



5th Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar

“Moving Towards a Post-crisis World”

23 & 24 May 2009

Hanoi, Vietnam

in conjunction with the 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Programme Booklet

In co-operation with

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam

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The
Insight Bureau

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OUTLINE

Background

The current global financial and economic crisis is the worst since the Great Depression, with wide-ranging political and social implications. Beyond on-going national responses, there is recognition that enhanced international cooperation is urgently required to address the systemic issues arising from the crisis. Given that the crisis has exposed serious shortcomings in the global architecture, there is much debate about a new Bretton Woods, or more broadly a new world order, though as yet with little clarity as to what this might constitute. In the meanwhile, there is growing evidence of economic nationalism and with it, protectionism.

The 5th Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar explores the broader implications for Asia and Europe as a result of this crisis as well as the opportunities for greater cooperation between the two regions in addressing its various impacts.

Framework

The Seminar starts with a public lecture¹ entitled, “**The Euro after 10 Years – Achievements, Challenges, and Implications for Asia**” on 23 May.

The following day consists of two sessions. The morning session is entitled, “**Implications of the Global Crisis for Asia and Europe**” while the afternoon session is entitled, “**Will the crisis move us towards greater multilateralism?**”

In each session, there will be 2 presentations. Following the presentations, the moderator will lead a free flow discussion amongst all participants. The discussion among participants may consider, among other issues, the following:

1. Asia was earlier thought to be relatively immune to the crisis, mistakenly as it turns out. What implications does this have for the developmental model(s) of Asia? To what extent will this crisis be a catalyst towards regionalisation in Asia?
2. Europe is addressing the crisis both through its regional institutions, and at the national levels. What are the challenges to the EU, as a regional entity, arising from the crisis? Going forward, how will the crisis affect the evolution of the Union?
3. What is the likely shape of a post-crisis world, and what would be the main driving forces?
4. What are the underlying strengths in Asia and Europe in countering the crisis? How can the two regions cooperate and demonstrate leadership in order to expedite global recovery?

¹ Please refer to page 6 for an abstract of the public lecture.

Guiding Principles

The objective for the Seminar is to have open and candid discussions on the given subject. We wish to promote mutual understanding among journalists and other media practitioners from in Asia and Europe.

The main sessions will be held as closed-door proceedings, where participants may speak their minds freely as individuals, without wearing any official hats. We have invited you through a selection process. We value your views and want you to participate actively, please speak up freely. To facilitate a frank discussion, **Chatham House rules applies to both sessions of Day 2.**

Background on the Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar series

The Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar series serves to enhance the flow of information and exchange of perspectives among policy-makers and eminent senior journalists from Asia and Europe on strategic issues facing the two regions. It is a forum for the journalists to be updated on current world developments and concerns being addressed by the ASEM process, and the joint approaches being taken to deal with them. The journalists are thus exposed to the thinking in both regions and indications about future directions in Asia-Europe relations. Through this, the Seminar promotes greater media attention to, and fosters, more accurate, balanced and in-depth media analysis of Asia-Europe relations, particularly efforts to jointly tackle strategic issues at the policy level. Accordingly, participants are invited to stay on for the duration of, and to cover, the main ASEM official conference proceedings.

The Seminar series helps to build and foster important networking relationships among journalists and officials that extend in Asia and Europe. Journalists who had participated stressed the importance of these opportunities to both broaden their perspectives on the issues and to network among fellow journalists as well as ASEM officials. They affirmed that they would not have been able to observe some of the official sessions without ASEF's facilitation.

The **2nd Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar** was held on 25 July 2003 in Bali, Indonesia, on the occasion of 5th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting. A collaboration with the Delegation of the European Commission in Jakarta, the seminar brought together forty Asian and European journalists, who received briefings from senior officials of ASEM on the current political and economic developments relevant to the two regions, in particular:

- The ASEM process and various ways in which Asia and Europe could work together to promote long-term understanding between the peoples of the two regions;
- The EU's external relations policy;
- EU enlargement and its implications for Asia;
- Current developments on the Korean peninsula from a regional and global security perspective;
- Asia-EU trade relations and the WTO agenda; and
- The role of media in emerging democracies.

Subsequent to the Seminar, the journalists were invited to attend the main press conference of the ministerial meeting, as well as the one given by then-EU Commissioner for External Relations, Mr. Chris Patten, on the newly adopted EU Strategy on partnership with Southeast Asia.

