



US ASEAN FUTURES SYMPOSIUM



UNITED STATES
INSTITUTE OF PEACE

WELCOME PACK

OCTOBER 4-5, 2023
WASHINGTON, DC



US ASEAN
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
ASSOCIATION



US ASEAN FUTURES SYMPOSIUM

WELCOME TO THE US-ASEAN FUTURES SYMPOSIUM!

Globally and the US-ASEAN Young Professionals Association have partnered to deliver the US-ASEAN Futures Symposium. The Symposium aims to shape the next decade of US-ASEAN policy by creating a space for more than 100 rising and established leaders to convene, connect, and collaborate.

Delegates were recruited through a highly competitive selection process and have established a reputation for selfless public service, creative problem-solving, and professional growth. Participants represent government agencies, businesses, academia, think tanks, and civil society organizations, and are expected to become critical US-ASEAN relation decision-makers and public service leaders in the next 5-10 years.

The inaugural US-ASEAN Futures Symposium is a consultation platform for emerging leaders from the United States and ASEAN Member States to engage in interdisciplinary dialogue. The Symposium supports the US-ASEAN Strategic Partnership by raising awareness of global issues and promoting the exchange of ideas among future leaders. Delegates will collaborate to deliver policy memos that identify actionable and achievable policy recommendations for the future of US-ASEAN relations.



Dedicated to the vision that every cause deserves a powerful, authentic, and global community behind it, Globally accelerates and simplifies the launch of programs that convene diverse and talented cohorts of leaders around specific themes or ideas.

Since 2004, Globally has been the go-to organization for developing emerging leaders in global affairs. Globally's network spans 80 countries and reaches more than 30,000 emerging leaders.

The US-ASEAN Young Professionals Association is committed to augmenting Indo-Pacific leadership through means of diplomacy, capacity-building, and conflict transformation. Founded by a young Southeast Asian leader, UAYPA prioritizes career growth, community investment, and enhancing cultural competency for lasting impact.



US ASEAN
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
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**UNITED STATES
INSTITUTE OF PEACE**
Making Peace Possible



**SINGAPORE
GLOBAL
NETWORK**



**THE NATIONAL
CHURCHILL
LEADERSHIP CENTER**

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC





SYMPOSIUM DETAILS

GUIDELINES

- All times below are in Eastern Standard Time (ET)
- All events will be hybrid; virtual participation will be common throughout the Symposium
- Dress Code:
 - Wednesday, Oct 4 (Curriculum & Reception) - Business Smart
 - Thursday, Oct 5 - Business Casual
- Wi-Fi will be available on Wednesday and Thursday
- **All panels will follow the Chatham House Rule.**

FOOD

- Lunch, snacks, and coffee/water will be provided for Wednesday's Curriculum
- Hors d'oeuvres, appetizers, and drinks will be provided for Wednesday's Reception
- No food or drinks will be provided for Thursday's Curriculum
- Submit allergies and dietary restrictions through Mighty Networks - but please reach out with any concerns

WHAT TO BRING

- **A government-issued form of identification (critical for entry to venues)**
- A (digital) copy of the Welcome Pack
- Pen(s) and notebook
- Charging cable / portable charger for phones, etc.
- Laptops and/or tablets are highly recommended but not strictly required
- Reusable water or coffee bottles
- Enthusiasm and energy!

ADDRESS INFORMATION

Wednesday Curriculum: **United States Institute of Peace**, 2301 Constitution Ave. NW (Carlucci Auditorium)

Wednesday Reception: **United States Institute of Peace**, 2301 Constitution Ave. NW (Rooftop Terrace)

Thursday Curriculum: **National Churchill Leadership Center**, 2130 H St NW (Ground Floor)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Caroline Keeton | Program Assistant | 513-580-6821 | caroline@globally.org



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day 1 | Oct 04

**UNITED STATES
INSTITUTE OF PEACE**

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS
9:00 - 9:30 AM	Registration and Networking Coffee	All
9:30 - 9:37 AM	Welcoming Remarks	Vannary Kong-Bui UAYPA Aubrey Ottenstein Globally
9:37 - 9:45 AM	Opening Remarks	Lise Grande USIP
9:45 - 10:45 AM	Panel Event 1: Challenges and Opportunities in US-ASEAN Economic and Financial Cooperation	Abbigail Hull East-West Center Ernie Bower Bower Group Asia Matt Ingeneri State Department <u>Moderator:</u> Marc Mealy US-ASEAN Business Council
10:45 - 12:00 PM	Panel Event 2: ASEAN+ 3: The Role of China, Japan, and Korea in the Region	Ambassador Derek Mitchell (Ret.) Rena Sasaki SAIS Holly Thomas State Department <u>Moderator:</u> Brian Harding USIP
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch and Fireside Chat	DAS-D Lindsey Ford Department of Defense Georgette Furukawa The White House



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day 1 | Oct 04 - Cont.

