



Asian Political and International Studies Conference
17-18 October 2025

**Revisiting the Rules-Based Order and Multi/Mini-Lateralism
in the Indo-Pacific**

IBG-KAL Theater, University of the Philippines

Day 1 (17 October): 08:30-18:10

- 08:30- **In Person Registration open**
- 09:00-09:15 **Welcome Remarks**
- Atty. Angelo Jimenez
 President, University of the Philippines
- Rosalie Arcala Hall, PhD
 Executive Director
 UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies
- 09:15-09:45 **Keynote Address**
- Hon. Justice Antonio T. Carpio
 Former Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the Philippines

10:00-11:40 Parallel Sessions 1-4

SESSION 1: India's Foreign Policy Strategies in a Multipolar Order

Moderator: Dr. Md. Ehtesham Khan

India's Link West Policy in a Multipolar Gulf: Strategic Autonomy and the Rules-Based Order

—Md. Ehtesham Khan, Magadh University, India

Iran's Nuclear Ambitions and India's Strategic Calculus: Balancing Deterrence, Diplomacy, and Interests

—Avinash Kumar Singh, Magadh University, India

Reimagining India's Neighbourhood First Policy through BIMSTEC

—Shashi Pratap Shahi, Magadh University, India



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SESSION 2: The Political Economy of Climate Transitions

Moderator: Dr Rosalie Arcala Hall

Can private climate finance compensate reductions in public climate aid to the Global South?

—Thomas Kalinowski, Ewha Womans University, South Korea

Assessing the impact of political and climate uncertainties on Chinese and US technology GVCs

—Ewa Cieřlik, Poznan University of Economics and Business

—Anna Zamojska, Poznan University of Economics and Business

Exnovation and power relations in decarbonization: The politics of hedging in ASEAN's energy transition

—Weena Gera, University of the Philippines, Cebu

SESSION 3: Security and Sovereignty in the West Philippine Sea

Moderator: Haruko Satoh

Schrodinger's Cat: Mapping out Legal Realities in the West Philippine Sea, and Gray-Zone Warfare

—Jeremiah Angelo Bering, Independent Researcher

Is the Philippines a Middle Power? Prospects, Challenges, and Opportunities in the International Rules-Based Order

—Jose Mikhail Perez, University of the Philippines, Manila

Third-Party State Perception on Gray Zone Warfare

—Marvin Hamor Bernardo, National Chengchi University, Taiwan

SESSION 4: Regionalism, Foreign Policy, and Political Transitions in Asia

Moderator: Dr. Sylvia Yazid

Beyond SAARC? Geopolitical Competition and the Reconfiguration of Regionalism in South Asia

—Zahid Shahab Ahmed, National Defense College, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Alliance Bargaining Gamesmen Rationalizing Contemporary Alignment Politics in Southeast Asia

—Jomari Jesus Tan, University of Sto. Tomas

Limited by Rhetoric: How Powerful is ASEAN in Maintaining Regional Stability in Indo-Pacific?

—Alfin Febrian Basundoro, Australian National University

—Trystanto Sanjaya, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Oslo

11:40-12:40 LUNCH



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12:40-14:20 Parallel Sessions 5-8

SESSION 5: Competing Strategies and Emerging Partnerships

Moderator: Ms. Ella Joy Ponce

From West to Rest: Navigating New Power Dynamics in Asia and Beyond

—Sheetal Prasad, Amity University, India

India and the Philippines: Navigating the Shared Strategic Interests in an Uncertain Indo-Pacific

—Gopal Khillo, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

The Global Development Initiative and the Reassertion of a Sino-centric World Order in Southeast Asia

—Inda Mustika Permata, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

—Bima Jon Nanda, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

Normative Balancing Strategy: China Soft Balancing Effort Against United States Through Global Security Initiatives

—Bima Jon Nanda, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

—Inda Mustika Permata, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

SESSION 6: Asia's Responses to Shifting Trade Dynamics

Moderator: Mr. Eros Pratama

Indonesia's Strategies to Achieve a Trade Surplus through Global Trade Cooperation: Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

—Silvi Cory, Andalas University

—Anita Afriani Sinulingga, Andalas University

—Sofia Trisni, Andalas University

Navigating Policy Shifts and Trade Dynamics: Assessing the Impact of China's Food Imports and Global Rule-Based Orders on Food Security in the Philippines

