also a contributing Analyst at NK News, writing on North Korean technology, politics, and identity issues. He is a graduate of the Yenching Scholars program at Peking University, where he received an MA in China Studies with a concentration in political psychology and behavioral economics. He also holds MA in Asian Studies from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and BA in International Affairs from the University of Georgia magna cum laude. Kangkyu has researched and published on the psychological variables behind state-sanctioned disinformation campaigns. His work evaluates public opinion via multilingual surveys, experiments, and discourse/network analysis to analyze the impact of nontraditional variables such as perceptions, nationalism, and culture on policy and IR.

Ms. Gabriela Bernal is a PhD candidate at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul, South Korea. She holds a BSc in political science from Arizona State University and two MAs from Sciences Po Paris and King's College London in human rights and international peace and security respectively. Her MA dissertation at King's College looked at soft power in Southeast Asia and she conducted research on this topic at the University of Kyoto as a visiting researcher in 2019. She has also spent exchange semesters at both Yonsei and Korea Universities. Gabriela's academic research is currently focused on inter-Korean relations, North

Korea's foreign policy, and unification. Besides her academic research, Gabriela is also a freelance writer for various news outlets. She has extensively written about Korean affairs, with her analysis being featured by various outlets including Daily NK, NK News, The Diplomat, Nikkei Asia, The National Interest, Asia Times, The Korea Times, BBC, and more.

Mr. Suraj Rajan K is a TRIP (Teaching & Research for Intellectual Pursuit Fellow & Academic Tutor) at the Jindal School of International Affairs, O.P. Jindal Global University, New Delhi, India. He has a B.A. in International Relations from Central University of Kerala and M.A. in Diplomacy, Law and Business from O.P. Jindal Global University. His research interests include Diaspora Studies, internationalisation of Higher Education and Indo-Israel Relations etc. Prior to this fellowship he was working with a Political consultancy specialised in designing and managing election campaigns.

Mr. Julio S. Amador III is the Executive Director of the Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF), also known as the Fulbright Commission in the Philippines. He is likewise, Interim President of the Foundation for the National Interest, a new Philippine think-tank that focuses on strategic and security issues. Mr. Amador was Director of the Performance and Projects Management Office-Security, Justice, and Peace Cluster at the Office of the Cabinet Secretary, Office of the President of the Philippines from December 2017-November 2018. He also served as Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Service Institute from 2014-2017. He was a Fulbright Graduate Scholar at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University and an Asia Studies Visiting Fellow at the East-West Center in Washington DC. Mr. Amador has published peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and op-eds/commentaries in on-line news media. He co-edited the book “A Handbook on Philippine Public Diplomacy.” He is an active participant in Track 1.5 and Track 2 diplomatic processes on regional security issues. Mr. Amador continues to be deeply involved in designing executive education programs on foreign affairs and national security for defense, military, and private training and education institutions and serves as resource person on these issues.

Mr. Deryk Matthew N. Baladjay is Senior Associate and Research Coordinator of Amador Research Services. He is also research assistant at the Ateneo School of Government from the Ateneo de Manila University. He is a graduate of De La Salle University-Manila where he holds a Master's degree (2020) in International Studies specializing in Asian Studies and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science (2016). He is also a Young Leader from the Pacific Forum, a Hawai'i-based think-tank institution. His research interests include an eclectic mix of international relations topics including political communication, peace and conflict studies, inter-Korean studies, defense studies, and Philippine bilateral relations with Indo-Pacific nations.

Ms. Trang Vu Hong is advisor on gender issues at Equal Asia Foundation member of UN Major Group of Children and Youth and a co-founder of Stepforward Education a social enterprise on education based in Ho Chi Minh city. She is also a transnational activist with campaigning experiences against Hate speech in Europe. Trang holds an MA degree in European studies from a joint Erasmus Mundus program in France, Germany and Sweden, an MA in Chinese studies in China and an advanced Diploma on Italian culture from the University of Perugia, Italy. Prior to her entrepreneurship, she formerly worked as Graduate Teaching Assistant at Peking University and Project Assistant at UNICEF. She also spoke at 2020 UN Youth Forum in Ecuador and 2020 International Dialogue on Migration hosted by International Organisation of Migration. In 2020, she is featured as one of young Southeast Asian women leaders by YSEALI – a youth-focused initiative launched by President Obama.