



# Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

REGIONAL PROGRAMME  
POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH ASIA  
ACTIVITIES IN 2015



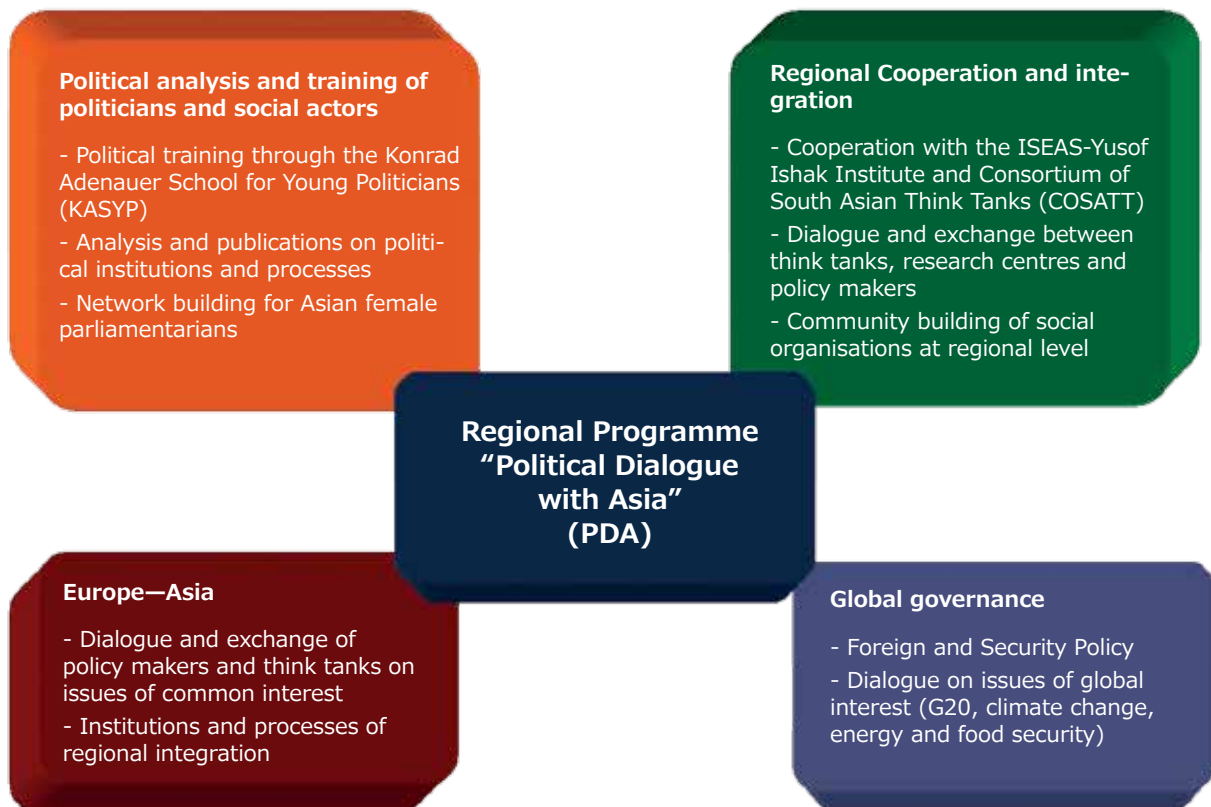
Konrad  
Adenauer  
Stiftung

## THE KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG (FOUNDATION)

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) is a political foundation of Germany. Its mission is to promote democracy, human rights, rule of law, social market economy, sustainable development, regional integration and international dialogue. Together with its local partners in more than 120 countries, the foundation offers civic education and political trainings, organises national and international conferences, conducts research, grants scholarships to students, and cultivates international understanding. With its international activities and projects, KAS makes a substantial contribution to international cooperation. It is named after the first Chancellor (Prime Minister) of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer (1876-1967).

The KAS regional office in Singapore comprises of regional programmes that focus on political dialogue, media development and the rule of law respectively. The Political Dialogue Programme (PDA) seeks to foster democratic processes, regional integration and international dialogue between Asia and Europe.

The programme's main activities include training programmes for members of political parties and civil society organisations, political dialogue between parliamentarians and politicians within Asia and between Asia and Europe, intellectual exchange between representatives from leading think tanks from Europe and Asia, political analysis of and consultancy for political institutions, and conferences on key issues for international understanding and global governance. In Singapore, KAS cooperates closely with the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in organising events that promote regional integration within ASEAN. Additionally, we also cooperate with the Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks (COSATT) in Kathmandu, Nepal. Resulting from this broad range of activities, the foundation publishes books and papers as well as the bi-annual journal *Panorama: Insights into Asian and European Affairs*.



