

SPEAKERS', DISCUSSANTS' AND MODERATORS' PROFILE*

(in alphabetical order)

Blake BERGER

Blake Berger is a Research Associate at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Blake received his bachelor's degree in Sociology summa cum laude from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and his Master's degree in Comparative Regional Studies (Southeast Asia) with Distinction from the School of International Service, American University. At ACI, Blake is currently engaged in researching ASEAN, tourism in Southeast Asia, and is Editor of the ASEAN Business Research Hub. Previously, Blake held positions as research intern at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, and researcher at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Washington D.C, Southeast Asia Program; he has additionally published articles, reports and monographs for ISIS Malaysia, CSIS, and ISIS Thailand. Blake's research interests are directed towards the ASEAN, regional integration, international relations theory, political economy, United States foreign policy towards East and Southeast Asia, and international trade policy.

Sasidaran GOPALAN

Sasidaran Gopalan received his PhD in Public Policy in August 2014 from the School of Policy, Government and International Affairs (SPGIA) at George Mason University (GMU), USA. His fields of specialization are international finance and development, with a specific emphasis on emerging market economies. His dissertation examined the monetary and financial dimensions of foreign bank entry in emerging and developing economies. He obtained his MSc in Economics from Madras School of Economics (Chennai, India) in 2007 and BA in Economics from Loyola College (Chennai, India) in 2005. Prior to his PhD, he spent a year as a Research Associate at the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) (2007-08) working on various policy issues related to trade in services in Asia. After his stint at IIMB, he moved to the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) for two years (2008-2010) where he undertook research on international economic policy issues concerning Asia. He has co-authored a book published by Oxford University Press (India) entitled "Crisis, Capital Flows and FDI in Emerging Asia" and has published several academic articles in refereed national and international journals as well as contributed to book chapters in edited volumes along with various op-eds. His current research focuses on the various implications of financial openness and capital flows on financial development and integration in emerging Asia.

Mohan GURUSWAMY

Mohan Guruswamy had his undergraduate education in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry at Nizam College, Hyderabad, India. He has post-graduate qualifications in Public Policy, International Affairs and Management. He is an alumnus of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and the Graduate School of Business, Stanford University. Has had an interesting career path that included teaching, senior management, journalism and in government as the Advisor to the Finance Minister and Secretary to the Government of India. He is also the founder/chairman of the Centre for Policy Alternatives, New Delhi. Mohan Guruswamy is widely travelled in India and abroad, and is the author of several books on policy issues, some of the recent being *The Looming Crisis in India's Agriculture*; *India: Issues in Development*; *India's World: Essays in Foreign Policy and Security Issues*; *India China Relations: The Border Issue and Beyond*; and the latest being *Chasing the Dragon: Will India Catch-up with China?* He is a frequent commentator on national and international print and electronic media on matters of current interest, and writes a widely read and disseminated newspaper and magazine column. His papers on Redefining Poverty, Income Inequality, Backwardness of Bihar, Economic Development in West Bengal, and FDI in Retail have been published in well-regarded journals like the Economic and Political Weekly, Seminar and the Journal of Public Policy, UK and have figured in discussions in the Indian Parliament. He is a Non-resident Senior Fellow of the Atlantic Council, Washington DC; Visiting Fellow at the Hainan

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Institute for World Watch, Hainan; Visiting Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi and serves on the Board of Research of the United Service Institution of India, New Delhi.

Sujata KAUR

Sujata Kaur graduated with an undergraduate degree in Economics and a minor in Mathematics from Central Washington University (CWU) in 2013. Since graduation, she has joined the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) of Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in NUS as a research assistant. As an undergraduate she has assisted the head of Economics at CWU with research on the Dustbowl Effect as well as assisted in forecasting revenue for the annual “Jazz in the Valley” event in Ellensburg, Washington. At ACI, she has contributed to the Abu Dhabi, India and Small-Medium Enterprises (SMEs) projects. She has also presented on SMEs at the ACI Annual Conference 2013. She has assisted in the organisation of the ACI Conference as well as the Singapore National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (SINCPEC) Conference and has been emcees at both events as well as multiple others. Her primary research interests include international trade and labour economics, behavioural economics, environmental economics and econometric modelling.

