

**AEI**

ASIA-EUROPE INSTITUTE

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# Post

**CELEBRATING EUROPE:  
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF ROME**

**"LIGHT AT THE EDGE OF  
THE WORLD" FORUM**



**GERMAN FILM WEEK  
A ROARING SUCCESS**

**UNIVERSITY OF ROME  
"LA SAPIENZA"  
ESTABLISHES LINK WITH AEI**



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## COVER RATIONALE

The ASEM logo (right) represents the idea of collaboration between Asia and Europe. The red diagonal Asian brush stroke represents the Asian Continent and the 3 blue horizontal lines is a simplified Roman E, which represents the European Continent. The blue flag (left) with 12 stars is the European Union flag. The building (bottom) is the Asia-Europe Institute in University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.

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## Message from the Executive Director

It is my pleasure to present to you *AEI Post*, the newsletter of Asia-Europe Institute (AEI). As an institute that was established to enhance international relations between Asia and Europe, AEI strives to bridge the gap between the two continents. In its mission to spearhead quality academic and research work through smart partnerships between Asia and Europe, AEI has successfully established itself as one of Southeast Asia's leading postgraduate institutions of social sciences and research. Our International Masters degree programmes have been created in joint partnership with other international institutions in Asia and Europe and were designed to offer students an opportunity to broaden their knowledge in fields related to their academic study.

AEI makes every effort to promote excellence at all levels of postgraduate education through providing students with high-quality education taught by reputable professors and experts from Europe, Asia, and around the globe. The government of Malaysia has also provided AEI with strong support, and the institute has collaborated with other ASEM countries throughout the years. It stands as a reflection of Malaysia's commitment to the internationalisation of higher education.

In its aim to be a strong bridge between Asia and Europe, AEI intends to continue its concerted efforts in the future to ultimately become a leading center of intellectual and international discourse. AEI also plans to further promote its collaborative research with institutions of both government and private sectors.

*AEI Post* will serve as a source of information to keep you updated on our recent activities. Most importantly, it will be a witness to each and every effort conducted by AEI in its quest to achieve its goals and aspirations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roziah Omar', written in a cursive style.

**Professor Datin Dr. Roziah Omar**  
Executive Director





## ASSOC. PROF. DR. JARIAH MOHD JAN

Dr. Jariah Mohd. Jan is an Associate Professor in the Department of English at the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics and in July 2006, she was appointed the Deputy Executive Director at the Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya. She holds a Ph.D

in Sociolinguistics and has conducted courses in the area of language and gender, pragmatics, semiotics, language and meaning and psycholinguistics.

Her research interests are interdisciplinary, centring on feminist linguistics and emphasizing the importance of language in understanding social processes. Her main research interests are gender and power issues in language, discourse and society, language and cognition, and literacy and literature in English as Second Language (ESL). Her passion in researching the language of men and women has led her to establish the Malaysian Chapter of the Gender and Language (MyGALA) research interest group where she coordinates multidisciplinary research projects with local and foreign universities. To date, Jariah has been involved in several funded research projects which include Studies of Power Semantics and Solidarity in Inter-Gender Interaction within the Malaysian Context; Interpretation of Gendered

Identities in Literary Discourse; Representation of Malays and Malay Culture in Malaysian-Singaporean Literature in English – a collaborative research with Universiti Putra Malaysia; Indigenous Languages of Mah Meri and Kanaq; Written and Spoken Corpus of Learner English and a National Study on Reproductive Rights, Reproductive and Sexual Health of Women in Malaysia for the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development.

Most recently, she started investigating gendered discourse and power at workplace, and English proficiency at tertiary institutions. She has also submitted research proposals for an Asia-Link project and Fundamental Research Grant. Jariah has presented research papers at international conferences and was a country speaker at the 11th English in Southeast Asia International Conference held in Australia in 2006. Her major works were published in *Multilingua*, *Journal of Cross-Cultural and Interlanguage Communication*; *Journal of Professional Communication Practices* and *Journal of the Centre for Research in the New Literatures in English (CRNLE)* Flinders University, Australia (2007). She is part of the editorial board of *Journal of Modern Languages* and *Journal of Malaysian Social Policy*. She has co-authored and published a book entitled *Understanding Children's Literature* in 2007. She is also a consultant for the Matriculation Division, Ministry of Education and Nilam Award and National Young Writers Programme.

