



## LSE Centre for International Studies Workshop:

### Myanmar and the International Community

Friday 27 November 2015, 13.30 – 18.00

Old Building, Room 4.10

#### Abstract

This workshop aims to create a few reflections on Myanmar. (i) It aims to encourage a debate concerning the 'dynamics of change' as well as the 'inertia to change' as intertwined processes in Myanmar. (ii) It adds to the general on-going focus on Myanmar, the dimension of a discussion that includes the European Union. The European Union is too often neglected as an actor, which has been constructively operating in Myanmar towards its governance's transformation; attention will be paid to this aspect. (iii) Furthermore, the United States and China are usually debated in relation to Myanmar and their balancing power in the region, whereas the EU is left aside. The way in which these three powers interact with Myanmar, considered against the background of both the balancing power context and the power politics race in the Pacific Southeast Asian region, is a supplementary aim. (iv) The aim of this workshop is to strengthen the interaction between the area of study of the EU's external relations and Southeast Asia-led studies that too often develop separately.

#### Programme

13.30 – 14.00	Refreshments
14.00 – 15.10	<b>Diplomacy</b>  Welcome and Chair: Professor Karen E. Smith, LSE  Speakers: Dr Ludovica Marchi, LSE: <i>'The aims of the workshop, how it adds to other similar events, the questions which it poses, and a contribution concerning the EU and Myanmar'</i>  Dr Sophie Boisseau du Rocher, Centre Asie, Ifri, Paris: <i>'The EU and Myanmar: changing contours but not substance'</i>  Dr Michael Reiterer, EEAS Asia-Pacific and University of Innsbruck: <i>'The EU's security interests in East Asia'</i>  Dr Jurgen Haacke, LSE: <i>'Myanmar's relations with Washington and Beijing'</i>

	<i>after the November elections: Quo vadis?</i>
15.10 – 16.10	<p><b>Politics and Economics</b></p> <p>Chair: Dr Natalya Naqvi, LSE</p> <p>Speakers:  Dr Lee Jones, Queen Mary University: <i>'Myanmar: still a disciplined democracy?'</i></p> <p>Ms Tanja Gohlert, Director for Europe and Donor Relations, Euro-Burma-Office (EBO), Brussels: <i>'Developing peace in Myanmar'</i></p> <p>Professor Ian Brown, SOAS, <i>'Burma's economy: some points of reference'</i></p>
16.10 – 16.30	Refreshments
16.30 – 17.50	<p><b>Culture, Civil Society and Human Rights</b></p> <p>Chair: Dr Jurgen Haacke, LSE</p> <p>Speakers:  Dr Matthew Walton, St Antony's College, University of Oxford: <i>'Arguments deployed by Buddhist-actors in Myanmar to justify their attitudes towards non-Buddhists'</i></p> <p>Dr Ma Khin Mar Mar Kyi, University of Oxford: <i>'Transformative research in Myanmar to meet the challenges'</i></p> <p>Mr Julian Kirchherr, St Antony's College, University of Oxford: <i>'The Interplay of Activists and Chinese Dam Developers in Myanmar: The Case of Myanmar's Mega-Dams'</i></p> <p>Mr Tom Berliner, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) London: <i>'Counting the uncounted: leaving no one behind in Myanmar'</i></p>
17.50 – 18.00	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <p>Dr Ludovica Marchi, LSE, and Dr Jurgen Haacke, LSE</p>