## WELCOME TO OUR 2015 ACTIVITY REPORT

Asia and Europe share common interests in many areas. Although headlines may sometimes be dominated by trade and investment issues, bi-regional cooperation extends significantly beyond the economic arena. There is a common concern about regional security and stability in South, Southeast and East Asia, as well as with regard to recent developments in Europe. Many countries from both continents are affected by new threats to domestic security arising from new forms of radicalisation and terrorism. All countries in Asia and Europe suffer in one way or another from the consequences of climate change and global warming. Asian countries face a growing demand for energy and European countries are trying out new ways to increase their use of renewable energies in order to be more energy-efficient. The exchange of experiences in the area of green energy is a new topic for bilateral dialogue. The growing number of Asian students who come to Europe and vice versa illustrates the more intensive exchange of people from our continents and promotes even better mutual understanding.



During 2015, and especially in the second half of the year, events in Europe were strongly marked by the huge number of refugees who searched for shelter and safety as victims of wars and conflicts in their home countries. But it is not only personal safety and potential social benefits that bring these people to Europe. It is also the political and social characteristics of European societies that appeal to these refugees. The respect for human rights, tolerance and freedom and the democratic character of the European societies are as attractive as their welfare models, which are also marked by respect for the individual person. Asian countries may have known the Europeans during the colonial times as disrespectful of local cultures and traditions, human rights and individual liberties. This may explain some reservation by some Asian countries and leaders to accept similar norms and values that nowadays are broadly respected in European countries. However, many people in Asia subscribe to these norms and values because they are universal and are deeply rooted in Asian cultures and societies as well.

It is a contribution to better mutual understanding and cooperation when we talk about common perceptions, values, and all the other topics that are on our common agenda. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and its regional programme “Political Dialogue with Asia” (PDA) aims to contribute to this dialogue on issues of political developments, regional cooperation and international relations. We also want to contribute to the intensification of bi-regional relations between Europe and Asia. In 2015, we concluded a special three-year project co-funded by the European Union that established a network of policy-makers, academics and non-governmental actors, thus providing a platform for exchange and policy learning. Through more than thirty conferences and dialogue fora, the project laid the foundation for a comprehensive and constructive partnership between the regions. In addition to these discussions, seven publications, seventy studies, and a report identified key areas for future cooperation and policy recommendations. All of these documents are freely available on the project website: [www.eu-asia.eu](http://www.eu-asia.eu). General information about our activities is available on our website: [www.kas.de/politikdialog-asien/](http://www.kas.de/politikdialog-asien/).

### **Dr. Wilhelm Hofmeister**

Director, 2009-2015

Regional Programme *Political Dialogue with Asia*  
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Singapore

### **Dr. Beatrice Gorawantschy**

Director, 2015-

Regional Programme *Political Dialogue with Asia*  
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# 1. Political Analysis and Training of Politicians and Social Actors

## KONRAD ADENAUER SCHOOL FOR YOUNG POLITICIANS (KASYP)

Political parties are the link between state and society. Ideally, political parties are responsible for selecting political candidates, forming government leadership, representing civic interests and developing the national agenda. Parties play a crucial role in sustaining and consolidating the democratic political order.

With the aim of strengthening political parties, we started the “Konrad Adenauer School for Young Politicians” (KASYP) as a regional project in Asia. KASYP is a two-year training programme for young members of political parties. KASYP seeks to groom young political leaders who will take the lead in advancing the responsiveness and accountability of political parties. The training programme is designed to enable participants to enhance their theoretical knowledge of political theories and concepts and their practical skills for political action and responsibilities, as well as to professionalize their respective political parties. With increased skills and competencies, KASYP participants shall make a difference within their political parties and ultimately in their respective countries.

In January 2015, KASYP started the programme for the 6th batch of participants, which included young political leaders from Afghanistan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan and Timor Leste, who will attend training courses in 2015 and 2016. In addition to gaining new knowledge and experience on political parties, participants will have a unique opportunity to meet like-minded young people from other countries, foster friendships across borders and share a common vision on building Asia’s democratic future. The training programme covers topics such as the functions and organisation of political parties, strategic political project planning, political communication, local development and electoral campaigning. The two-year training programme concludes with a study trip to Germany, where the young politicians from Asia can learn about political party organisation and local politics in this European country.