—Kevin John Maddela, De La Salle University

In the Backdrop of US Tariff Regime: India's Response

—Madhu Bala, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, India

Win or Lose in Trade Wars: Assessing the Asymmetric Impact of the 19% U.S. Tariff on Indonesia

—Aida Fitria, Ewha Womans University

SESSION 7: Non-Traditional Security and Emerging Challenges in the Indo-Pacific Order

Moderator: Dr. Christian Schafferer



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De-dollarization and the Restructuring of the Indo-Pacific Order: Between A Universalistic Safety Net and China's Exceptionalist Motive

—Sunjin Kim, Seoul National University

—Yoonjeong Lim, Seoul National University

Securitizing the Climate Pandemic Nexus: The ASEAN Integration of Public Health in Regional Climate Diplomacy

—John Nicolas Mejia, University of the Philippines, Los Baños

Why Is There No Geoeconomics in Southeast Asia?: Institutional Constraints of Weaponizing the Economy in the Region

—Arrizal Jaknanihan, Australian National University

The Role of EU-China-US Technological Competition and Cooperation in Shaping International System

—Marcin Grabowski, Jagiellonian University of Krakow

SESSION 8: Historical Legacies, Soft Power, and Strategic Choices in the Indo-Pacific

Moderator: Dr. Julio Teehankee

How economic and cultural orientations influence citizen attitudes toward China and the United States: comparing twelve Asian countries

—Willy Jou, Waseda University, Japan

Tie hands or not tie hands: Decoding responses of weaker claimants in the South China Sea

—Aaron Denison Deivasagayam, Hiroshima University, Japan

—Viet Hung Nguyen, Waseda University, Japan

14:20-14:50 Break for PM snacks

14:50-16:30 Parallel Sessions 9-12

SESSION 9: Maritime Strategy and Strategic Engagements in the Indo-Pacific

Moderator: Mr Marvin Hamor Bernardo

From Coastline to Blue Diplomacy: Evolving India's Maritime Strategy in Indo-Pacific Region

—Abinash Kumar, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya

India-Philippines Relations in Light of Indo-Pacific Security

—Md. Shamshad Ansari, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya



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Maritime Multilateralism and the Global South in the Indo Pacific

—Shiwani Dumbala, Independent Scholar

SESSION 10: Urban Governance as a Critical Site

Moderator: Dr. Weena Gera

Inclusive Cities: A Conversation between SDG 11 and the Narratives of Night Market Vendors in Davao City, Philippines

—Raymundo Pavo, University of the Philippines Mindanao

—Ryan Songcayauon, University of the Philippines Mindanao

Rising Cities, Sinking Islands: The Politics of Reclamation in Cebu City and its Ripple Effects to Small Urban Island Communities in Bohol

—Jawjaw Loseñada, University of the Philippines Cebu

A reflection of the rational planning approach to sustainable river management: A case of Iloilo River management, Philippines

—Rhodella Ibabao, University of the Philippines Visayas

—Brian Ventura and Alan Moscoso, University of the Philippines Visayas

Political Economy of Mangrove Planting in an Urbanizing Island Community in the Philippines

—Carl Milos Bulilan, University of the Philippines Cebu

Contested Urban Futures in Transition: Insights from Sustainability Initiatives of Coastal Cities in the Philippines

—John Ryan Jacot, University of the Philippines Cebu

SESSION 11: Competing Visions of Security and Order

Moderator: Ms. Aida Fitria

Understanding cooperation and securitization: Analyzing the nuances of QUAD's securitization of non-traditional security issues in the Indo-Pacific

Miguel Hermo, University of the Philippines, Diliman

Revisiting the Rules-Based Order (RBO) and the Development of Multi/Mini-lateralism in the Indo-Pacific: Conceptual, Contestation, and Case Analysis from a Coxian Perspective

Virtuous Setyaka, Universitas Andalas, Indonesia

16:30-16:40 Coffee Break



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16:40-18:20 Parallel Sessions 12-14

SESSION 12: Trade, Security, and Strategic Alignments in a Divided Indo-Pacific

Moderator: Haruko Satoh

Evolution Trajectory of the Trans-Pacific Partnership: Theoretical Discussion

—Eros Pratama, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

South Korea's Brokerage Potential in East Asian Traditional and Non-Traditional Security

—Silvia Dal Soglio, Ewha Womans University

—Iryna Shalaginova, Ewha Womans University

The Return of Donald Trump, US Trade Policy Change, and the Prospect of India's Strategy of Developing its Northeast and Connectivity with Southeast Asia