**UNITED STATES
INSTITUTE OF PEACE**

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS
1:00 - 3:00 PM	Thematic Breakout Sessions - Policy Memo Discussion	David Ang Embassy of Singapore Rachel Palermo USIP Kayly Ober USIP Aleena Inthaly Lao Food Foundation Anthony Nelson Albright Stonebridge Group
3:00 - 4:15 PM	Report on Thematic Discussions & Next Steps	Vannary Kong-Bui UAYPA
4:15 - 4:30 PM	Closing Remarks	Aubrey Ottenstein Globally
4:30 - 5:30 PM	Rooftop Reception - USIP Terrace	Ambassador Lui Tuck Yew Singapore Ambassador to the U.S.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day 2 | Oct 05

**NATIONAL CHURCHILL
LEADERSHIP CENTER**

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS
9:00 - 9:25 AM	Registration and Networking Coffee	All
9:20 - 9:25 AM	Housekeeping Announcements	John Bui UAYPA Harith Ramzi UAYPA
9:25 - 9:30 AM	Opening Remarks	Ambassador Piper Campbell American University
9:30 - 10:30 AM	Panel Event 3: Dispute Resolution in Myanmar and the South China Sea	Harrison Prétat CSIS Drake Long Brute Krulak Center <u>Moderator</u> : Tasia Matthews UAYPA
10:30 - 11:30 AM	Panel Event 4: The Role of Soft Power: Changing Narratives in the ASEAN Region and its Diaspora	Aleena Inthaly Lao Food Foundation Elina Noor Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Erin Steinhauer Vietnam Society <u>Moderator</u> : Arianna Sinlapasai-Okamura SEANet
11:30 - 12:00 PM	Breakout Sessions - Policy Memo Finalizing	All
12:00 - 12:30 PM	Closing Remarks	Aubrey Ottenstein
12:30 PM	CLOSE	



WEDNESDAY, OCT 4

9:00 AM - Symposium Registration and Networking

Symposium Delegates, Speakers, Staff, and invited guests

This opening reception offers you an opportunity to connect with the delegates as well as your fellow speakers, to share insights about what you look forward to learning and discussing during the Symposium, and to build relationships that will reinforce your professional and industry goals.

9:30 AM - Welcoming Remarks

VANNARY KONG-BUI - UAYPA
AUBREY OTTENSTEIN - Globally

9:37 AM - Opening Remarks

LISE GRANDE - USIP

9:45 AM - Panel Event 1 | Challenges and Opportunities in US-ASEAN Economic and Financial Cooperation

ERNIE BOWER - Bower Group Asia
ABBIGAIL HULL - East-West Center
MATT INGENERI - State Department
Moderator: MARC MEALY - US-ASEAN Business Council

Experts and rising leaders from both the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will convene to explore the dynamic landscape of economic and financial cooperation between the two regions. This engaging session aims to shed light on the multifaceted challenges and promising opportunities that lie ahead in strengthening the economic ties and collaborative financial strategies between the US and ASEAN member countries.



WEDNESDAY, OCT 4 - CONT.

10:45 AM - Panel Event 2 | ASEAN+ 3: The Role of China, Japan, and Korea in the Region

AMBASSADOR DEREK MITCHELL - National Democratic Institute (retired)
RENA SASAKI - Johns Hopkins SAIS
HOLLY THOMAS - State Department
Moderator: BRIAN HARDING - USIP

Panelists will gather to delve into the evolving dynamics of cooperation and the influence of the three major East Asian economies - China, Japan, and Korea. This engaging session aims to explore the multifaceted interactions, challenges, and opportunities presented by the ASEAN+3 framework, focusing on how China, Japan, and Korea are shaping the economic, political, and social landscape of the region.

12:00 PM - Lunch and Fireside Chat

GEORGETTE FURUKAWA - White House Initiative on Asian Americans,
Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

1:00 PM - Thematic Breakout Sessions | Policy Memo Discussion

Economic Cooperation: DAVID ANG - Embassy of Singapore

Youth Peace and Security: RACHEL PALERMO - USIP

Climate Change: KAYLY OBER - USIP

Human Rights and Inclusion: ALEENA INTHALY - Lao Food Foundation

Emerging Technology and Cybersecurity: ANTHONY NELSON - Albright Stonebridge Group

In these facilitated discussions, delegates will tackle pressing global issues that span the spectrum of our interconnected world. Each breakout group will embark on a mission to inform their final deliverable - a meticulously crafted policy memo. As delegates gather insights and exchange perspectives, they will follow the structured format of an executive summary, problem statement, background, options/alternatives, and recommendations, aiming to distill the essence of these vital conversations into actionable policy guidance.