Active participation by fellows in group discussions



Group challenge photo with participants from Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan and Malaysia



Talking about Political Leadership, Asst. Prof Eduardo Araral of Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore



**With World Economic Forum's Young Global Leader Hon. Anurag Thakur, Member of Parliament, India at the United Nations' Global Centre for Public Service Excellence (GPSCE)**

#### *KASYP Inception Training (6th Batch)*

### **POLITICAL PARTIES: FUNCTIONS AND ORGANISATION IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES**

*Singapore, 26-31 January 2015*

The first training workshop for KASYP 2015-2016 fellows took place in Singapore from 26 to 31 January. With the introduction of three new countries – Afghanistan, Taiwan and Nepal – we had representatives from eleven different Asian countries. The goal of the workshop was to introduce the participants to the topic of functions and organization of political parties in democratic societies. Against this background the workshop focused on what constitutes a modern party organization and how the participants can contribute to strengthening the respective parties with their project. Besides a number of lectures by experts from academia as well as practitioners, the mediation of knowledge about project planning and the development and presentation of project proposals were part of the first week-long training course.

#### *KASYP Third Training Session (5th Batch)*

### **LEADERSHIP TRAINING IN CAMPAIGNING**

*Cambodia, 29 March-1 April 2015*

The third training workshop for KASYP 2014-2015 fellows took place in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 29 March to 1 April 2015, with twenty-seven participants from seven different countries. The programme focussed on the use of new media in elections and how political parties are adapting to it. Other aspects of elections, such as public opinion polling and political surveys in elections, were also discussed.

After an overview of the topic on elections and its related aspects on day one, participants were introduced to campaign planning and strategies by German members of parliament Dr. Mark Hauptmann and Dr. Mario Voigt. The entire day was focused on case studies from the United States and Germany and included group problem-based learning exercises on campaign strategy and communication. Participants underwent a hands-on workshop on "Social Media Strategies for Political Marketing". The following day involved site visits to the National Election Committee (NEC) followed by meetings and a detailed tour of the National Parliament. Participants also dialogued with KASYP alumnus and Deputy Secretary General of the National Assembly Mr. Soksan Hing.



*KASYP Second Training Session (6th Batch)*

**LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

*Penang, Malaysia, 23-25 August 2015*

KASYP 2015-2016 fellows met in Penang, Malaysia for their second training workshop, on “Local Governance and Development”. The three-day, four-night workshop included introductory lectures on perspectives of local governance and development issues in Asia, meetings with the Speaker of the Penang State Assembly, and site visits to the State Legislative Assembly Building as well as the Municipal Council of Penang Island (MBPP), where participants got to interact with council member and KASYP alumnus Mr. Kumarasen Arumugam. The programme was further enriched with local politics discussions with representatives from Penang Institute and Penang Women Development Corporation (PWDC) as well as important interactions with local members of parliament YB Zairil Khir Johari of DAP, YB Law Choo Kiang of PKR and YB Yap Soo Huey of DAP, who shared their experiences in local politics. The programme culminated with presentations by our participants, who updated on their ongoing projects back home.



*KASYP Fourth Training Session (5th Batch)*

**“POLITICAL PARTY ORGANISATION AND LOCAL POLITICS IN GERMANY”**

*Berlin and Erfurt, 19-26 September 2015*

The concluding training programme for KASYP 2014-2015 fellows took place in Berlin from 19-23 September, and in Erfurt, Thuringia from 23-26 September. In the first half of the seminar, participants visited the state and national parliament in Berlin to learn about each building’s rich history as well as the importance of a functioning parliament in Germany. Participants had the opportunity to meet with members of the state and national parliament, and learned more about their parliamentary role as well as their roles in their respective constituencies. Participants also interacted with Junge Union members in Berlin, to share experiences in local politics and to discuss the role of youth in political participation. The second half of the seminar took place in Erfurt, Thuringia where the participants learned about the past in this region before German reunification and the various aspects of local politics and public service provisions. There were also visits to educational institutes as well as local businesses to learn more about Germany’s education and employment sectors, as well as Germany’s economic policies in encouraging natural resource management, renewable energy development as well as incentivizing small and medium-sized enterprises. Participants also got to meet with young mayors in Erfurt who shared their political experiences thus far in getting elected as well as in going about their day-to-day job as a mayor and about their party responsibilities.



**DEVOLVING POWER IN ASIA: EXPERIENCES IN GOOD GOVERNANCE**

*Waterfront Insular Hotel, Davao City, Philippines, 29-31 October 2015*

Five years on, the KASYP programme has now grown to over 100 participants strong with alumni members representing countries from all over Asia. To promote stronger network building, KAS has been organising policy conferences for alumni members since 2012 in conjunction with youth politicians from Asia and Europe to discuss current policy and youth issues in the region and to share responsive political programmes with each other.