—Arun Kanti Jana, University of North Bengal, West Bengal, India

"Is ASEAN becoming more divided?" Examining Southeast Asian States' Divergence in the US-China Rivalry

—Ella Joy Ponce, Ewha Woman's University

SESSION 13: Contesting Power and Security in the South China Sea and Beyond

Moderator: Dr. Ratih Indraswari

China in South China Sea: Capitalism Crisis and Fragmented State Transformation

—Nandito Oktaviano, Universitas Indonesia

—Shofwan Al-Banna Choiruzzad, Universitas Indonesia

Competing the Upstream-Downstream Port Hierarchy: Greater Ho Chi Minh Region, South China Sea, and Sanction

—Christopher Yuanzhe Li, Fudan University

Fractured frontlines: mapping Taiwanese security preferences under the threat of China and a changing global order

—Christian Schafferer, Overseas Chinese University, Taiwan

SESSION 14: Rethinking Authoritarian Nostalgia in the Philippines

Moderator and discussant: Dr. Francisco Alimon Magno

Missing Which Strongman? Competing Authoritarian Nostalgias in the Philippines

—Mark Thompson, City University of Hong Kong

The Second Marcos Presidency and the Politics of Redemption



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—Julio Teehankee, De La Salle University

What about the second Marcos presidency is authoritarian nostalgia? Clarifying conceptual boundary and analytical use

—Cleve Arguelles, WR Numero Research, Philippines

18:30-18:45 Closing remarks

Haruko Satoh

Osaka School of International Public Policy, University of Osaka

Ratih Indraswari

Parahyangan Catholic University

Day 2 (18 October) Zoom

10:30-16:30

10:30-12:10 SESSION 1

Moderator: Dr Rosalie Hall

Navigating between the Dragon and the Eagle: A Mixed-Method Analysis of Philippine Foreign Policy during the Aquino, Duterte, and Marcos Jr. Administrations

—Zoilo D. Belano, National Sun Yat-sen University

—Jinhyeok Jang, National Sun Yat-sen University

Trump 2.0 and the Philippine Defense Policy on the West Philippine Sea

—Ali Nour Khamar Abukabar, Mindanao State University

Caught in the Middle: U.S.-China Rivalry and the Strategic Calculus of the Philippines and Taiwan

—Subhadip Mondal, National Dong Hwa University

Navigating Mini-Lateralism: Opportunities and Obstacles in Indo-Pacific Regional Cooperation

—Zeynab Farhadi, Hong Kong Chung Hai College

Conflict Proximity and Regional Security Partnerships in the Indo-Pacific: Evidence from New Measures of Exposure and Cooperation

—Anurag Chakma, Australian National University

13:00-14:40 SESSION 2

Moderator: Dr Ratih Indraswari

From Rule Guardian to Rule Shaper: Japan's Transformative Role in the CPTPP and the Construction of the Indo-Pacific Economic Order



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—Yeh Hung-lin, China University of Science and Technology

Between Tribute and Treaties: The Nguyễn Dynasty and Competing Rules-Based Orders in Asia

—Giang Truong Nguyen, Independent Scholar

From Non-Alignment to Mutli-alignment: India's minilateral approach in the Indo-Pacific region

—Guarav Dutta, Independent Researcher

AI-Enhanced Disinformation: A Threat to the Rules-Based Order in Southeast Asia

—Oliver Ward, National Chengchi University

Strategic Autonomy: How Middle Powers are Reshaping the Indo-Pacific Order

—Cargi Erdem, Keimyung University

14:50-16:30 SESSION 3

Moderator: Haruko Satoh

Tracking Shifts in the Rules-Based Order: China–US Rivalry, the Belt and Road Initiative, and UNGA Weighted Voting Alignments

—Cristina Font-Haro, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Talking Democracy While Dismantling It: A New Interpretation of Authoritarian Conservatism in New Order Indonesia

—Iqra Anugrah, University of Turin

Learning Across Continents: How Kazakhstan's Food and Water Security Innovations Can Strengthen ASEAN Cooperation

—Amina Omirserik, Ewha Womans University

No Longer the Backwater: China's Distant Water Fleet and the Securitization of Fishing in the South Pacific

—Juhn Chris Espia, University of the Philippines Visayas

India's Strategic Dualism in the Indo-Pacific: Between Realpolitik and Strategic Diplomacy

—Vignesh Ram Guruswamy, Manipal Academy of Higher Education