URL: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=157

The **3rd Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar** was held on 8 May 2005 in Kyoto, Japan, back-to-back with the 7th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Twenty-seven journalists attended the seminar, with an emphasis on participation by journalists from the newer partner countries so as to familiarise them with the ASEM process and, in turn, enhance public awareness about ASEM and ASEF in their respective countries. The Seminar agenda covered:

- The newly-initiated ASEM Interfaith Dialogue;
- An in-depth look at the preoccupations of the Foreign Ministers' Meeting;
- EU foreign policy and interests in Asia;
- The EU Constitution and its implications;
- Recent developments in Japan's climate change policies;
- The prospect of an East Asian Community;
- EU trade policy and civil society dialogue; and
- Asia-Europe co-operation in human rights.

The journalists were also invited to cover the ASEM meeting and attended a special briefing by the Press Secretary of the Japanese Foreign Ministry. This included an informal gathering for the journalists to meet and have open discussions with ASEM officials.

URL: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=158

The **4th Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar** was held on 26 – 27 May 2007 in Hamburg, Germany, back-to-back with the 8th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Under the theme "Strategic Issues in Asia-Europe Relations: Perspectives from the Media", the Seminar brought together 25 foreign desk editors, correspondents and reporters from 21 Asian and European countries. Among the journalists invited were those from the new or newer ASEM members, i.e. Eastern Europe, India and Mongolia.

The day-long Seminar was divided into two sessions:

1. The morning session, moderated by Mr Zhang Niansheng, Brussels bureau chief of the *People's Daily of China*, covered the topic "Perspectives on European Enlargement and Consolidation – Asian Views".
2. The afternoon focused on the topic "Perceptions of Regional Developments in Emerging Asia – Implications for Europe" and was moderated by Mr Matthias Nass, Deputy Editor of *Die Zeit*, Germany.

Participants had a luncheon with Amb. Andreas Michaelis, DG for Asian and Pacific Affairs of the German Federal Foreign Office. Amb. Michaelis spoke on the topic "Strategic Issues on Asia-Europe Relations: Current and Future Areas of Cooperation". His presentation provided a strong stimulus to the already lively and high quality discussions at the Seminar. With the insights gained from the Seminar, all participants were invited to remain in Hamburg to cover the 8th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (28 – 29 May 2007). The journalists had the opportunity to attend all press conferences and to generate reportage about the FMM. The Seminar was co-financed by the German Federal Foreign Office.

URL: http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=159

Abstract of Public Lecture

“The Euro After 10 Years - Achievements, Challenges and Implications for Asia”

by Mr Klaus Regling

The introduction of the euro in January 1999 changed Europe and the international monetary system. The first decade of the euro has been a huge success. But challenges have been mounting at the same time. Could the economic and financial crisis lead to a break-up of the euro area? Or will it rather lead to stronger internal cooperation in Europe and accelerate the enlargement of the euro area? In light of the European experience, what are possible lessons for Asian monetary cooperation?

Mr. Klaus Regling will bring his practical experience as a leading policymaker to address some of these issues above as well as the implications for the Asia-Europe dialogue on economic and monetary issues.

“Regional Cooperation in East Asia: Evolution and Challenges”

by Dr Hadi Soesastro

East Asia has begun the process of regional cooperation following the 1997/98 Asian financial crisis as countries in the region felt that they needed to have their own structures to be able to overcome the impact of the crisis and to prevent future crises.

The process has been driven by the ASEAN members, but initiatives to strengthen cooperation have also come from China, Japan and South Korea, the “Plus Three” countries in this ASEAN Plus Three process. The two main “offshoots” from this process are the Chiang Mai Initiative of bilateral swap arrangements and the Asian Bond Market Initiative.

There was great enthusiasm about the rise of “monetary regionalism” in East Asia, but the developments of these financial initiatives have been slow. Why has this been the case? What can the region learn from the European experience? Dr Hadi Soesastro who has been a keen observer of regional cooperation processes in Asia will address these issues.