Linda LOW

Linda Low was Associate Professor, Business School and Economics Department, National University of Singapore; Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore; and economic advisor, Abu Dhabi government. Now in the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI), her research interests and publications include public sector economics and public policy, human resources development, international trade and regionalism, regional economies in Asia-Pacific and Middle East. She has consulted for local agencies in ministries, public and private sectors and internationally like Asian Development Bank, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Asia-Pacific (UNESCAP) among others. Her latest books are Abu Dhabi's Vision 2030 (2012) and GCC-ASEAN (2011).

Kishore MAHBUBANI

A student of philosophy and history, Prof Kishore Mahbubani has had the good fortune of enjoying a career in government and, at the same time, in writing on public issues. With the Singapore Foreign Service from 1971 to 2004, he had postings in Cambodia (where he served during the war in 1973-74), Malaysia, Washington DC and New York, where he served two stints as Singapore's Ambassador to the UN and as President of the UN Security Council in January 2001 and May 2002. He was Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Ministry from 1993 to 1998. Currently, he is the Dean and Professor in the Practice of Public Policy at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy of the National University of Singapore. Concurrently, Prof Mahbubani continues to serve in Boards and Councils of several institutions in Singapore, Europe and North America, including the Yale President's Council on International Activities, Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs, University of Bocconi International Advisory Committee and Chairman of the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize Nominating Committee. In the world of ideas, Prof Mahbubani has spoken and published globally. His articles have appeared in a wide range of journals and newspapers. He is the author of *Can Asians Think? Beyond The Age Of Innocence: Rebuilding Trust between America and the World* and *The New Asian Hemisphere: The Irresistible Shift of Global Power to the East*. His latest book is *The Great Convergence: Asia, The West and the Logic of One World*. It was selected by the Financial Times as one of the best books of 2013. Prof Mahbubani was awarded the President's Scholarship in 1967. He graduated with a First Class honours degree in Philosophy from the University of Singapore in 1971. From Dalhousie University, Canada, he received a Master's degree in Philosophy in 1976 and an honorary doctorate in 1995. He spent a year as a fellow at the Centre for International Affairs at Harvard University from 1991 to 1992. Prof Mahbubani was also listed as one of the top 100 public intellectuals in the world by *Foreign Policy* and *Prospect* magazines in September 2005, and included in the March 2009 *Financial Times* list of Top 50 individuals who would shape the debate on the future of capitalism. Prof Mahbubani was selected as one of *Foreign Policy's* Top Global Thinkers in 2010 and 2011. In 2011, he was described as “the muse of the Asian century”. He was also selected by *Prospect* magazine as one of the top 50 world thinkers in 2014.

NIE Tongxin

Nie Tongxin graduated from National University of Singapore with first class honors in Economics and second upper class honors in Industrial & Systems Engineering in 2013. He was an MOE scholarship recipient and he has been on dean's list for multiple times during his course of study. Nie Tongxin joined Asia Competitiveness Institute as a research assistant upon his graduation. He is involved in the liveability study of 100 Greater China cities, competitiveness study of India states and union territories, as well as

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the cost of living studies. Besides the projects he is currently doing, he also has diverse research interests including financial economics and behavioral economics. He has successfully passed Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Level 2 exam.

Jagannath Prasad PANDA

Dr Jagannath Panda is Research Fellow and Centre Head (East Asia) at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi. As Centre Coordinator, he is in charge of Center's academic and administrative activities, including TRACK-II bilateral dialogues with China, Japan, South Korea and Mongolia. Dr Panda is a Research Fellow (since August 2010), working on different aspects of Sino-Indian relations. Currently, he is working on a Book project on India-China Relations. He is also affiliated to the Institute for Transnational Studies (ITS), Italy; and Institute for Security & Development Policy (ISDP), Stockholm, Sweden. Dr Panda has received several international fellowships. He was Asia Guest Fellow at ISDP (STINT Fellow, Sept-Dec 2010), Stockholm in Sweden; Carole Weinstein Programme Visiting Faculty at the University of Richmond, Virginia, USA (Jan-May 2012), affiliated Visiting Scholar (2012) for the ACDIS of the University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign (USA), Visiting Professor at National Chung-Hsing University (NSC Fellow, May-August 2010) in Taichung (Taiwan); Institutional Fellow at Shanghai Institute of International Studies (SIIS) in Shanghai, China (May-July 2009). He has been a member of IDSA delegation for TRACK-II dialogues with various Chinese, Japanese and Korean think-tanks/institutes. Dr Panda has earlier worked with IDSA as Associate Fellow (September 2007-August 2010), and Research Assistant (October 2006-September 2007). Prior to this, Dr Panda was Centrally Administered Fellow at the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India (Jan 2005-June 2006). He is a recipient of V.K. Krishna Menon Memorial Gold medal (2000) from Indian Society of International Law & Diplomacy, New Delhi. He received academic excellence award (1999) from Ramjas College in Delhi University.