WEDNESDAY, OCT 4 - CONT.

3:00 PM - Plenary Session

VANNARY KONG-BUI - UAYPA
and Facilitators

Facilitators will join the stage in the main event space to report on their groups' key ideas and findings. Policy memo writing next steps will also be addressed (reference materials available through Mighty Networks)

4:00 PM - Closing Remarks

AUBREY OTTENSTEIN - Globally

4:30 PM - Rooftop Reception

AMBASSADOR LUI TUCK YEW - Singaporean Ambassador to the U.S.

Singapore Global Network is generously sponsoring the celebratory Rooftop Reception hosted on USIP's rooftop terrace. Expect beautiful views, delicious bites and beverages, and special appearances from the Embassy of Singapore!



With over 100,000 members worldwide, Singapore Global Network (SGN) is a social movement, inspired by a common desire to grow ideas, push frontiers, and make an impact.

SGN is your friend from Singapore, an extended family member, a home away from home, who understands the joy of meeting a kindred spirit and forming connections through shared experiences.

Boasting an open, diverse, and inclusive community, SGN encourages everyone to be true to themselves, to seek out their tribe wherever they may be, and to pursue growth and purpose with passion and determination.

[Click here to learn more about joining the community.](#)



THURSDAY, OCT 5

9:00 AM - Symposium Registration and Networking

Symposium Delegates, Speakers, Staff, and invited guests

Day 2's opening reception offers you an opportunity to connect with new faces and re-engage with those from yesterday. Discuss your reflections on Day 1 and what you look forward to on Day 2!

9:20 AM - Housekeeping Announcements

JOHN BUI - UAYPA
HARITH RAMZI - UAYPA

9:25 AM - Opening Remarks

AMBASSADOR PIPER CAMPBELL - American University

9:30 AM - Panel Event 3 | Dispute Resolution in Myanmar and the South China Sea

HARRISON PRÉTAT - Center for Strategic and International Studies
DRAKE LONG - Brute Krulak Center for Innovation & Future Warfare
Moderator: TASIA MATTHEWS - UAYPA

International Security and Defense experts specializing in the Indo-Pacific will gather to confront two pressing and volatile conflicts shaping the ASEAN region. The ongoing civil war in Myanmar and the complex regional conflict over the South China Sea will take center stage as our panelists delve deep into these geopolitical quagmires. This high-stakes session will not only dissect the intricacies of these conflicts but also illuminate a path toward peaceful and sustainable resolutions, offering invaluable insights for a region seeking stability and harmony.



THURSDAY, OCT 5 - CONT.

10:30 AM - Panel Event 4 | The Role of Soft Power: Changing Narratives in the ASEAN Region and its Diaspora

ALEENA INTHALY - Lao Food Foundation
ELINA NOOR - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
ERIN STEINHAUER - Vietnam Society
Moderator: ARIANNA SINLAPASAI-OKAMURA - SEANET

Esteemed leaders and members of the ASEAN diaspora will delve into the vital role played by local ASEAN diaspora communities across the United States and their profound connections to the ASEAN region. Panelists will examine the complex dynamics of US-ASEAN relations, with a particular emphasis on the strategic use of soft power. Our aim is to explore how soft power can effectively enhance ASEAN's influence and foster enduring cross-border connections. This thought-provoking session will dissect the nuanced dynamics of US-ASEAN relations and engage in an exploration of these critical topics.

11:30 AM - Thematic Breakout Sessions | Policy Memo Writing

Delegates will reconvene in their breakout groups from Day 1 to continue crafting their policy memos. They will follow the structured format of an executive summary, problem statement, background, options/alternatives, and recommendations. Final memos will be submitted by Friday, September 29th through Mighty Networks.

12:00 PM - Closing Remarks

AUBREY OTTENSTEIN - Globally

12:30 PM - CLOSE



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

DURATION - 2 HOURS (1:00-3:00 PM)

1:00-1:15 PM

Introduction to facilitator and introduction of participants

1:15-1:45 PM

Facilitator led discussion

- Describe the challenge / problem

1:45-2:15 PM

Facilitator led discussion

- Describe the current state / background / context

2:15-2:45 PM

Facilitator led discussion

- Recommendations for action / policy

2:45-2:55 PM

Review and consolidation of ideas for read-out

2:55-3:00 PM

Move to main event space for read-out

- Facilitators join the main stage to share their groups' key ideas

MEET THE GLOBALLY TEAM



**AUBREY COX
OTTENSTEIN**

CO-FOUNDER &
CEO



**JOSHUA
MARCUSE**

CO-FOUNDER



**CHRIS
MCCARTHY**

HEAD OF
PARTNERSHIPS &
DEVELOPMENT



**CLARA
SCHMAE**

PROGRAM
MANAGER



**EMIL
CAILLAUX**

COMMUNICATIONS
LEAD



**CAROLINE
KEETON**

PROGRAM
ASSISTANT



RACHEL YOON

INTERN,
COMMUNICATIONS
& PROGRAMS

MEET THE
**US-ASEAN YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS
ASSOCIATION TEAM**



