

WORKSHOP**DEPENDENCIES, PARTNERSHIPS & DIGITAL BRIDGES:**

Reimagining Cooperation Between Europe and the Global South

PARTICIPANTS (in alphabetic order)

The workshop is supported by the Singaporean-German Chamber of Commerce and the KAS Singapore

**Eva Abdulla**

Eva Abdulla, former Deputy Speaker of the Maldives and three-term member of the Parliament, is Chairperson of The Maldives Policy Think Tank. She has served in key IPU and CPA roles and was a prominent figure in the Maldives' democratisation movement, advocating good governance and human rights. She holds a BA in Politics and Government, from the University of Kent and an MA in Politics and International Relations from the University of Warwick, and works closely with former President Mohamed Nasheed.

**Leong Boon Ang**

Leong Boon is the current Head of IT Security at NUS IT, where he oversees cybersecurity governance, strategy and operations across the entire campus. With more than 20 years of experience in the field, he has a particular interest in large-scale security incident handling and response. He was also the recipient of the CSO30 ASEAN Leadership Award.

**Jaime Baeza Freer**

Prof. Dr. Jaime Baeza Freer holds a PhD in Political Science (Essex) and an M.A. from Georgetown. He is Professor at FLACSO Ecuador and Visiting Research Fellow at ANU. Formerly on the faculty of the University of Chile, he also served as Deputy Director of ANEPE. He has held multiple fellowships and visiting posts and works with Andes Risk Group and Universidad SEK.

**Sara Bazoobandi**

Dr. Sara Bazoobandi is an Associate Researcher at the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and non-resident fellow at multiple institutes including ISPK, ISPI, and AGSI. A former Marie Curie fellow, senior lecturer at Regent's University London, and visiting scholar at the National University of Singapore's Middle East Institute, she specializes in Iran, GCC states, and Middle East security.

**Raju Chellam**

Raju Chellam is Editor-in-Chief of the AI Ethics & Governance Body of Knowledge, Chair of Cloud & Data Standards at IT Standards Committee, and Fellow of Advanced Computing for Executives at NUS. He was conferred as an SCS Fellow in March 2018.

**Emily Chua**

Emily Chua is an Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at NUS. She is an anthropologist working on technology, media, capital and authoritarian state politics in Singapore and China. She has written ethnographies of 'post-truth' newsmaking, election rallies as popular mobilizations, the remaking of time and value among tech startups, and evolving financial subjectivities in an era of ubiquitous fintech.

**Marites Dañguilan Vitug**

Marites Dañguilan Vitug is editor-at-large of Rappler and author of nine books, including *Unrequited Love on Duterte's China policy*. She holds a degree in A.B. Broadcast Communication from the University of the Philippines and a diploma in world politics from the London School of Economics. She was a Nieman fellow at Harvard University, and has received fellowships in the US, Japan, Australia, and Italy.

**Andreas Dorner**

Andreas Dorner is Head of the Cyber Control Centre (CCC), Singapore. CCC is part of the IT Security and Service Network of the German Foreign Ministry around the globe.

**Jie Gao**

Jie Gao is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and a member of the Centre for Computational Social Science and Humanities at the National University of Singapore. Her research focuses on information politics in China and the impact of AI on bureaucracy, governance, and policymaking.



James Gomez

Dr James Gomez, Regional Director of the Asia Centre, is a political scientist with over 30 years of international experience focused on technology's impact on governance and political participation. He leads the Centre's digital democracy work on AI and human rights and supports civil society's AI transition. In October 2025, he joined the 23rd Informal Asia-Europe Seminar on Human Rights and AI in Copenhagen, organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation.



Jonathan Gonzalez

Jonathan Gonzalez is a tech policy and AI governance specialist with 17 years' experience across Europe and Asia. He has led the ASEAN AI Safety Network and ASEAN Responsible AI Roadmap, and advises ADB, ASEAN, APEC, and leading tech firms on digital transformation and responsible AI adoption



Yuko Harayama

Dr. Yuko Harayama is Secretary General of the GPAI Tokyo Expert Support Center, leading international collaboration on AI governance. She is a trustee of Yamaguchi University and a board member of Toray. She previously held senior roles at RIKEN, Japan's Cabinet Office, and the OECD, and taught at Tohoku University. She holds a doctorate in education and a doctorate in economics, both from the University of Geneva.