Ramkishan S. RAJAN

Ramkishan S. RAJAN is a Visiting Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI). He is also a Professor of International Economic Policy at the School of Public Policy, George Mason University (GMU), a position he has held since January 2006. Prior to joining GMU, he was on the faculty of the School of Economics, University of Adelaide for five years. He has been a Freeman Scholar of Asian Studies at the Department of Economics, Claremont McKenna College in California. He has held shorter visiting positions at Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo, Hong Kong Institute of Monetary Research, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB), Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), Institute of Policy Studies in Singapore and other institutes in Asia. Professor Rajan specializes in international finance with particular reference to the developing Asia-Pacific region. He has published numerous books, journal articles and book chapters and a number of policy briefs, op-eds and book reviews on various aspects of international economics. He is the Managing Editor of the Journal of International Commerce, Economics and Policy, Associate Editor of the Singapore Economic Review and sits on the Editorial Board of various other academic journals. He holds Economics degrees from the National University of Singapore (B.Soc.Sci, Hons), Michigan (M.A.) and Claremont (M.A., PhD). He has been a consultant with the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, the UN-ESCAP, the APEC Secretariat, the Development Bank of Singapore and other places.

Kartik RAO

Kartik Rao is a Research Associate at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Kartik received his undergraduate education in Engineering with distinction from Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), India and his Master's in Business Administration from Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. At ACI Kartik is currently engaged with research on the sub-national and regional competitiveness studies on India. His research also covers studying agricultural productivities across Indian states. At ACI Kartik has co-authored the book on competitiveness of Indian states among other publications. Previously, Kartik has gained diverse business experience working in the financial sector with ABN AMRO Bank, Netherlands and UBS Global Asset Management, USA. He interned with Portelet Asia Private Limited, Singapore where he worked as an investment analyst for private equity investments in clean energy within Southeast Asia. His research interests include development economics, Indian economy and international relations. He also has a keen interest in Indian contemporary history and Indian politics.

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Rathin ROY

Dr Rathin Roy is the Director of National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi, in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India. He has also been appointed Member, Seventh Central Pay Commission, Government of India. With postings in London, New York, Kathmandu, Brasilia and Bangkok, he has worked as an Economic Diplomat and Policy Advisor with the United Nations Development Program, with a particular focus on emerging economies. He has also worked as an investment banker and as an academic economist, with research on fiscal space, fiscal decentralization, macro-fiscal policy, and the economics of institutions. Dr Roy holds a BA (Hons) in Economics from St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi and a post graduate degree in Economics from the Jawaharlal Nehru University. He holds an MPhil and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Cambridge.

Ronojoy SEN

Dr Ronojoy Sen is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of South Asian Studies and Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. He has worked for over a decade in leading Indian newspapers. He was last with *The Times of India*, New Delhi, where he was a Senior Assistant Editor on the editorial page. Dr Sen holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Chicago and a BA in History from Presidency College, Calcutta. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy, Washington, D.C. and the East-West Center Washington, and Fellow of the International Olympic Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland. Dr Sen is the author of *Articles of Faith: Religion, Secularism, and the Indian Supreme Court* (Oxford University Press, 2010; paperback 2012). He is the co-editor of *More than Maoism: Politics, policies and insurgencies in South Asia* and *Being Muslim in South Asia: Diversity and Daily Life*. He has contributed to edited volumes and has published in several leading journals, including the *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Pacific Affairs*, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, *Journal of Democracy* and *Sport and Society*. He also writes regularly for newspapers.