PROGRAMME – 5th Asia-Europe Journalists’ Seminar
(as of 20 May 2009)

DAY 1 - Saturday, 23 May 2009

All day	Arrival of Seminar participants Mövenpick Hotel Hanoi Address: 83A, Ly Thuong Kiet Street Hoan Kiem District Hanoi Vietnam Phone:+84 4 38 22 28 00 Fax:+84 4 38 22 28 22 E-Mail: hotel.hanoi@moevenpick.com
3.30 pm	Registration for the Public Lecture, “The Euro after 10 Years – Achievements, Challenges, and Implications for Asia” <i>Venue: Level 2, Mövenpick Hotel Hanoi</i>
4.00 pm	Welcome remarks from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ambassador Dominique Girard <i>Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation</i>▪ Welcome remarks by Mr Le Dzung <i>Director General of the Press and Information Department/Spokesman, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam</i> Introductory remarks from Mr Philip Bowring on the Public Lecture proceedings <i>Moderator / Columnist, International Herald Tribune</i> Presentations by <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr Klaus Regling <i>EU-Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore & Senior Advisor, European Commission</i>▪ Mr Hadi Soesastro <i>Board Member & Senior Fellow, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (Indonesia)</i> Questions and Answers moderated by Mr Philip Bowring
6.00pm	End of Public Lecture
6.30 pm	Proceed to Dinner venue
7.00 pm	Welcome Dinner Remarks from Ambassador Dominique Girard and Mr Le Dzung <i>Hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam</i> <i>Venue: Government Guest House, 12 Ngo Quyen, Hanoi</i>
9.00 pm	End of Day 1

8.30 am	<p>Introductory remarks from Sudesh Maniar <i>Director, Public Affairs</i></p> <p>Keynote Address by Mr Nguyen Van Binh (15 minutes) <i>Deputy Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam</i></p> <p>Remarks from Mr Philip Bowring on the Seminar proceedings <i>Moderator/ Columnist, International Herald Tribune</i></p>
9.00 am <i>(includes 15 minutes for coffee break)</i>	<p><i>Morning Session:</i> “Implications of the global crisis for Asia and Europe”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Panel presentation #1: “Asia - A U-turn toward Europe?” Mr Anthony Rowley <i>Correspondent, The Business Times (Singapore)</i>2. Panel presentation #2: “Europe-Asia relations and challenges of globalisation” Ms Shada Islam <i>Correspondent/Columnist, Business Times / Dawn Newspaper / YaleGlobal</i>
12.15 pm	Summary of morning session by Moderator
12.30 pm	Lunch <i>(includes invited guests)</i>
2.00 pm <i>(includes 15 minutes for coffee break)</i>	<p><i>Afternoon Session:</i> “Will the crisis move us towards greater multilateralism?”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Panel presentation #3: “The bumpy road towards effective internationalism – How should the media play its role?” Mr Le Trong Minh <i>Managing Editor, English Newsroom, Vietnam Investment Review</i>2. Panel Presentation #4: “Power, Rules and Global Leadership” Mr Guy de Jonquières <i>Former World Trade Editor, Financial Times / Senior Fellow, Chatham House</i>
5.00 pm	Summary of afternoon session by Moderator
5.30 pm	<p>Closing remarks by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr Bui Thanh Son <i>Assistant Minister/ Vietnam Chief Negotiator for PCA, Director General of Policy Planning Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam</i>▪ Ambassador Dominique Girard <i>Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation</i>
6.00 pm	End of Day 2

JOURNALISTS' PROGRAMME ² – 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting

DAY 3 & 4 – Monday & Tuesday, 25 & 26 May 2009

Venue: National Convention Centre (NCC)
Pham Hung Blvd., My Dinh, Hanoi, Vietnam

Participants of the Seminar are invited to stay on to cover the 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Further information of the 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting can be found on <http://www.fmm9.vn>

PROFILE OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Mr NGUYEN Van Binh is the Deputy Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV). He obtained Bachelors Degree at both the Moldova University in the former Soviet Union (Russia) and the National Economics University in Hanoi, Vietnam. He also pursued his Masters Degree at the NEU, and his Doctorate at the Research Institute of Economy and Politics of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He has established his expertise in various economic and financial matters owing to his long-term affiliation with the State Bank of Vietnam. Among the positions that he has been assigned to earlier in his career are as Director General of the Governor's Office in 1996, as Deputy Director General of SBV's Hanoi Branch in 1998, and as Vice Chairman of the International Investment Bank of Russia from 2001 to 2005. He returned to the SBV as Chief Inspector of the Banking Supervision Department before being appointed as the current Deputy Governor of the SBV with a focus on international relations. He is also the alternative Governor of Vietnam at the international financial and monetary institutes and organisations.

² The Journalists' Programme for the 9th Foreign Ministers' Meeting is not available at time of printing. The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs intends to circulate it around 21 May 2009.

PROFILE OF PUBLIC LECTURE SPEAKERS



Mr. Klaus Regling has worked for 33 years as an economist on global economic, financial and monetary issues and has had senior positions with different public and private sector institutions in Europe, the US and Asia. Currently he is EU-Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore and Senior Advisor of the European Commission. From 2001 to June 2008, he was Director General for Economic and Financial Affairs of the European Commission.