This year, alumni members met to discuss “Devolving Power in Asia: Experiences in Good Governance” in Davao City, Philippines from 29-31 October.

The three-day, four-night programme included regional discussions on thematic topics such as federalism and decentralisation, subsidiarity in the Asian context, social security policies, transparency and public service delivery as well as hot-button issues facing Asia today – disaster governance, identity politics and nation-building at the local level. There were also site visits to local institutions and opportunities to interact with Junge Union representatives visiting from Germany to discuss and share experiences.



## ASIAN WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

Democratic development cannot take place without the equal participation of women in all spheres of life, especially politics. Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) acknowledges the need to promote female political leadership training and empowerment in Asia and is committed to pursuing programmes to narrow the political gender gap in the continent. With the support of KAS, a network of Asian women parliamentarians has been meeting regularly since 2011 to promote, strengthen and develop female political leadership in the region through policy discussions, capacity-building workshops and networking.

In 2011, KAS Berlin and the Multinational Development Policy Dialogue in Brussels, in conjunction with the Regional Programme Political Dialogue in Singapore, organized the inaugural dialogue programme “Strengthening the role of women in politics in Asia”, kick-starting what was to become a series of annual conferences within this focus group. In 2013, KAS organized an International Women Parliamentarian Conference in Naypyidaw, Myanmar, which was inaugurated by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and attended by female politicians from both Asia and Europe. Similarly in 2014, KAS partnered with the Singapore Committee for UN Women in organizing a regional conference in Singapore which was attended by delegates from 18 different Asian countries. This conference concluded with the formalization of a regional caucus for women parliamentarians in Asia called the Asian Women Parliamentarian (AWP) Caucus.

The caucus has met twice in 2015. The first meeting was held in Taipei, Taiwan where the delegation was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (R.O.C.) and partner organisations – the leading think tank in Taipei; Taiwan Democracy Foundation; and well-established women’s rights organization Awakening Foundation. This was in lieu of global discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda. The caucus met subsequently in Brussels via a dialogue programme organised by the Multinational Development Policy Dialogue and the Regional Programme Political Dialogue in Asia of KAS, in cooperation with Ms Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio MEP. The dialogue programme allowed exchange of experiences and best practices between caucus members and European interlocutors. Caucus members were invited to speak and participate in a hearing at the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality of the European Parliament, where members of the European Parliament and of the AWP Caucus exchanged ideas on policies for the promotion of gender equality.



### *International Conference*

## **ASIAN WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIAN CONFERENCE POST-2015: WOMEN, DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICS**

*Taipei, Taiwan, 24-26 June 2015*

In the context of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's international conference activities and with the aim of promoting female empowerment in political leadership, the Political Dialogue Asia regional programme office based in Singapore has been organising activities for women in politics since 2011. This year, in partnership with the Taipei Representative Office in Singapore; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan); and Taiwan Foundation for Democracy and Awakening Foundation, KAS organised the conference "Asian Women Parliamentarian Conference, Post-2015: Women, Development and Politics" in Taipei, Taiwan, with twenty female members of parliament from all over Asia participating. Along with other invited delegates from local women's rights NGOs and institutions, delegates discussed the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda, women's rights issues, such as gender-based violence, and policy implementation best practices, especially in gender-responsive budgeting. Conference delegates had the privilege of meeting and interacting with H.E. President Ma Ying-jeou of R.O.C. Taiwan at the historic Presidential Office Building in Taipei. Delegates also met and interacted with H.E. Hung Hsiu-chu, Vice President of the Legislative Yuan (Parliament) as well as H.E. David Y.L. Lin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan.



**Delegates of the Asian Women Parliamentarian Conference with H.E. President Ma Ying-jeou of R.O.C. Taiwan**

### *International Conference*

## **ASIAN WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIAN (AWP) CAUCUS EMPOWERING WOMEN IN ASIA AND EUROPE**

*Brussels, Belgium 17-19 November 2015*

With a view to continuing the discussions on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in regards to women's empowerment, the AWP Caucus met for a second time this year from 17-19 November in Brussels, Belgium. A series of meetings and interactions were planned by the Multinational Development Policy Dialogue office at Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Brussels in conjunction with the office of member of European Parliament Ms Teresa Jimenez-Becerril of Spain. The meetings were attended by caucus members from thirteen Asian countries – Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea and Timor Leste.