Kiyono Hasaka

Dr. Kiyono Hasaka is Technology Advisor for the Asia Centre. She advises the Centre on how to leverage new technologies and AI to advance the digitalization of civil society organisations (CSOs) in Asia. With two decades of corporate experience, she helps CSOs adopt new technology to advance their work. She holds a Doctor of Business Administration from Singapore Management University.



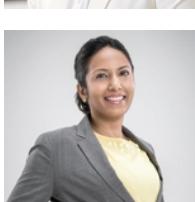
Maz Mat Hassan

Maz Mat Hassan is CEO of RECQA, powering Malaysia's National Digital Learning Platform serving 7M+ learners. With 10+ years in digital adoption and AI integration, she designs impactful programs for governments and enterprises across Southeast Asia, training leaders and policymakers to harness AI for innovation and future readiness.



Ika Idris

Dr Ika Karlina Idris is an Associate Professor at Monash University Indonesia and Co-Director of the Data & Democracy Research Hub, focusing on digital propaganda, disinformation, and climate and public policy communication in Southeast Asia.



Sharmini Johnson

Sharmini is part of the AI Governance team in IMDA that works with local and international partners to shape AI norms. She works on AI regulation, policy and technical testing work for industry. Prior to her current role, Sharmini was the Lead Strategist for Futures in both the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Digital Development and Information. Her role included capabilities development and sense-making for a broad range of economic and digital issues. Prior to her role in Futures, Sharmini was an Education Officer for over a decade, holding positions of Subject Head/Geography in a junior college as well as a Senior International Relations Officer in the Ministry of Education.



Atreyi Kankanhalli

Atreyi Kankanhalli is NUS Provost's Chair Professor of Information Systems & Analytics and Co-Director of the Centre for Computational Social Science and Humanities. Her research focuses on human-AI collaboration, online platforms, and digital innovation in healthcare. She is highly cited and received major awards such as the IBM Faculty Award, Singapore 100 Women in Tech Award, and Asia Women Tech Leaders Award.



Michael Kasper

Michael is CEO of Fraunhofer Singapore, Director at Fraunhofer@NTU, and Associate Professor at NTU. He leads a team on R&D in quantum, AI, and microelectronics, and is involved in key programs like QUASAR-CREATE and SAS-C. With 20+ years of experience, he aims to strengthen the strategic science and technology bridges between Germany and Singapore.



Andreas Klein

Andreas Michael Klein has over 25 years of working experience for the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), serving as director in Skopje, Düsseldorf, Riga, Hamburg, and Santiago de Chile, and since 2022 as Director of KAS' Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia. He has studied Political Science, Modern History and Spanish, holds an MA in Political Science from the University of Bonn, and an MA in intercultural communication from the University of Jyväskylä..



Dimitar Lilkov

Dimitar Lilkov is a Senior Research Officer at the Martens Centre working on energy, climate, and digital policy, including EU energy security, decarbonisation, online regulation, privacy, and disinformation. He hosts the Brussels Bytes podcast and has experience at the EU Parliament. He holds degrees from LSE and Sofia University and is pursuing a PhD on EU decision-making.



Veronica Low Kai Lin

Veronica is the Founder of the ASEAN Business Youth Association and an Assistant Manager in Deloitte's Digital Transformation team. She brings experience in digital innovation, stakeholder engagement, and regional partnerships, and is passionate about AI and socio-economic development.



Anish Mishra

Anish Mishra is a Project Manager and Research Fellow for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy at the KAS Singapore. He is a PhD candidate at Heidelberg University, researching regime oscillations in South and Southeast Asia. He previously completed a MA in Development, Environment, Societies and History in South Asia at Heidelberg University, specialising in political science.



Jared Mondschein

Jared Mondschein is Director of Research at the United States Studies Centre. His analysis has appeared on ABC, BBC, CNN, Foreign Policy, MSNBC, and major Australian outlets. He previously worked as a Research Analyst at Bloomberg BNA in Washington DC, Research Associate at the Council on Foreign Relations, and editorial assistant at the Foreign Policy magazine. He holds a BA in government and international affairs from Skidmore College in New York and an MA from King's College London.