Previously, Mr Regling was Managing Director of the Moore Capital Strategy Group in London (1999-2001), a division of the macro hedge fund Moore Capital, and Director General for European and International Affairs at the German Ministry of Finance (1995-1998). He worked for more than a decade in the German Ministry of Finance preparing the Economic and Monetary Union. He also worked 11 years for the International Monetary Fund, including two years as the Head of the IMF office in Indonesia.



Dr Hadi Soesastro is Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Indonesia, an independent, non-profit organization that focuses on policy-oriented studies on domestic and international issues. He is currently a member of the National Team for International Trade Negotiations and is the Chairman of the Expert Team to assist the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia on international economic issues. He was a member of the Joint Expert Group on the Feasibility of an East Asian Free Trade Area (EAFTA), the Expert Group on the

Comprehensive Economic Partnership for East Asia (CEPEA), and was also a member of the Indonesia-South Korea Eminent Persons Group on Strategic Partnership. He is a member of the ASEAN Plus Three Expert Group and is a member of ASEAN-Korea Eminent Person Group. He is a member of the Academic Advisory Council of the newly established Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). He is also Chairman of the Regional Autonomy Watch (KPPOD).

He is also Adjunct Professor at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra (Australia). Dr Soesastro is also a Member of the Editorial Board of the Indonesian Quarterly, the Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies, ASEAN Economic Bulletin, the Asian Economic Policy Review and the Asian Development Review of the Asian Development Bank. In addition to being member of the Boards of the Indonesian Economists Association (ISEI) and the Indonesian Institute of Energy Economics (IIEE), he is also Independent Commissioner of PT Semen Gresik Tbk. Dr. Soesastro has a PhD. From the Rand Graduate School in Santa Monica, California and a degree from the Faculty of Aero and Astronautical Engineering at RW-TH Aachen, Germany.

PROFILES OF PARTICIPANTS



Moderator

Mr Philip Bowring

Columnist, International Herald Tribune

Mr Philip Bowring has been writing a regular editorial page commentary on Asian and international economic affairs for the International Herald Tribune for the past sixteen years. He is also the founder and director of Asia Sentinel, an Asian news and analysis website. He was the Editor of the Far Eastern Economic Review from 1988 to 1992, Deputy Editor from 1981 to 1988 and Business Editor from 1973 to 1978. From 1979 to 1981 he was the Hongkong-based Southeast Asian correspondent of the Financial Times, covering countries between Korea and India. Prior to moving to Hongkong, he worked in Australia as a writer for Finance Week and correspondent for various overseas publications, including Business Week and The Guardian. He has BA and MA degrees in History from Cambridge University and held a Goldsmiths Company research fellowship at the University of Khartoum, 1963-64. He is the co-author of two books, *The Carrian File* and *The China Investor*.

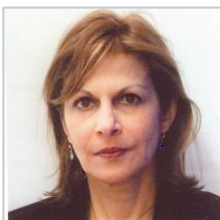


Panelist

Mr Anthony Rowley

Tokyo-based Correspondent, The Business Times

Mr Anthony Rowley is currently the Tokyo Correspondent of the *Singapore Business Times* and also acts as Field Editor (Japan) for Oxford Analytica. He is a former Business Editor and International Finance Editor of the *Far Eastern Economic Review* and has lived and worked in Asia (Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo) for 30 years. He was formerly a staff writer for *The Times* in London. Rowley has served as an occasional consultant to the World Bank and is the author of two books: *"The Barons of European Industry"* published by Croom Helm in 1973 and *"Asian Stock Markets - the Inside Story"* published by Dow Jones Irwin in 1987. He acts as Chief Judge for the Asian Development Bank's Developing Asia Journalism Awards (DAJA) scheme and as Japan Seminar Team Leader at the Oxford Analytica Annual Conference.



Panelist

Ms Shada Islam

Correspondent/Columnist, Business Times/Dawn Newspaper/YaleGlobal

Ms Shada Islam is Senior Programme Executive at the European Policy Centre. She leads the EPC's Asia programmes and currently writes for *Business Times* in Singapore, *Dawn Newspaper* in Pakistan and YaleGlobal in the United States. Shada is formerly the EU correspondent for the Far Eastern Economic Review and DPA, the German news wire. Islam has a strong background in geopolitical, foreign, economic and trade policy issues involving Europe, Asia, Middle East, Africa and the United States. She writes on issues relating to the EU, including foreign policy, security issues, economic and monetary union, immigration, institutional reform and enlargement and has also reported extensively on global trade and the EU's growing network of links with Asian countries.