With the SDGs officially established as a global multi-governance framework to tackle key global inequalities from 2015 to 2030, the meetings in Brussels were targeted at addressing the intersectionality of these targets when it comes to women and learning of positive approaches undertaken by both Asian and European countries in tackling hurdles to gender equality.

Caucus members shared Asian perspectives on women's issues, discussed national goals and learnt from European experiences, especially in the areas of bridging the gender gap in economy, promoting women's role in decision-making and political participation through progressive gender mainstreaming policies and use of gender quotas. There was also a rare opportunity for AWP caucus members to debate education, labour market and migration-cum-anti-trafficking policies with members of the European Parliament at a public hearing on "Gender-focused cooperation policies of the European Union", specially organised by the office of MEP Teresa Jimenez-Becerril.



## 2. Regional Co-operation and Integration

### **COOPERATION WITH ISEAS-YUSOF ISHAK INSTITUTE**

ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (ISEAS) is a regional research centre dedicated to the study of socio-political, security and economic trends and developments in Southeast Asia and its wider geostrategic and economic environment. The aim of the institute is to nurture a community of scholars interested in the region and to engage in research on the multi-faceted dimensions and issues of stability and security, economic development, and political, social and cultural change. The intention is not only to stimulate research and debate within scholarly circles but also to enhance public awareness of the region and facilitate the search for viable solutions to the varied problems confronting the region. Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has been collaborating with ISEAS for over twenty years by annually sponsoring a series of ISEAS activities that promote Southeast Asia's regional integration.

### **PROJECT WITH THE CAMBODIAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION AND PEACE**

The Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP) is an independent, neutral, and non-partisan research institute based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. CICP promotes both domestic and regional dialogue between government officials, national and international organizations, scholars, and the private sector on issues of peace, democracy, civil society, security, foreign policy, conflict resolution, economics and national development.

In 2015, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung cooperated with the CICP in the realisation of a series of events in Phnom Penh.

## COOPERATION WITH THE CENTRE FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES AND THE CONSORTIUM OF SOUTH ASIAN THINK TANKS

The Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS) is a fully independent, non-political, secular, research think tank based in Kathmandu, Nepal. It organizes conferences and conducts research in the areas of South Asian regional cooperation, peace and conflict in South Asia, small arms proliferation, trade and connectivity and strategic issues concerning South Asian countries as well as Nepal's conduct of international relations. CSAS is a member of the Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks (COSATT), which brings together leading think tanks in South Asia to foster cooperation in the region.

In 2015, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung cooperated with CSAS and COSATT to organise various regional events, publish several books, and organise a study tour to Germany.



**COSATT conference on "Disaster Management: Experience Sharing from South and Southeast Asia" Bangkok, 20-21 August 2015**

### *International Conference*

## **"FEDERALISM AND DECENTRALIZATION: PERCEPTIONS FOR POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS IN THE PHILIPPINES"**

*Manila, Philippines,  
4-5 September 2015*



The Local Government Development Foundation (LOGODEF) and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung jointly organised an International Conference on "Federalism and Decentralisation: Perceptions for Political and Institutional Reforms" from 4-5 September at the H20 Hotel in Manila, Philippines.

Invited speakers from Asia, Australia and Europe shared regional and country perspectives on the topic with over 100 local stakeholders, including mayors, academia institutional heads and local governance practitioners. The first day introduced conceptual conundrums and regional comparative experiences from Africa, Asia and Europe, followed by a more focused discussion on Asian cases of decentralisation and deconcentration as well as federalism on the second day, in light of the national discourse in the Philippines.

The conference concluded with a rare opportunity to meet and greet Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, who also graced the conference and emphasised the need to work towards a more inclusive agenda for the Philippines in making the case for a federal system.

### 3. Global Governance / Foreign and Security Policy

#### *International Conference*

#### **“PARIS AND BEYOND – THE STATE OF CLIMATE CHANGE DIPLOMACY”**

*Seoul, 23-24 April 2015*

From 23-24 April 2015, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung held a Policy Dialogue on “Paris and Beyond – The State of Climate Change Diplomacy” in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The keynote speech was delivered by H.E. Choi Jai-Chul, Ambassador for Climate Change at the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Dialogue addressed topics leading up to the COP in Paris, as well as issues which will have to be followed up on. The thirty-three participants analyzed the current state of the preparations, Intended Nationally Determined Contributions of key countries and climate finance, particularly the role of the Green Climate Fund. Participants highlighted that the climate agreement in Paris should be linked to other issue areas such as state fragility, climate security and urbanization. Finally, participants agreed that Paris can only be a milestone on the road but not the end of it. The crucial part of the agreement will be its implementation, which requires specific mechanisms, policy coherence, technology transfer and support from all stakeholders, including civil society and industries.