**VANNARY
KONG-BUI**
FOUNDER



**JOHN
BUI**
NORTH AMERICA
CO-CHAIR



**TASIA
MATTHEWS**
NORTH AMERICA
CO-CHAIR



**HARITH
RAMZI**
ASEAN
CO-CHAIR



**KAR LOCK
PANG**
ASEAN
CO-CHAIR



**US ASEAN
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MEET THE

SPEAKERS AND FACILITATORS



VANNARY KONG-BUI

FOUNDER,
US-ASEAN YPA

Vannary is a National Security and Defense Staffer on Capitol Hill. She is the Founder of the US-ASEAN Young Professionals Association. The US-ASEAN Young Professionals Association focuses on developing rising voices in the Indo-Pacific region with a targeted focus on Southeast Asia through cultural competency, national security, academia, diplomacy, and private-public partnership programming. She has previously worked as a Research Assistant at the East-West Center in Washington, Princeton University, the Asian Vision Institute, and the Cambodian Institute of Cooperation and Peace.

Vannary's research focuses on Indo-Pacific Defense Strategies in the South China Sea, Counterterrorism, and multilateral trade. Vannary is a member of NextGen Foreign Policy for America, the Pacific Council, the World Intellectual Property Organization as a WIPO ADR Young Member, and Space Generation Advisory Council. She is also the Vice President of Chapter Development on the Board of Directors for the East-West Center and the Scholarship Chair at the Cambodian Buddhist Society in Colesville, Maryland.

Vannary graduated from Indiana University with a B.A. in Political Science and International Studies in 2018. She is currently pursuing a Master's in Defense at the Naval War College and a Master's in International Relations at Harvard University in the Extension School.



AUBREY COX OTTENSTEIN

CO-FOUNDER AND CEO,
GLOBALLY

Aubrey is the co-founder and CEO of Globally, leading the execution of its mission to accelerate and simplify the creation of programs that convene diverse cohorts of leaders around strategic goals. Prior to founding Globally, Aubrey launched and led the U.S. Institute of Peace's youth portfolio with the goal of increasing the inclusion of youth in peace and security efforts.

Aubrey holds a bachelor's degree in international business and Spanish from the College of Charleston and a master's from the School of International Service at American University.



LISE GRANDE
 PRESIDENT AND CEO,
 U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Lise Grande is the president and CEO of the U.S. Institute of Peace, an independent, nonpartisan, federally funded institute charged with the mission to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict around the world. She has 25 years of continuous overseas experience leading, managing, and coordinating complex operations for the United Nations. Grande has held leadership positions in humanitarian, stabilization, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and development operations in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the Caucasus.



MARC MEALY
 CHIEF POLICY OFFICER & SENIOR VP-RESEARCH,
 US-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

Marc Mealy is the Senior Vice President-Policy at the US-ASEAN Business Council. He manages the production of the Council’s information products, coordinates advocacy efforts across our country and industry committees, and serves as the in-house lead on international trade policy. He joined the Council in 2003 as the Senior Director for Malaysia, Philippines and Brunei Affairs as well as Coordinator of the Council's ASEAN Financial Services Working Group. He was named the Vice President in 2010. Marc has over twenty years of experience in international trade and economics.

Prior to joining the Council, Marc spent four years in the U.S. Congress. From 1999-2001 he was a member of the Professional Staff of the House International Relations Committee. From 2001 to 2003, he served as the international economic and foreign policy advisor to Congressmen Gregory Meeks of New York, a member of the House Foreign Affairs and Financial Services Committees.

Marc holds a B.A. in Economics and Third World Studies from Oberlin College and an M.S. degree in Economics from the University of Florida.



ABBIGAIL HULL
 PROGRAMS MANAGER,
 EAST-WEST CENTER IN WASHINGTON

Abbigail Hull is a Program Manager at the East-West Center in Washington, where she leads the Center’s Young Professionals Program and other Leadership and Professional Development projects implemented by the Washington Office. Recent projects related to ASEAN include leading a group of Indian Journalist on a study tour of Cambodia to learn about the Lower Mekong Region and organizing a conference to bring together activists from Southeast Asia to promote good governance related to SEZs and infrastructure development. Before her time at the Center, She was an Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer in Cambodia from 2017-2018, where she worked for a local development NGO. Abbigail received her MA in international development from American University.