Panelist

Mr Le Trong Minh

Managing Editor, Vietnam Investment Review

Mr Le Trong Minh has been engaged in journalism since July 1994 after graduating from Hanoi University of Technology. He is currently the Managing Editor for the English Newsroom of the Vietnam Investment Review, the leading weekly English language business and economic newspaper in Vietnam, which functions as the primary bridge between foreign investors, Vietnam's policymakers and the business community. Before taking this position, he served as deputy Managing Editor from 2005 to 2007, and Senior Reporter from 2003 to 2005. From January 2002 to October 2003, he worked as a senior reporter for Vietnam Economic Times, a Hanoi-based monthly English language business magazine, specialising in covering macroeconomic and major business issues. Prior to January 2002, he worked as an editor for the weekly VIR and the tri-weekly Dau tu – the Vietnamese language sister publication of VIR.



Panelist

Mr Guy de Jonquières

Senior Fellow, European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE)

Mr Guy de Jonquières is a writer and a senior fellow of the European Centre for International Political Economy with a particular interest in Asia and international economic policy. He was previously a journalist with *The Financial Times*, where he spent much of a 40-year career working, living and travelling extensively in North America, Europe and Asia. He is also frequently engaged as both guest speaker and chairman at conferences arranged by international organisations, including the United Nations, the WTO, the OECD and the World Economic Forum, by universities, research institutes and business schools in many parts of the world. He is also the author of the publication, '*After the Doha debacle: what next for the global trade system?*' which has been published by Chatham House. He has been awarded the BP/European University Institute prize for his essay on Transatlantic Economic Relations in 2001, and Opinion Writer of the Year by the Society of Publishers in Asia in 2007.



Rapporteur

Ms Hardev Kaur

Columnist, New Straits Times

Ms Hardev Kaur started as a junior journalist and rose through the ranks to be Editor of the *Business Times* Malaysia when it was a separate paper. For a year, she was appointed Current Affairs News Manager of TV3 and during that time revamped the newsroom. She then helped start the station's business programme, *Money Matters*. She was then transferred to the *New Straits Times* (NST) in 1998, on return from sabbatical during which pursued a Masters in Public Administration at Harvard University. She was also the Editor-at-Large before being promoted to Group Editor of the NST, the first female to hold the post. Kaur has since then covered a number of multilateral meetings abroad, and has accompanied the Prime Minister of Malaysia on official visits overseas. Since 1997, she has maintained her own column in the NST. Her main areas of interest are economics and international relations.



Mr Bae Myung-bok

Diplomatic Correspondent, Joong Ang Ilbo

Mr Myung-Bok Bae is the Editorial Writer for International Affairs and Diplomatic Correspondent for *JoongAng Ilbo*. His prior engagements with the publication had him working in the International Affairs bureau as its Foreign News Editor, Senior Staff Writer, and News Desk, as well as being posted as Foreign Correspondent in Paris, France. He has been previously a Staff Writer for Foreign policy and a Reporter for Economic Affairs. In recognition of his outstanding work as a journalist and newspaperman, Mr. Bae has been presented with the Annual Award for Contribution to the *JoongAng Ilbo* (in 2001 and 2008), Gwanhoon Award for International Reporting (2000), and six Awards for Excellent Writing & Scoops. Mr. Bae received his Masters from the Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in 2004 and a Bachelor of Arts and Humanities from Seoul National University in the field of French Language and Literature in 1983.



Mr Daniel Vernet

Editor-in-Chief, Boulevard-Extérieur

After living ten years abroad as a correspondent, Mr Daniel Vernet is the editor of *Le Monde*. He then served as director of international relations for 18 years, and has been in contact with leaders of major European and international, with whom he has forged partnerships. Vernet is the author of several books on the Soviet Union, Russia, Germany, Quebec and the presence of neoconservatives in the administration of George W. Bush. He is also a member of the editorial board of several journals, including *Internationale Politik* in Berlin. He has participated in numerous seminars and programs on international issues, and is also a columnist on the site www.slate.fr. With colleagues, he created Boulevard-Extérieur, a website devoted to international relations, French foreign policy and the international system.



