

The Institute of Policy Studies Becomes University-Level Research Institute within the National University of Singapore

1 April 2026, Singapore – The Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) becomes a University-level research institute within the National University of Singapore (NUS) today, marking a new chapter in the think tank’s 38-year history.

IPS will no longer sit within the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), where it has been a research centre since 2008. It will operate as an autonomous research institute within NUS, while maintaining its longstanding mission to analyse public policy, bridge thought leaders, and communicate research to a wide audience.

A Natural Evolution

Since its establishment in 1988, IPS has evolved into one of Singapore’s foremost think tanks, with a multi-disciplinary research portfolio spanning social, economic and cultural interests.

Its new status as a University-level research institute with an independent board of governors reflects IPS’s growth in scale and capabilities. The transition will establish a governance framework better aligned with the Institute’s diverse stakeholder base.

IPS is steadfast in its commitment to expand and enrich the policy ecosystem in Singapore through research, engagements, and policy innovations and experimentations. The Institute looks forward to a continued close relationship with LKYSPP and the wider NUS community.

“Our years at LKYSPP have been formative, and we are grateful to the School’s leadership, including its former Deans, for their support,” said Janadas Devan, Director of IPS. “This new chapter allows IPS to build on that strong foundation, broaden our collaborations across NUS, and continue to serve Singaporeans through rigorous, independent policy research.”

Continuity of Mission

Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong will continue as the Founding Patron of IPS, as he has been since its inception. Professor Tommy Koh will remain Special Adviser.

All existing IPS programmes, publications, and partnerships will continue. IPS staff and researchers will transition to the new structure with full continuity.

The change takes effect today, 1 April 2026.

About the Institute of Policy Studies

The Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) was established in 1988 as an independent think tank to study and generate public policy ideas in Singapore. IPS joined the National University of Singapore in 2008 as an autonomous research centre of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, before transitioning to an autonomous research institute within the University in 2026. Today, IPS continues to analyse public policy, build bridges between thought leaders, communicate its findings to a wide audience, foster deliberation platforms to engage and educate the policy ecosystem and experiment through pilots. The Institute examines issues of critical national interest across a variety of fields, and studies the attitudes and aspirations of Singaporeans through surveys of public perception. It adopts a multi-disciplinary approach in its analyses and takes the long-term view in its strategic deliberation and research. It also tests policy interventions through programme pilots and evaluations.

For media queries

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