MATT INGENERI
 DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC POLICY,
 BUREAU FOR EAST ASIAN & PACIFIC AFFAIRS,
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Matt Ingeneri has served since July 2022 as the Deputy Director of Economic Policy in the State Department’s Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs: supporting the first U.S. host year of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum since 2011, coordinating the Department’s support of Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) negotiations, organizing the Indo-Pacific Business Forum (IPBF), and expanding economic engagement through the Quad. Before returning to Washington, Matt was the Economic Strategy Unit Chief at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, responsible for leading Mission India’s implementation of the Indo-Pacific Strategy as well as bilateral investment, macroeconomic, and aviation issues. Matt previously worked on trade and investment issues in Southeast Asia for over 10 years, serving as Deputy Economic Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Director for Singapore, Vietnam, and ASEAN at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and Senior Asia Trade Officer and Philippines Desk Officer at the State Department. Before joining the State Department, Matt was an attorney at the D.C. firm Howrey & Simon, specializing in foreign anti-trust reviews of mergers and acquisitions and intellectual property litigation. He received his BA from Sarah Lawrence College and his JD and an MA in International Relations from Boston University, and is a member of the New York and Washington, D.C. bars.



ERNIE BOWER

PRESIDENT & CEO,
BOWERGROUPASIA

Ernie Bower is recognized as one of the world’s leading experts on the Asia Pacific. He is founder and CEO of BowerGroupAsia, the premier business advisory company focused on supporting the world’s top companies working in Asia and CEO and co-chairman and founder of AkarAsia, the pioneer in empowering policy and strategy services in Asia using digital intelligence.

BowerGroupAsia has unrivaled ground game with 100 experts working in our offices in 21 countries across the IndoPacific region. AkarAsia is one of Asia's most important new technology companies, using digital tools to transform policy, government affairs and strategy services to the world's top companies across the Asia Pacific.

Ernie has built many of the foundational American institutions focusing on policy and business in Asia. In addition to creating BowerGroupAsia & AkarAsia he created the first chair for Southeast Asian Studies at Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and helped found and build the US-ASEAN Business Council.

Ernie is recognized as one of the strongest proponents for close ties between the United States and Asia. In recognition of his contributions, the King of Malaysia has awarded him the Darjah Panglima Jasa Negara (PJN) bestowing the title of “Datuk” and the president of the Philippines named him as a rare foreign holder of the rank of Lakan, or Commander. He also serves several business and humanitarian organizations including the Special Olympics, chair of American Australian Council. Ernie is a leading advisor and commentator on the business, economics and security issues in Asia.



BRIAN HARDING

SENIOR EXPERT, SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC ISLANDS,
U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Brian Harding joined the U.S. Institute of Peace in May 2020 as a senior expert and has led a major expansion of USIP’s programming in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, including the launch of new country programs in Vietnam, the Philippines and Papua New Guinea. He comes to USIP with more than 15 years of experience in Southeast Asian affairs in government, think tanks and the private sector.

In the private sector, Harding has advised many of the world’s most prominent companies and financial institutions on political risk and leadership dynamics in Southeast Asia. Harding holds degrees from Middlebury College and The George Washington University and has studied at universities in Yogyakarta, Indonesia and Kyoto, Japan. In Southeast Asia, he has also been a Fulbright research fellow in Indonesia and taught English in Nong Khai, Thailand.



AMB. DEREK MITCHELL (RET.)

FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO MYANMAR

Ambassador Mitchell was most recently President of the National Democratic Institute from 2018 to 2023. From 2012-2016, he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Burma), where he was America’s first ambassador to the country in 22 years. From 2011-12, he served as the U.S. Department of State’s first Special Representative and Policy Coordinator for Burma, with the rank of ambassador. After leaving office was

Mitchell served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs (APSA), in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He spent six months as acting APSA Assistant Secretary of Defense and was responsible for overseeing the Defense Department’s security policy in Northeast, Southeast, South, and Central Asia. Most recently, Mitchell has been a senior advisor at the Albright Stonebridge Group, the United States Institute of Peace, and the Center for Strategic and International Studies, as well as a lecturer for the Stanford-in-Washington program.



RENA SASAKI

PHD CANDIDATE,
JOHN HOPKINS SAIS

Rena Sasaki is a Ph.D. student at Johns Hopkins SAIS and a fellow of the Pacific Forum's Next Generation Young Leaders Program.

Sasaki was a senior associate at the global management consulting firm Strategy& and has more than five years of experience engaging in defense and security projects with Japan's Ministry of Defense and its Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Agency and the general defense industry. Sasaki holds a master's degree in foreign service from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service.



HOLLY LINDQUIST THOMAS

DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS,
BUREAU FOR EAST ASIAN & PACIFIC AFFAIRS,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Holly Lindquist Thomas is the Office Director of the Multilateral Affairs Office in the Bureau for East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. Her office focuses on ASEAN, Mekong, and South China Sea issues. Prior to this, she served as Deputy Economic Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi, leading on energy, environment, science, technology, and health. She previously served in Kathmandu, Istanbul, Tashkent, and The Hague, in addition to Washington assignments in the European and Economic Bureaus, as well as the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. She has studied five languages.

