



**KAS and NATO**

**invite to the**

**EXPERT ROUNDTABLE**

**“The Asia-Pacific Perspective on Security Challenges”**

with Partners from Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan,  
Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea

**Tuesday, 28 June 2011**

**14.45 h to 17.30 h**

Conference venue

**Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung**

European Office  
11, Av. de l`Yser  
B-1040 Brussels

*(Conference language: English)*

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***Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung - "Multinational Dialogue on Development Policy"***

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## **Background**

The concept of security politics is perceived differently in Asia on the one hand and Europe/USA on the other hand. In Europe and the US, in the context of stable relations with the regional neighbours and since the end of the Cold War, a holistic concept of "human security" characterized as freedom from want and freedom from fear, which refers to security of the individual rather than security of the state has become more and more important. In this line of a wide interpretation of security politics the recently published New Strategic Concept of NATO has included new security threats such as cybercrime or climate change but also energy security and terrorism as potential areas of activity for NATO. Similarly, the efforts of increased regional cooperation, both in NATO and the EU through its Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) have marked the beginning of an enhanced regional cooperation in this sensitive area of national interests. This new will for cooperation is also due to increasing financial constraints and the economic crisis of the recent years. In Asia, where relations with neighbouring countries are not always dispute free, security politics concentrate more on the traditional concept of national security with cautious, intergovernmental initiatives for regional cooperation for instance by improving maritime security. Also, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is acting as a quiet diplomat both mitigating hostile behaviour among its members and fostering cooperation. In the shifting of power positions between China, Japan and the US especially the future role of China is analysed with much care. On the one hand it might take a powerful position as strong regional power whereas on the other hand it might continue to play a positive role for the stability and security of the region. NATO's two major operations, Operation Unified Protector in Libya and the deployment of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan have exerted a very different influence on the relationship between NATO and Asia. While many Asian nations have supported the ISAF operation, amongst them Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Australia, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea and Singapore, the intervention in Libya was received with less enthusiasm. China and India, abstained in the vote for the relevant UN resolution Nr. 1973 in the UN Security Council. Despite the support of the Arab League for the NATO intervention, Asian countries have shown substantial reluctance in cooperation with NATO in Europe's immediate neighbourhood. The Expert Roundtable is part of a NATO-KAS visitors programme bringing 10 security experts to Europe in order to discuss with European stakeholders current operations and its possible effects on NATO-Asia relationship as well as the strategic regional cooperation and the inclusion of new security challenges.

## PROGRAMME:

- 14.45**      **Registration of participants and coffee**
- 15.00**      **Welcome note by Dr. Wilhelm Hofmeister**, Director Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Singapore
- 15:05**      **Welcome note by Zsolt Rabai**, Information Officer for Hungary, Pakistan, Contact Countries and other Partners across the Globe, Coordinator for NATO Contact Point Embassies, NATO HQ Public Diplomacy Division
- 15.10**      **Panel I: Afghanistan and Libya – an occasion for strengthening NATO-Asia relations or a test for NATO’s partner countries**
- Tsuneo „Nabe“ Watanabe** Director of Foreign and Security Policy Research, Senior Fellow, The Tokyo Foundation, Japan  
                 **Evan A. Laksmana**, Senior Fellow, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia  
                 **Martin Erdmann**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Germany to NATO
- Chair**        **Dr. Wilhelm Hofmeister**, Director Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Singapore
- 15.45**      **Discussion**
- 16:15**      **Panel II: The new security threats as areas of common interest for Asia, EU and NATO, prospects and challenges of cooperation**
- Dr. TANG Siew Mun**, Director, Institute for Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia  
                 **Dr. LEE Soong Hee**, Professor of International Politics Korea National Defense University (KNDU), Republic of Korea  
                 **Diego Ruiz Palmer**, Head of the Planning Section, Operations Division, NATO HQ  
                 **Lieutnant-General Ton van Osch**, Director EU Military Staff, European External Action Service
- Chair**        **Dick Gupwell**, Vice-Chairman, European Institute for Asian Studies asbl
- 17:00**      **Discussion**
- 17:30**      **End of roundtable**