#### *International Conference*

#### **“NATIONALISM IN ASIA AND EUROPE”**

*Singapore, 7-8 May 2015*

Together with the East Asian Institute of the National University of Singapore, an international conference on “Nationalism in Asia and Europe” was organized in Singapore. Since nationalistic movements have been on the resurgence in Asia and Europe in recent years, sixty-two participants discussed the role of nationalism in the 21st century.



The scope of discussions included the various forms of domestic and external dynamics of nationalism in Europe and East Asia. A number of countries use such sentiments to gain legitimacy and foster national coherence. Participants analyzed the relationship between nationalism and security, given that effective conflict prevention measures are missing. Another dilemma is the competition between regionalism and nationalism as the latter hinders a deeper regional integration. Due to the evolvement of the internet, nationalistic debates are less space-bound nowadays and people use the anonymity of the internet to disseminate discriminatory ideas. This requires new legislations and ways to enforce them.

*International Conference*

**29<sup>TH</sup> ASIA-PACIFIC ROUNDTABLE**

*Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1-3 June 2015*

The Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR) is a regional forum hosted by the Institute of Strategic & International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia since 1987. The APR brings together senior government officials and representatives from think tanks, universities, and the media to discuss the major security challenges confronting the Asian region.

This year the Asia-Pacific Roundtable was attended by 300 renowned experts from 30 countries, including the former foreign ministers of Indonesia and Bangladesh. Prime Minister Razak of Malaysia addressed the audience and officially opened the 2015 APR. This year the roundtable focused on terrorism, migration and human trafficking, the ASEAN Community and security. The roles of major powers in resolving the key challenges confronting the region were also an important topic of discussion.

*International Conference*

**ASIA-EUROPE THINK TANK DIALOGUE ON  
“RETHINKING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, DIPLOMACY  
AND IMPACT ON EMERGING WORLD ORDER”**

*The Hague, The Netherlands, 10-11 September 2015*

This year’s Asia-Europe Think Tank Dialogue was held in cooperation with and at the Clingendael Institute in The Hague, The Netherlands. The topic of the 17th annual event was “Rethinking International Institutions, Diplomacy and Impact on Emerging World Order” and the event was attended by thirty-five researchers.

With the rise of new powers and institutions, the current world order seems to be challenged. The event addressed this assumption by analyzing whether new institutions in the economic and security fields, such as the AIIB and ADMM+, challenge the existing system or complement it. The phenomenon of forum shopping was discussed as to whether this diversification will be beneficial or if old institutions have to be reformed, if not retired. Digital developments are also changing the essence of diplomacy – information is becoming more accessible and state bodies have new ways to communicate with their citizens. The participants addressed whether this, combined with the trend towards summit diplomacy, will actually benefit or hinder diplomatic relations.



*International Conference*

**5<sup>TH</sup> NATO-ASIA DIALOGUE**

*Brussels, Belgium, 15-17 September 2015*

The 5th NATO-Asia/Pacific Dialogue saw an evolvement from the previous four events as it was lifted to track 1.5. Besides senior researchers, government advisors from Afghanistan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia and Pakistan attended the event.

All participants, experts and delegates of NATO and Asian countries agreed on the necessity of building robust partnerships to face the upcoming security challenges of an interdependent world. NATO stressed its will to assist any country that wants to cooperate. However, the Alliance does not aim to be a global one, but to engage with its expertise in multilateral networks all over the world. Common consensus was made on the importance of long-time investments in trust-building measures and in political dialogue. The latter is essential for the definition of common goals, needed for any mission to be successful. The conference participants confirmed the necessity of a comprehensive and not exclusively military approach, so as to enhance crisis prevention and the readiness of all partners. Given the deterioration of security situations in both Europe and Asia, the construction of a transparent architecture for mutual assurance and cooperation has to be considered a matter of great urgency. The Dialogue offered participants the possibility to get inside views on each other's concerns. Information sharing, defense capacity improvement and trust-building are crucial concepts to ensure crisis prevention and enable interoperability.

On the first day, briefings and consultations took place at the NATO Headquarters in Brussels. On the second day, the delegation attended the European Defence Summit organized by the Munich Security Conference and on the last day, a semi-public conference on NATO's future engagement with its Asian partners was organized. Topics of high interest during the consultations were hybrid warfare, cyber security, maritime security, the Ukraine crisis and its message sent to Asian countries, crisis management and interoperability.