Holly has a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from Mankato State University and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Minnesota School of Law. Before joining the Department of State, Holly practiced law in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



LINDSEY W. FORD

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR
SOUTH & SOUTHEAST ASIA,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Lindsey W. Ford is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia. In this role, she serves as the principal advisor to senior leadership within the Department of Defense for all policy matters pertaining to development and implementation of defense strategies and plans for the region. Her area of responsibility includes bilateral security relations with India and all other South Asian countries, excepting Afghanistan and Pakistan; and with the nations of Southeast Asia.

Previously, Ms. Ford was a David M. Rubenstein Fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution, where her research focused on U.S. security alliances and Asian regional architecture. Prior to joining the Brookings Institution in 2019, Ms. Ford was the Richard Holbrooke Fellow and Director for Political-Security Affairs at the Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI) from 2015-2019.

From 2009-15, Ford served in a variety of roles within the Office of the Secretary of Defense, including as the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for the US-ASEAN Defense Forum, where she oversaw the first ministerial for ASEAN defense ministers hosted in the United States. Ms. Ford also served as the Senior Adviser to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, where she managed Asian maritime security affairs and led the development of the Department's first "Asia-Pacific Maritime Security Strategy" in 2015. She has also served as an adjunct lecturer at George Washington University's Elliott School of Public Affairs. A graduate of Samford University, Ms. Ford holds a Master's Degree in Public Affairs and Asian Studies from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. She is the recipient of the Department of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service.



GEORGETTE FURUKAWA

ADVISOR FOR ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN,
& PACIFIC ISLANDER,
WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON AA & NHPI

Georgette Furukawa is a strategic consultant, executive, and external affairs advisor, specializing in leading development, implementation, and evolution of cross-functional initiatives with internal and external stakeholders with diplomacy, innovation, and accountability. She has over 20 years of demonstrated success in business, government, and non-profit sectors.

Georgette is currently on detail to the White House, Office of the Chief of Staff, as Advisor for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AA and NHPI). She reports to the Deputy Assistant to the President and AA and NHPI Senior Liaison. Georgette provides principal support, manages domestic and international policy and stakeholder engagement, and leads interagency matrix management of subject matter experts and political leadership for priority initiatives of the Administration.

At her home agency she is the Director of Public Engagement for the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (Permitting Council) where she oversees congressional, federal, state, local, and external engagement; the Permitting Council is one of the newest permanent Federal Independent Agencies. Prior to joining the Biden Harris Administration, she was most recently Principal for Aestival Strategies, LLC, working with clients in the medical and technology industries respectively as a Chief of Staff and consultant. Prior to that she was the Vice President of Government Affairs for global developer and real estate company, Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield.

As the former Advisor for Intergovernmental and External Affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy under the Obama administration, Georgette oversaw external affairs strategies, managed stakeholder relationships, and advanced policy and administration priorities. She also served as the Director of Development for the U.S.-Japan Council, a nonprofit focused on strengthening U.S.-Japan relations. As Senior Associate for External Affairs at Sony, she worked on policy areas such as privacy and innovation to sustainability and conflict minerals, and managed the Washington, D.C. office.

Georgette has also served in the U.S. House of Representatives for former Congressman Neil Abercrombie and the State of Hawai'i for former Lieutenant Governor Mazie K. Hirono. Georgette is the first of two children of immigrants and the first American-born child in her family.



DAVID ANG

FIRST SECRETARY (ECONOMIC),
EMBASSY OF SINGAPORE IN WASHINGTON DC

David Ang currently serves as the First Secretary (Economic) at the Embassy of Singapore in Washington DC. He began his career in the public service with the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry in 2019, where he was responsible for managing and strengthening Singapore's bilateral economic relationships with key partners such as India, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. Prior to joining the public service, David was a corporate legal counsel with a background in Mergers and Acquisitions, Banking, and Dispute Resolution.



KAYLY OBER

SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER, CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT
& CONFLICT,
U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Kayly Ober is a Senior Program Officer for the climate, environment, and conflict program at USIP. In this role, she leads research and analysis on climate change, migration, and displacement as well as transboundary water and conflict issues.

Prior to USIP, she was the senior advocate and program manager of the climate displacement program at Refugees International. She also served as a member of the Task Force on Displacement established under the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change's Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. She has worked on climate change and migration issues for more than 15 years, during which time she has held positions at organizations such as the Asian Development Bank, the Overseas Development Institute, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the World Bank, where she authored the flagship report "Groundswell: Preparing for Internal Climate Migration."