Mr Dominic Ziegler

Tokyo Bureau Chief, The Economist

Mr Dominic Ziegler is the author of *Banyan*, *The Economist's* weekly column on Asian affairs. He also continues as the magazine's Tokyo bureau chief until July. Dominic served as Greater China correspondent between 1994 and 2000, opening *The Economist's* first mainland bureau in Beijing. He has served two terms as *The Economist's* financial editor, in 1990 and in 2001-2003, when he was responsible for overseeing the publication's economics and financial coverage. In addition, he was the paper's Washington correspondent between 1991 and 1994. Dominic Ziegler has also worked as the literary editor, based in London, as well as deputy editor of *The Economist's* lifestyle magazine, *Intelligent Life*. He was born in 1961 and has an M.A. in modern languages from Oxford University.



Ms Eszter Zalán
Journalist, Népszabadság

Ms Eszter Zalan has been with Népszabadság since 2004. Starting as a reporter at the newspaper's foreign section, she has then moved on to report from various conflict areas such as Gaza, Pakistan, Iran, Kosovo and Afghanistan. She has also published numerous articles in various Hungarian periodicals, including *Nők Lapja* (women's weekly) and *Magyar Narancs* (political weekly). Zalan has also received various awards for her journalistic work, such as the Junior Prima award for excellence in journalism, and the Népszabadság-prize for journalism.



Ms Han Wei
Reporter, Caijing Magazine

Ms Han Wei obtained her Master's Degree in International and European Politics from the University of Edinburgh. After the graduation, she worked for *China Radio International* (CRI), the country's only overseas broadcaster. From 2005 to 2008, she was a reporter in the English Broadcasting Center of CRI and participated in the coverage of a number of major news events, including the National People's Congress, Boao Forum for Asia and the World Economic Forum. Since 2008, Han started to work for *Caijing Magazine*, China's leading business magazine. She is the Editor of the English Desk of the magazine, focusing on industry news.



Mr Le Quoc Minh
Editor-in-chief, VietnamPlus

Mr Le Quoc Minh started his journalism career in 1990, following the steps of his parents and elder brother. He worked as the World News editor at the Vietnam News Agency, the only wire news service in the country, before his four-year stay in Japan as an expert in humanities for the Radio Japan, NHK World. He returned to VNA in early 2000 as a senior editor for VNA's news department for Foreign Service where he developed a news website for the agency. He became acting director of the department since June 2008 and at the same time editor-in-chief of *VietnamPlus*, which delivers news about Vietnam and the world in four languages. Dedicated to journalism training, Minh runs his personal five-year-old website – Vietnam Journalism, the most popular Vietnamese language website on journalism training, and gives personal annual scholarships to journalism students at Hanoi University.



Mr Leslie Jude Lopez

Senior Regional Correspondent, The Straits Times

Mr Leslie Lopez is the Senior Regional Correspondent for *The Straits Times*. Lopez is based in Kuala Lumpur and travels regularly to Indonesia and Thailand to report on political and economic developments. Prior to joining The Straits Times, Lopez worked for *The Wall Street Journal* as the paper's correspondent in Malaysia and Indonesia between 1996 and 2006. He has been in the business since 1985, working for several Malaysian newspapers and for *Reuters* in Malaysia and India during the early 1990s.



Ms Maria Ressa

Senior Vice President of News and Current Affairs, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.

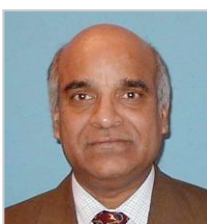
Ms Maria Ressa worked for Cable News Network (CNN) for nearly two decades, serving as Manila Bureau Chief from 1988-1995, and as Jakarta Bureau Chief from 1995-2005. As CNN's lead investigative reporter in Asia, she specialized in investigating terrorist networks. She is the author of "*Seeds of Terror: An Eyewitness Account of Al-Qaeda's Newest Center of Operations in Southeast Asia*" (Free Press, 2003). Among the awards she has received are the Overseas Press Club Award for Best Documentary, the National Headliner Award for Investigative Journalism, an Emmy Award for Outstanding Investigative Journalism, the Asian Television Awards, and the SAIS-Novartis International Journalism Award. She was also a 2002 Top Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) of the Philippines awardee for journalism, exemplifies excellence in broadcast journalism. She is currently the Senior Vice President of the News and Current Affairs division of the ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation, and Managing Director of the ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC).



Ms Nguyen Thi Thy Van

Journalist, Nhan Dan Daily Newspaper

Ms Nguyen Thi Thuy Van has been working at Economic Department of the Daily People Newspaper since 1996. She is responsible for pages on economic activities and industry development. She is also currently the Vice Chairman of Vietnamese Stock Market Journalist Club. Ms Nguyen obtained her B.A in Russian and B.A in International Business at the National Economic University. Her field of interests are international economics, banking and finance, and her recent research covers macroeconomics, impact of economic crisis on social issues. She expects to learn more about the geopolitical implications of the current financial crisis as well as the opportunities for greater cooperation in this area.