Thomas Motak

Thomas Motak studied Political Economy of Transition, Administrative Studies & Economics, Political Sciences and Slavic Philology. His diplomatic career spans postings in Berlin, El Salvador and Czech Republic & Head of Office for the Minister of State for Europe and Climate. Since 2025 he is Deputy Head of Mission at the German Embassy Singapore.



Anton Muhajir

Anton Muhajir is the Chairperson and Program Director of SAFEnet. For 12 years, he has been intensively involved in Indonesia's digital rights movement, specializing in monitoring, research, and capacity building. He is also a digital security strategist for civil society, focusing on auditing, training, and handling digital security incidents.



Karthik Nachiappan

Karthik Nachiappan is a Research Fellow at the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore. His research focuses on India's Geoeconomics that covers how trade, digital, and technology issues intersect with and affect Indian foreign policy. He is the author of *Does India Negotiate?* (Oxford University Press).



TJ Ooi

TJ founded Curated Connectors in 2020 to support regional SMEs, collaborating with ERIA, ADB and Mekong Institute and co-developing the E-S-I Knowledge Lab. With 20+ years' experience, he has lead roles in trade, SMEs and chemicals, is a Certified Professional Mentor, and graduated top of his Master's in Global Trade in 2023.



Endiyan Rakhmanda

Endiyan Rakhmanda is a Digital Partner at AMANA Solutions with 15+ years of experience and a computer science degree from FH Hannover, Germany, leading AI and digital transformation initiatives across government and enterprises. He has advised ministries and state-owned enterprises in Indonesia on data-driven strategies to build smarter, more resilient public systems.



Aimi Ramlee

Aimi Ramlee is a cybersecurity and digital innovation expert with 13+ years' experience in technology, entrepreneurship, and consulting. As Co-founder and Director of Tyne Solutions, she leads AI-enhanced software and secure cloud operations. She has supported 300+ organisations, including UNCTAD and the iIDEAS project, and serves on multiple boards. An Asia 21 Leader and award-winning entrepreneur, she advocates for digital inclusion and women's leadership in tech.



Ibnur Rashad

Ibnur founded GUILD Asia to grow innovators at the intersection of Tech, Nature and Community. An award-winning inventor and foresight practitioner, he has worked across public, private and community sectors, led hackathons and bootcamps, and co-created Southeast Asia's first makerspace.



Jesus Renzullo

Jesus Renzullo is a Doctoral researcher at the Institute for Latin American Studies (ILAS) in GIGA Hamburg. He leads the Latin American section of the Digital Transformation Lab (DigiTral) project at GIGA and has worked on the topic of cybersecurity models and digital disinformation actors and trends in Latin America. He holds a master in public policy from the university of Erfurt.



Christian E. Rieck

Christian E. Rieck is Associate Professor for Development and Defence at the University of Potsdam's Chair of War Studies and Academic Coordinator for its War Studies programs. A Non-Resident Senior Fellow for Regional Powers and Regional Integration at the Global Governance Institute in Brussels, he previously worked with KAS, GIGA, and the UN. He holds a PhD from the University of Potsdam and a postgraduate degree from the University of Oxford.



Eduard Ruge

Born 1991 in Russia, in Germany since 2002; university in Heidelberg, Paris and Dresden; at GFFO since 08/2019, 2019–2021 in DG 6/Cultural Policy, 2021–2022 at the GFFO Academy in Berlin-Tegel, 2022–2025 in DG S/Crisis Early Warning, since 2025 Science Counsellor at the German Embassy in Singapore



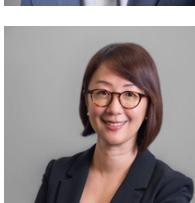
Luke Tay

Luke leads Cornucopia, a Singapore-based foresight and strategy practice focused on future-readiness, sustainable development, and innovation across food and urban systems, supply chains, and mobility. He brings two decades of public service experience in agrifood, transport, policy, and strategy.



Melvin Tay

Dr Melvin Tay is Research Fellow at Institute of Policy Studies' Social Lab at the National University of Singapore. He studies and leads public sector projects on trust in public sector AI and automation, and how such trust interacts with societal faultlines in Singapore. He holds a PhD in Public Policy from the University of Tokyo.