# 4. EU-Asia Dialogue: Shaping a Common Future for Europe and Asia

The “EU-Asia Dialogue” project enhanced exchange and understanding between policy-makers, non-governmental organisations and researchers from Europe and Asia.

The three-year project was started in January 2012 and completed in March 2015. It dealt with seven topics that are of concern to both regions. Each cluster included a research period and took a practical, rather than theoretical, approach that will help to formulate policy recommendations.

More than 30 conferences, policy dialogues and briefings took place in 15 different Asian and European countries of both continents, the results of which were disseminated, and these enabled direct exchange between relevant stakeholders. Discussions were fostered not only between the regions but also between the two key target groups – policy-makers and researchers.

The “EU-Asia Dialogue” project was co-funded by the European Union and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. All activities were implemented by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Singapore and its partners: the East Asian Institute of the National University of Singapore, the European Policy Centre in Brussels, as well as the EU Centre in Singapore. For more information please visit [www.eu-asia-eu](http://www.eu-asia-eu).

Despite its completion in 2015, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung will continue to implement activities on the seven topics, ensuring a strong participation of the European Union, to build upon the momentum created.



*International Conference*

**“THE FUTURE OF ASIA-EUROPE COOPERATION”**

*Brussels, Belgium, 10 February 2015*

On 10 February 2015, the EU-Asia Dialogue held its final Europe conference on “The Future of Asia-Europe Cooperation” in Brussels, Belgium. Forty-seven participants from Belgium, China, the European Union, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Spain attended the event, which not only provided insights into the recommendations for the seven clusters of the project but also highlighted the crucial role Europe can play in security matters in Asia. With its experience in peaceful conflict resolution and confidence-building, the EU can provide useful information to its Asian partners. The speakers from Asia emphasized that the EU’s engagement is much welcomed, but that the EU had to respect the importance that different security fora have for Asian states. The ASEAN Regional Forum and East Asian Summit are ASEAN-driven initiatives and the EU should accept this. Due to its importance in 2015, the climate change conference in Paris was also highlighted as a pillar of future Europe-Asia cooperation.



*International Conference*

**“EUROPE-ASIA SECURITY COOPERATION ON COUNTER-TERRORISM”**

*Singapore, 5-6 March 2015*

From 5-6 March, the final Asia conference on “Europe-Asia Security Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism” took place in Singapore and was attended by fifty-six experts from Australia, Bangladesh, China, the European Union, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the OSCE, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.



It was clearly shown that direct terrorism-related linkages exist between Europe and Asia; for instance, some European foreign fighters travel through Asia to Syria to avoid being tracked. Youth in both regions are vulnerable to the propaganda by the so-called Islamic State and use social media to recruit others. As the threat and modus operandi have many similarities, exchanges between European and Asian experts will be crucial in preventing attacks outside of Syria and Iraq. Also, various countries have taken different response measures, ranging from re-integration over prosecution to revoking of citizenship. As the initial results of these measures are observed, constant exchanges on experiences and intelligence data will be much appreciated.



# 5. Australia Pacific Region

## AUSTRALIA

Various international developments demonstrate the common interests of Europe and Australia in different fields. The global security situation and the fight against terrorism, cooperation in the framework of the G20 and other supranational fora to enhance global trade rules and the financial system, climate change and other issues require closer coordination and cooperation between the policy-makers of our countries. Therefore, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation aims to foster this dialogue in a broad range of topics with Australia, especially since for the EU in general and for Germany in particular, dialogue with Australia is of special relevance due to our history of strong bilateral and regional relations. To contribute to this, a **German Australian Symposium** was also organized by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung in Berlin. It brought together leaders from business, academia, government and media from both our countries to discuss the relationship between Australia and Germany in the 21st century. This will be an annual flagship event taking place in Berlin and Australia in alternating years. For more details please visit our website: <http://www.kas.de/wf/de/33.41731/->

### *International Dialogue*

#### **AUSTRALIA–EUROPEAN UNION: COOPERATIVE SECURITY IN A NEW STRATEGIC SECURITY ENVIRONMENT**

*Canberra, Australia, 19-20 March 2015*

This conference, entitled “Australia and Europe. Common Concerns and Closer Cooperation”, took place in the Australian capital, Canberra, from 19-20 March. It was held in cooperation with the EU Centre of the Australian National University. The focus of the dialogue was on international security; discussion on geopolitical shifts underway in Europe and the Asia Pacific; what these meant for the EU’s and Australia’s security and foreign policies; and how we could cooperate to help shape a new paradigm that retained our shared values and interests in the international order.