Mr Ravi Kanth Devarakonda

Europe Correspondent/Editor, Business Standard/Inter Press Service/Washington Trade Daily

Mr Ravi Kanth Devarakonda is a correspondent for *Business Standard* in India, *Business Times* in Singapore, *Inter Press Service*, and Geneva Editor for *Washington Trade Daily*. Ravi's coverage of Doha trade

negotiations since 2001 is an important source for trade negotiators in Geneva, as he has extensively written on all WTO developments during the last seven years. He has also covered all major trade negotiations since the Uruguay Round. He did his Masters in International Studies from Jawaharlal Nehru University with a first division. Subsequently, Ravi did Post-Graduate Diploma in Journalism from the Indian Institute of Mass Communications (1980-81). He also built the economic and finance bureau in New Delhi, focusing on the trade and finance issues that occupied the center stage after India embraced liberalization and globalization in 1991. He currently lives in Geneva, Switzerland.



Mr Riyadi Suparno

Managing Editor, The Jakarta Post

Mr Riyadi Suparno is one of The Jakarta Post's managing editors. He has spent the past 14 years with the paper, sitting at various desks, the longest being at the business desk. Prior to joining The Jakarta Post, he worked for an oil company PT Stanvac Indonesia as a human resource staff for two years and for Indonesian-language evening daily Surabaya Post as a reporter for one year. In 1999, he spent six months at the Chicago Tribune, Chicago, United States, as an Alfred Friendly Press fellow. Riyadi has an undergraduate diploma from the Institute of Teacher Training and Education in Malang, East Java, and an MSc in Public Economic Management and Finance from the University of Birmingham, the United Kingdom.

Ms Sabine Seeger

Correspondent, Rheinischer Merkur

Ms Sabine Seeger has been a correspondent for German and Swiss newspapers on European and international affairs for 23 years. From 2003 to 2008 she was based in Brussels writing a regular editorial in the Rheinische Merkur. Previously, she covered Italy including the Vatican. She attended meetings of the European Councils and G7/8 Summits during the last 15 years. Currently Mrs. Seeger is based in Singapore.



Ms Shu-Ching Jean Chen

Contributing Writer, Forbes Asia

Ms Shu-Ching Jean Chen returned to *Forbes* after the Economist Group closed its CFO businesses in Asia in March, 2009, where she served as managing editor. She has more than a decade of reporting experience in the region, constantly broke new ground working for the global website of *Forbes* magazine, and *Forbes Asia*, a bi-weekly publication. She contributed to *Forbes'* regional surveys, including *Forbes 40 Japan*, a list of the country's largest companies; *Forbes 40 Australia*, and the inaugural Hong Kong Rich List for which she penned the cover story. Before that, she covered mergers and acquisitions and private equity for seven years as a correspondent in Hong Kong for *the Deal*, a Wall Street weekly, and its sister publication, the *Daily Deal*, providing a global audience of finance and legal professionals an insider's view of Asia's changing environment.



Ms Somporn Thapanachai
Deputy Business Editor, Bangkok Post

Ms Somporn Thapanachai has started working as a business reporter since late 1990 after graduating from Assumption University. She had covered news related to Thai Commerce Ministry for several years, reporting on trade-related issues as well as the establishment of international economic cooperation such as ASEAN Free Trade Area, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and World Trade Organisation. After taking a year of sabbatical leave to continue higher education, Ms Somporn has covered news and development in other real sectors such as the rise of small and medium sizes enterprise. She is now a deputy business editor with the responsibility to help the editors on articles related to the development in property industry as well as other trade-related issues.



Mr Tomáš Sachr
Editor-Reporter, RESPEKT Weekly Magazine

Mr Tomáš Sachr studied journalism and media studies at the Charles University in Prague. He graduated to work for the University and as a freelance journalist. As a reporter, he had gained experiences in Europe and Africa. For over three years, he has been working for Respekt Weekly Magazine, which is Czech Republic's leading magazine dealing with social and political affairs. He is currently the editor of economic topics, covering mainly domestic affairs, and EU affairs. He is following the current global economic crisis with interest.