PeiChin Tay

PeiChin Tay is Senior Policy Advisor at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, leading work on AI, the future of work, and public sector innovation. Her work centres on driving a human-centred approach to policymaking, and she has co-authored comparative studies on national AI strategies and labour market transformations. She has managed multi-million-dollar national and regional programmes, led a pan-European consortium, co-authored studies on AI and labour markets. She is currently a steering committee member of the UN ITU AI for Good Impact Initiative.



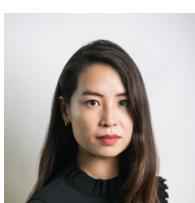
Jayren Teo

Luke leads Cornucopia, a Singapore-based foresight and strategy practice focused on future-readiness, sustainable development, and innovation across food and urban systems, supply chains, and mobility. He brings two decades of public service experience in agrifood, transport, policy, and strategy.



Kris Villanueva-Libunao

Kris R. Villanueva-Libunao is a leader in digital governance and smart city development, former Deputy Minister and Undersecretary of the Philippine National Security Council, and consultant for government agencies. She is Executive Director of SMARTCT-Philippines, Strategic Engagement Director at FutureCrafts Habitat, and Professor at the Development Academy, collaborating with UN, ITU, APEC, ERIA, and ASEAN Foundation.



Julia Voo

Based in Singapore, Julia leads the Cyber Power and Future Conflict Programme, which explores global strategic competition and future warfare, with a focus on emerging cyber strategies, and rapidly advancing information and communications technologies.



Minh Khuong Vu

Dr. Vu Minh Khuong is Professor in Practice at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS. His work focuses on economic growth, digital transformation, green transition, and ASEAN integration. Ranked among the world's top 2% scientists, he has advised governments and firms globally and holds a PhD and MBA from Harvard University.



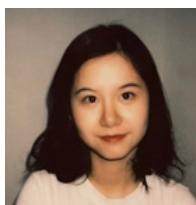
Iris Wieczorek

Dr. Iris Wieczorek is a Senior Research Fellow at GIGA's Institute for Asian Studies and its representative in Japan. She focuses on Japan's research and innovation system and leads GIGA's Digital Transformation Lab (DigiTraL). She is also the founder and CEO of IRIS Science Management Inc., a Tokyo-based consulting firm specialised in career development for scientists, research management, policy advice, and international science cooperation. She studied Japanese Studies and Computer Science at the University of Hamburg.



Li Yao

Li Yao is Senior Research Fellow at EAI. She was an associate professor at the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (2011-2019) and earned a PhD in Economics from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Her research covers China's FDI, trade, green and digital economy, inequality, pollution, and global economic role.



Minjun Yuan

Minjun Yuan is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the National University of Singapore. Her research interests include knowledge governance, innovation and industrial policy, the politics of intellectual property, technological entrepreneurship, and cross-border technology cooperation in East Asia

SUPPORT TEAM



Emilia Arellano

Emilia Arellano is a Research Fellow at the GIGA Institute for Latin American Studies. Her research focuses on the personalization of executive power, political institutions, and power relations. She is part of GIGA's Digital Transformation Lab (DigiTraL) team.



Jun Hui Lee

LEE Jun Hui is a research master's student in NUS's Political Science department. Specializing in International Relations, his research interests include foreign policy analysis and Southeast Asian inter-state politics. His thesis examines how domestic-political considerations shape regional organization members' adherence to sovereignty norms.



Keruo Ding

Ding Keruo is a first-year PhD candidate in the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore. Her research interests broadly lie in cognitive neuropsychology, with a current focus on visual perception.



Gretel Goh

Gretel Goh is a third-year PhD candidate from NUS Department of English, Linguistics and Theatre Studies. Gretel's research interests lie in computational approaches for English literary studies. Her doctoral project focus on methods for emotion detection for charting trajectories of English literary history using large language models.



Alvin Shrestha

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Vithya Tarmalingam

Vithya is an Assistant Manager at NUS's Centre for Computational Social Science and Humanities (CSSH), where she oversees the centre's administrative and operational functions, and supports its research and community initiatives. She brings several years of administrative experience from working in academic institutions.