



The Challenges of Trump's America and Xi's China: perspectives and strategies in Northeast and Southeast Asia

The London School of Economics and Political Science
Wolfson Theatre, New Academic Building
Friday 8th September 2017
14:00-17:30

How much continuity is there between the Obama administration's 'rebalance' to the Asia-Pacific and Washington's current policy objectives and priorities? In what ways has China's 'assertive' foreign policy toward its periphery given way to a new charm offensive and the lure of economic advantage?

This double-panel event will compare and contrast old and new priorities and policy instruments pursued by the US and China vis-a-vis East Asia. It will examine how states in Northeast and Southeast Asia are manoeuvring in reaction to the various challenges brought forth, against the current dynamics of great power relations between Washington and Beijing.

14:00 - 15:30

Panel I: Northeast Asia

The first panel will explore how the presidential transition in the US has impacted Washington's alliances with its Northeast Asian partners, examine China's use of economic statecraft in the pursuit of its main policy objectives in Asia, and assess the implications for the international politics of the region that stem from recent developments in US-Russia ties.

Panellists: Tomila Lankina (LSE)
Adam Liff (Indiana University)
John Hemmings (Henry Jackson Society)
Darren Lim (Australian National University)

15:30 -15.40

Break

15:40 - 17:15

Panel II: Southeast Asia

The second panel will examine Southeast Asian 'hedging' strategies with an additional focus on Indonesia's reaction to rising Sino-US tensions, and explore perspectives on the evolving debates in Washington regarding the South China Sea.

Panellists: Cheng-Chwee Kuik (National University of Malaysia)
Ann-Marie Murphy (Seton Hall University, New Jersey)
Aileen San Pablo-Baviera (University of the Philippines)

17:30

Networking Drinks