Ms Tran Thi Quynh Huong
Reporter, The World/Vietnam Report

Ms Tran Thi Quynh Huong has been working for Economic Desk of The World and Vietnam Report since 2006. She covers issues and events relating to domestic and international economy. During her journalistic career, she has followed events such as the 16th APEC summit in Peru (November 2008) and the Vietnamese President's official visits to Laos (January 2007), Venezuela and Peru (November 2008). She has also taken part in The World and Vietnam Report's international economic events (in cooperation with the Vietnamese Government), such as the Business Roundtable Conferences on the topic "Vietnam – A Rising Star" in 2008, "Positioning Vietnam for the future" in 2009, as well as two-round International Workshop on listing of Vietnamese Businesses on Foreign Stock Markets in 2008.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MEALS

Hotel accommodation includes breakfast.

Other meals sponsored by the organisers include: (as necessary)

- Welcome dinner on 23 May
- Lunch on 24 May
- Lunch and dinner on 25 and 26 May (for participants covering the FMM9)

Should you have any dietary or religious restrictions, please advise the organisers in advance so arrangements could be made.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Shuttle service for participants will be provided for official events happening outside of the hotel, particularly:

- 1) For the Welcome Dinner on 23 May, participants are requested to assemble at the lobby of the Mövenpick Hotel at 6:20 PM before proceeding to the dinner venue;
- 2) For participants attending the 9th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 25 and 26 May, free shuttle service from Movenpick Hotel to the National Convention Centre will be arranged. The specific assembly time will be announced closer to date.

REIMBURSEMENT

ASEF will sponsor the following expenses:

- Cost of a roundtrip, economy class air ticket to and from Hanoi, Vietnam. This applies to travel by the most direct routes available;
- Cost of accommodation for 2 nights (23-25 May) for participants of the Seminar, and an additional 2 nights (25-27 May) for participants covering the FMM9;
- Transfer from Airport to Hotel (and vice versa)
- Meals (as elaborated in the previous section)
- Entry visa fee to Hanoi

Please note that all other incidentals (such as travel insurance, overseas telephone calls, telegrams and faxes, room service, business centre services, laundry and mini-bar charges) shall be borne by the participants. Also, please note that costs of any accompanying guests or family members, as well as extra nights outside the allocated dates will not be covered by the organisers.

Reimbursements for sponsored participants will be made via telegraphic transfers. Please note that we will require the following information to be able to facilitate the transfer:

- Name of bank account holder
- Bank name
- Branch name/code
- Bank address
- Account number
- Swift code/IBAN

IMPORTANT: In accordance to our auditing guidelines, please ensure that you submit the following documents for the successful processing of your reimbursements:

- ORIGINAL receipt of air ticket purchase from the travel agency or airline company, bearing the price of the ticket (please note that the air ticket/e-ticket does NOT serve as a valid receipt)
- ORIGINAL boarding passes to and from Hanoi
- PHOTOCOPY of air ticket or e-ticket
- ORIGINAL airport tax receipt/s
- ORIGINAL airport transfer receipt/s
- PHOTOCOPY of your entry visa (for participants requiring a visa)
- ORIGINAL receipt of payment for visa fee (for participants requiring a visa)

For this purpose, you may want to make a photocopy of all the above documents for your own file. You may submit the above documents by post or courier service anytime **before 25 June 2009**. Please note that the organisers will only be able to process reimbursements upon submission of all documents stated above. The organisers will require at least **10-15 working days** upon receipt of the above documents for transfer of funds to the stipulated bank account after receiving all the documents.

Notes:

Notes:

ABOUT THE ORGANISER



www.asef.org

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), established under the framework of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process, seeks to promote better mutual understanding and closer co-operation between the peoples of Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. These exchanges include conferences, lecture tours, workshops, seminars, the use of web-based platforms and, most importantly, the establishment of permanent, bi-regional networks focused on issues pertinent to reinforcing Asia-Europe relations.



The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an informal trans-regional platform for dialogue and co-operation between the two regions and has arisen out of a mutual recognition that the relationship between Asia and Europe needed to be strengthened in light of the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

The ASEM process is based on an equal partnership and its activities are grouped into three pillars: political, economic and socio-cultural. It brings together Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam, the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Commission.

ASEM holds a Summit every two years, alternately in Asia and in Europe. This is the highest level of decision-making in the process. Besides the attendance of the Head of States, the Summit also features accompanying Ministers, the Head of the European Commission and other stakeholders. Apart from the Summit meetings, the ASEM process is carried forward through a series of Ministerial and working-level meetings, as well as a number of activities arising from it.

Website: www.aseminfoboard.org

ORGANISERS' CONTACT DETAILS

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