Evan TAN

Evan holds a Master of Management (Finance) from Melbourne Business School and a Bachelor of Arts, Politics & International Relations (Major) from the University of Melbourne. His international exposure includes a post-graduate exchange semester to HEC Paris School of Management, a globally recognised top European business school. He is currently contractually employed by the Asia Competitiveness Institute of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, to conduct and support ASEAN market research activities and to promote initiatives on regional integration. His areas of interest include examining the policy challenges and market conditions required for the development of a more connected common ASEAN market.

TAN Khee Giap

TAN Khee Giap is Associate Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. He is also Chair of Singapore National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation. Upon graduating with a PhD from University of East Anglia, England, UK in 1987, he joined the banking sector as a treasury manager and served as secretary to the Assets and Liabilities Committee for three years, there after he taught at the Department of Economics and Statistics, National University of Singapore (NUS), 1990-1993. Professor Tan joined Nanyang Technological University in 1993 and was Associate Dean, Graduate Studies Office, 2007-2009. He is now the Co-Director of Asia Competitiveness Institute in Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS. Professor Tan has consulted extensively with the various government ministries, statutory boards and government linked companies of Singapore government on policies concerning financial, fiscal, trade, tourism, public housing, labor, telecommunication, tourism, liveable cities, creative industry, media, community development, airport and seaport activities. He has also served as a consultant to international agencies such as the Asian Development Bank, Asian Development Bank Institute, United Nations Industrial Development Group, World Gold Council, ASEAN Secretariat, Central Policy Unit of Hong Kong, Kerzner International, Las Vegas Sands, and other international financial institutions and multinational corporations. Dr Tan is the lead author for eight books and published in many international refereed journals. His current research interests include econometric forecasting, financial reforms and liberalization of ASEAN 10 + 5 Economies, Global Liveable Cities Index and competitiveness analysis on 31 provinces in China, 35 states in India and Asean-10 economies.

TAN Kong Yam

Adjunct Professor Tan Kong Yam is presently the Co-Director of the Asia Competitiveness Institute. He is also Professor of Economics at the Nanyang Technological University. From June 2002 to June 2005, he was a senior economist at the World Bank office in Beijing where he worked on issues of macro

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stabilization, integration of the fragmented domestic market, banking reform, international trade and investment, energy security as well as regional inequality. In 2004, he was a member of the World Bank expert group on the eleventh five year plan (2006-2010) for the State Council in China. The expert group provided analysis and policy recommendations on urbanization, regional inequality, innovation policy, energy and water policy as well as strategy on banking reform to the Chinese government. Prior to that, he was the chief economist of the Singapore government (1999-2002), Head, Department of Business Policy, Faculty of Business Administration at the National University of Singapore (NUS). He is a graduate of Princeton (1975-79, class of 1931 scholar, Paul Volcker Thesis prize) and Stanford University (1980-83), where he completed his Master and PhD in three years. Prior to joining NUS, he has worked at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, World Bank, the Monetary Authority of Singapore, and was the Director of Research at the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Singapore. His research interests are in international trade and finance, economic and business trends in the Asia Pacific region and economic reforms in China. He has published ten books and numerous articles in major international journals including American Economic Review, World Bank Economic review, Long Range Planning, Australian Journal of Management etc on economic and business issues in the Asia Pacific region. He served as board member at the Singapore Central Provident Fund Board (1984-96) and the National Productivity Board (1989-90). He has also consulted for many organizations including Temasek, GIC, Citigroup, IBM, ATT, BP, ABN-AMRO, Ikea, Bank of China, China Construction Bank, People's Bank of China, EDB, Areva, Capitaland, Guangdong provincial government, Samsung, Mauritius Government, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Mobil, Singapore Technology, etc.

ZENG Ting

Zeng Ting is a PhD candidate at the Department of Economics, National University of Singapore, and received her Master degree of Social Sciences (Economics) and Second Upper Honours Degree of Social Sciences (Economics) from the same institute. Zeng Ting is a Research Associate at the Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. She is currently involving in research in ASEAN and Geweke causality analysis. Her research interests are on the field of wealth and income inequality, social security, welfare economics, trade, and development.