Ober holds a master's in environment and development from the London School of Economics and a bachelor's in international studies from American University. She is currently completing her doctorate in geography at the University of Bonn, where her dissertation analyzes policymaking and governance structures around the climate change-adaptation-migration nexus.



RACHEL PALERMO

PROGRAM SPECIALIST, YOUTH, PEACE & SECURITY,
U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Rachel Palermo is a program specialist for Youth, Peace & Security at the U.S. Institute of Peace. Prior to joining USIP, Rachel managed the membership of a global coalition working to positively engage religious and traditional actors, including women and youth, in peacebuilding processes. Rachel is passionate about supporting and enabling grassroots and youth-led peacebuilding initiatives. As a student, Rachel co-founded a youth-led organization to foster dialogue among students of diverse religious and cultural backgrounds in Southwest Virginia. Rachel has three years of experience in the peacebuilding field and over five years of experience in youth empowerment and leadership development.

She holds Bachelor's Degrees in International Studies and Spanish as well as a Master's degree in Political Science from Virginia Tech, where she was awarded a scholarship to participate in an international research exchange program at T.U. Darmstadt in Germany.



ALEENA INTHALY

MANAGING DIRECTOR,
LAO FOOD FOUNDATION

Formerly the Chief of Staff at Legacies of War, Aleena currently serves as the Managing Director of the Lao Food Foundation.

During her tenure at Legacies of War, Aleena's leadership secured and increased U.S. funding for unexploded ordnance (UXO) removal, mine risk education and support for survivors. Aleena also created and was Executive Producer of Legacies of War's podcast series, Thip Khao Talk, engaging over 18,000 listeners across nine countries since its launch in 2021. Now, Aleena spearheads a culinary movement committed to preserving, promoting, and redefining Lao cuisine through food diplomacy.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Aleena is a Board Member of City Blossoms, a D.C.-based nonprofit promoting community well-being. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Virginia Commonwealth University, where she founded the inaugural student chapter of Legacies of War, establishing her long-term dedication to fostering mutual understanding between the United States, Laos and beyond.



ANTHONY NELSON

ASSOCIATE PARTNER FOR EAST ASIA PACIFIC,
ALBRIGHT STONEBRIDGE GROUP

Anthony Nelson is an Associate Partner in the East Asia and Pacific practice at ASG, where he advises clients on market entry, public relations, and business strategy in Southeast Asia. Prior to joining ASG, Mr. Nelson worked for eight years at the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council. He managed the Council's teams in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, helped lead the first U.S. business mission to Myanmar after sanctions were lifted, and organized U.S. business engagement with the ASEAN economic ministers on behalf of the Council.

Mr. Nelson also was the Council lead for US-ASEAN Business Alliance for Competitive Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, a collaboration with USAID which has trained more than 5,000 entrepreneurs in Southeast Asia. Mr. Nelson is a member of the board of directors of the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council Institute, and an advisor to The SEA Spirit Foundation. He is a frequent commentator on business and politics in Southeast Asia.



TASIA MATTHEWS

NORTH AMERICA CHAIR,
US-ASEAN YPA

Tasia Matthews is the North America chair for the US ASEAN Young Professionals Association, where she is passionate about building spaces for underrepresented voices and expanding access to professional and academic opportunities for youth.

Outside of UAYPA, she is a project manager working in chemical counterproliferation with a country portfolio including Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. She is finishing up a master's degree in Global Security at Johns Hopkins University with a concentration in strategic studies and a regional focus on the Indo-Pacific, with aspirations to contribute towards US-ASEAN security cooperation throughout her career.



AMBASSADOR LUI TUCK YEW

AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ambassador Lui Tuck Yew was appointed as Singapore’s Ambassador to the United States of America in June 2023. Prior to this, he was Singapore’s Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China from November 2019 to April 2023, and Singapore’s Ambassador to Japan from June 2017 to October 2019.

Ambassador Lui was first elected as a Member of the Singapore Parliament in 2006 and served as a Senior Minister of State, and then Minister, in the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Arts until 2011. Ambassador Lui then served as the Minister for Transport from 2011 to 2015 and concurrently Second Minister for Foreign Affairs from 2011 to 2012 and Second Minister for Defense in 2015.

Before Parliament, Ambassador Lui was a Singapore Armed Forces (Overseas) scholar and served in the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), rising to the position of Chief of Navy in 1999. He was appointed Chief Executive of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore in 2003 and concurrently Deputy Secretary (Land), Ministry of Transport. By 2005, the Ambassador joined the Housing and Development Board (HDB) as Chief Executive Officer.

Ambassador Lui graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Cambridge, Trinity College United Kingdom in 1983. He obtained a Master of Arts Degree in International Relations from Tufts University, USA in 1994.

Because of his achievements and service, Ambassador Lui was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Bronze) (Military) in 1993, the Public Administration Medal (Gold) (Military) in 2000, and the Long Service Medal in 2005.