### *International Dialogue*

#### **ASPI-KAS AUSTRALIA-EUROPE COUNTER-TERRORISM DIALOGUE 2015**

*Canberra, 19-21 October 2015*

In cooperation with our partner, the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, we held an exchange on counter-terrorism with The Hon. Michael Keenan MP, Minister for Justice and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Counter-Terrorism of Australia; Miles Armitage, Australian Counter-terrorism Ambassador; and several MPs as well as experts from Europe and Australia.



**Policy Dialogue “Counter-Terrorism and De-Radicalisation”, 20 October 2015**

## **THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN POLITICS AND BUSINESS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND BILATERAL RELATIONS**

*Sydney, 21 October 2015*

On 21 October, Professor Maria Böhmer, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, and Mrs. Lucy Turnbull AO, Honorary President of the German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce, also discussed the role of women in politics and business with female leaders excelling in politics, economy, academics and society. We also held briefings with our partners at the Australian Institute of International Affairs, Centre for European Studies at the Australian National University, EU Centre at RMIT University, University of Melbourne and the Liberal Party.



**Meeting with Australian parliamentarians, Sydney, October 2015**

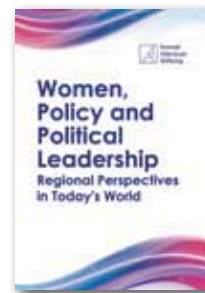


**Meeting with German Minister of State Prof. Dr. Maria Böhmer and Australian women leaders, Sydney, October 2015.**

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***WOMEN, POLICY AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN TODAY'S WORLD***

In this publication, we present an overview with a) a retrospective timeline on milestones in global female political leadership; b) statistics highlighting developments in women's socio-economic and political status in the region; and c) a pictorial map of electoral quotas adopted around the world. Along with the compiled research, we invited prominent authors from around the world to contribute regional insights into the policy, legislative and socio-cultural situations of female political leadership, highlighting prospects as well as challenges concerning the future of women's leadership.



### ***THE FUTURE OF ASIA-EUROPE COOPERATION***

The publication *The Future of Asia-Europe Cooperation* concludes the "EU-Asia Dialogue"-project. It includes policy recommendations for the seven sub-topics and perspectives on the current state of Europe-Asia relations from both regions.

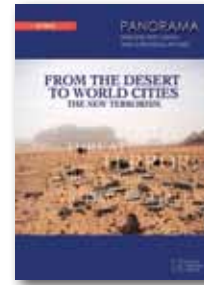


## **PANORAMA: INSIGHTS INTO ASIAN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**

*Issue 01/2015*

### **FROM DESERT TO WORLD CITIES: THE NEW TERRORISM**

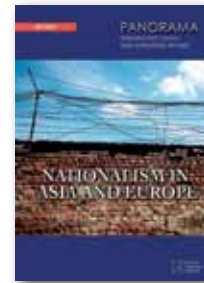
In this issue of *Panorama: Insights into Asian and European Affairs*, authors from various countries shed light on the factors that have contributed to the recent development in the Middle East and discussed the implications of terrorism on societies in Asia and Europe. Special attention was given to the recruitment of young people, the attractiveness of terrorist groups to the youth, the role of religion and social media, and preventive de-radicalization measures.



*Issue 02/2015*

### **NATIONALISM IN ASIA AND EUROPE**

Nationalism is a powerful human force that is on the resurgence in Asia and Europe. The effects of globalisation have inflamed nationalistic sentiments in people all over the two continents. This issue of *Panorama: Insights into Asian and European Affairs* offers perspectives on the evolving nature of nationalism, including its relationship to regional integration efforts and globalisation, as well as its impact on the domestic and foreign policies of countries in Europe and Asia.



## **AUF WIEDERSEHEN TO DIRECTOR OF KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH ASIA – DR. WILHELM HOFMEISTER**



## **REGIONAL PROGRAMME POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH ASIA**

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is a political foundation of the Federal Republic of Germany. Founded in 1964, it was named after the first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer. KAS offers political and social training activities, conducts research, grants scholarship to students, and supports and encourages international understanding and economic development.

In addition to the activities of the local KAS offices in many Asian countries, the regional programme "Political Dialogue with Asia" organises and sponsors international conferences and seminars. Its numerous events and diverse projects focus on political and social development, political parties and civil society, social market economy, regional security, international cooperation and Asia-Europe relations.

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