

# **Asian Views of America's Role in Asia**

## **A Symposium in Hong Kong (HK)**

**Organized by the Hong Kong America Center (HKAC), the Asia Foundation and  
the Department of Asian and International Studies (AIS) and the  
Southeast Asia Research Centre (SEARC), City University of Hong Kong**

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**Connie Fan Multi-media Conference Room, City University of Hong Kong (CityU)**

**March 15-16, 2018**

### **Thursday March 15**

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Welcome Remarks by Glenn Shive of HKAC and Mark R Thompson, AIS and SEARC, CityU
- 9:15 Presentation by John Brandon on the AVARA project of 2016. John Brandon is Senior Director of The Asia Foundation's International Relations programs, and Associate Director of the Washington, DC office
- 9:30 Presentation by Harry Harding: US-East Asian Relations in President Trump's First Year, with response by Daniel Lynch, AIS of CityU, followed by open discussion
- 10:30 Coffee Break
- 11:00 Asian Perceptions of America's Role in Northeast Asia  
  
Speaker: Yoon Young-kwan, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Seoul National University
- 11:30 Comments by Masami Miyashita of JETRO/HK, followed by general discussion chaired by Glenn Shive of HKAC
- 12:30 Lunch Break
- 1:30 Asian Perceptions of America's Role in South Asia  
  
Speaker: Raja Mohan, Founding Director of the India Centre of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (via live videoconference from Delhi)
- 2:00 Comments by Victor Mallet of the [Financial Times](#), and discussion chaired by John Brandon
- 3:00 Coffee Break

3:30 Asian Perceptions of America's Role in Southeast Asia

Speaker: Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Director of the Institute of Security and International Studies and Associate Professor of International Political Economy at the Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University

4:00 Comments by Mark R Thompson, AIS and SEARC of CityU, and discussion chaired by Nicholas Thomas, AIS of CityU

5:00 Reflections on Themes Cutting Across the Asian Regions, by Harry Harding

5:15 Adjourn

### Friday March 16

8:00 Registration

8:30 **Prospects for US - East Asian Relations in the Era of Trump.** Live videoconference from Washington DC with Kurt Campbell, former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, moderated in HK by John Brandon of the Asia Foundation.

9:30 Coffee Break

9:45 **Asian Business Perspectives of America's Long-term Role in Asia.** Roundtable with the Asia CEO Forum, moderated by Mark Michelson.

11:00 Adjourn

*This symposium will address the following general questions:*

How are Asian leaders in governments, businesses and broader society reacting to the unusual and unpredictable presidency of Donald Trump?

What major shifts in geo-political relations and economic patterns are emerging after one year of Trump in America?

Will Trump's behavior towards Asia be viewed in future as an aberration from long-held norms of American policies toward Asia? Or is Trump "the new normal" in a reduced role for America in Asia?

If so, what changes can we expect in relations among Asian nations in a post-American era in the region?