Ambassador Lui is married to Madam Teng Soo Fen and they have two children. He enjoys traveling, reading, cricket, baseball, and American football.



AMBASSADOR PIPER CAMPBELL

AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Chair of the Department of Foreign Policy and Global Security (FPGS), Ambassador Piper Campbell began teaching at AU in January 2020. She was Administrative Director of SIS's Foreign Policy (USFP) and Global Governance (GGPS) graduate programs before becoming inaugural chair of FPGS. This followed a distinguished, 30-year diplomatic career. Campbell also has taught national security strategy at the National Defense University's National War College.

Ambassador Campbell is past director and current chair of American University's ASEAN Studies Initiative (ASI). The initiative builds on her interest in East Asia and navigating multilateral organizations. These two expertise combined when she had the opportunity to lead the U.S. Mission to ASEAN based in Jakarta from June - December 2018. In that capacity, she served as "Senior Official" in formal sessions of the East Asia Summit, ASEAN regional Forum and the Lower Mekong Initiative. Leading a multi-agency team involved wide-ranging activities from securing agreement with ASEAN Defense Ministers on holding the first U.S.-ASEAN military exercise to opening a summit of Young South East Asian entrepreneurs.

Earlier, Ambassador Campbell served as Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy Ulaanbaatar from 2012-2015, in which capacity she supported negotiations on the development of Mongolia's extractive industries and agreement on a \$350 million U.S.-Mongolia Millennium Challenge Compact. She also was Consul General in Basrah, Iraq from 2011-2012, as the U.S. military withdrew.

Piper Campbell retired from the State Department in April 2019, with the rank of Minister Counselor.



HARRISON PRÉTAT

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR & FELLOW,
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

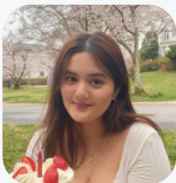
Harrison Prétat is an associate director and associate fellow with the Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). His research interests include maritime disputes, U.S.-China relations, economic engagement in Asia, and challenges to international institutions in the twenty-first century. He holds an M.A. in international relations from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.



DRAKE LONG

NON-RESIDENT FELLOW,
BRUTE KRULAK CENTER FOR INNOVATION &
FUTURE WARFARE

Drake Long is a Non-Resident Fellow with the Brute Krulak Center on Innovation & Future Warfare at Marine Corps University, focused on maritime and territorial disputes. He is also an analyst with the Department of Defense and a Pacific Forum Young Leader. He's one co-author of the edited volume 'Maritime Cooperation and Security in the Indo-Pacific Region: Essays in Honor of Sam Bateman,' and he is currently writing a forthcoming book about the international seabed and seabed disputes in the South China Sea. He's previously been published in The Diplomat, 9DASHLINE, Southeast Asia Globe, the Center for International Maritime Security, and the Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs.



ARIANNA SINLAPASAI-OKAMURA

UNIVERSITY STUDENT OFFICER,
SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDENT NETWORK, AMERICAN U

Arianna is an undergraduate student at American University majoring in Political Science with a double minor in Biology and Asian Diaspora Studies. She has a demonstrated history in community outreach, politics, and customer service and interests in public policy, community organizing, and political research.



ELINA NOOR

SENIOR FELLOW,
CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Elina Noor is a senior fellow in the Asia Program at Carnegie where she focuses on developments in Southeast Asia, particularly the impact and implications of technology in reshaping power dynamics, governance, and nation-building in the region. Previously, Elina was director of political-security affairs and deputy director of the Washington, D.C. office at the Asia Society Policy Institute. Prior to that, Elina was an associate professor at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu. She spent most of her career at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia, where she last held the position of director, foreign policy and security studies. Elina was also formerly with the Brookings Institution's Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World.

Elina read law at Oxford University. She obtained an LL.M (Public International Law) from the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, graduating with distinction at the top of her class. A recipient of the Perdana (Malaysian Prime Minister's) Fellowship, she also holds an MA in security studies from Georgetown University, where she was a Women in International Security Scholar.



ERIN STEINHAUER

FOUNDER,
VIETNAM SOCIETY

Erin Steinhauer is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Vietnam Society, a private non-profit organization established to deepen understanding and connections between Vietnam and the U.S. through the soft power of art and culture, while fostering greater ties between people and communities. Through special educational projects and events, including Vietnam Week, the organization is the cultural bridge that brings together people and communities to celebrate the cultural and artistic creativity of Vietnam's four-thousand-year heritage.

Prior to founding Vietnam Society, Ms. Steinhauer had a 25-year career in senior corporate executive and policy leadership roles working in government and global Fortune 100 companies, including the U.S. Department of Commerce, Visa Inc., New York Life, Iridium and MicroStrategy. She has a long track record in building successful businesses and partnerships, corporate strategies and policy initiatives globally.



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