## DR. HAMIDIN ABD. HAMID

Dr. Hamidin Abd Hamid is currently the Deputy Dean (Research and Development) at the Asia-Europe Institute. He originated from the state of Johor, where he received his primary and secondary education. Dr. Hamidin received his B.A. in History from University of Malaya in 1994, and both his M.A. and Ph.D in African History from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in 1996 and 2000 respectively. He was the Deputy Dean (Research) at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya from 2004 to 2006.

Dr. Hamidin Abd Hamid is one of the few in the region that concentrated his studies on the African continent and had already published several articles about the history of the continent, locally and internationally. He also published a book on Malaysia-Africa relations. He is currently the Coordinator for the Tracking Development Project which is funded by the Royal Netherland Foreign

Ministry. Dr. Hamidin has made more than 20 international presentations and has been a lecturer with the Malaysian Armed Forces Staff and Visiting lecturer in the Malaysian Studies Department, University of Cairo, Egypt.



Dr. Hamidin is part of the Sejarah Journal Editorial Board, University of Malaya and is a member of the Royal African Society (UK), the British Institute in East Africa (Kenya) and the Afroaustralasia Association. He assists several government departments in dealing with the country's foreign policy. He is also a consultant for the National Archive, National Museum and is part of the National Committee of the Langkawi International Dialogue.





*European Union's flag*

## CELEBRATING EUROPE: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF ROME

22 March 2007 was a special day for AEI, who jointly organized a special seminar with the German Embassy to celebrate the 50th anniversary of European integration. The seminar entitled "Europe, Malaysia, Asia: Forward Together" was attended by Ambassadors from various Embassies, as well as fellow academics and students. Prof. Dr. Corrado G.M. Letta, Senior Research Fellow of AEI, delivered his keynote address entitled "East Asia's Treaty of Rome?", in observation of Malaysia's upcoming 50th Independence Day (31 August 1957).

The seminar was moderated by the President of Malaysia-China Friendship Association, H.E. Ambassador Dato' Abdul Majid Ahmad Khan. The speakers were H.E. Ambassador Thierry Rommel, Y. Bhg. Dato' Ahmad Mokhtar Selat from the Department of International and Strategic Studies at UM, and Prof. Dr. Corrado G.M. Letta. H.E. Ambassador Herbert D. Jess from the German Embassy was also present to welcome all who attended the celebrated event.



*Professor Dr. Corrado G.M. Letta delivering his keynote address*



*Y. Bhg. Dato' Ahmad Mokhtar Selat (centre) together with H.E. Ambassador Dato' Abdul Majid Ahmad Khan (left) and Prof. Dr. Corrado G.M. Letta (right)*



*Professor Datin Dr. Roziah Omar presenting a souvenir to H.E. Ambassador Herbert D. Jess from the German Embassy*



*Participants at the seminar*



*H.E. Ambassador Helena Sangeland from the Swedish Embassy*



*H.E. Ambassador Herbert D. Jess from the German Embassy*



# "LIGHT AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD" FORUM



*Keynote speaker Wade Davis presenting his speech*

The Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), together with National Geographic Channels International, DHL Express Malaysia, Heritage Asia, and the Malaysian Modern Languages Association, jointly organised the "Light at the Edge of the World" Forum on 25 April 2007 at the AEI auditorium. It featured keynote speaker Wade Davis, Explorer-in-Residence at the National Geographic Society, whose four-part documentary series aired on the National Geographic Channel (ASTRO Channel 52) beginning 30 April to 31

May 2007. The forum's topic of discussion was "Indigenous Cultures: Common Themes and Future Directions". The organizing committee invited Y.Bhg. Prof. Emeritus Dato' Dr. Asmah Haji Omar to chair the forum. The members of the panel included Wade Davis, Y.Bhg. Prof. Dato' Dr. Hood Mohd. Salleh from the National University of Malaysia (UKM), and Associate Prof. Barnard Turner, from the National University of Singapore (NUS).



*Michael Dent, National Marketing Manager, DHL Express, Malaysia*



*The "Light at the Edge of the World" program book*



*Excerpts from the program book*



*Prof. Datin Dr. Roziah Omar delivers the opening speech*



*Bryan Smith, the Executive Vice President of the National Geographic Channels International*



# PROFESSOR ANTHONY REID AT AEI

Professor Anthony Reid, the founding Director of the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore, was the keynote speaker at the seminar which was held on 4 December 2006 at the AEI auditorium in University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur.

Among the honoured guests were Emeritus Professor K.T. Joseph, from the Geography Department, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya who was also the seminar moderator, and Her Excellency Swedish Ambassador Helena Sangeland.

Prof Reid delivered his presentation on 'Southeast Asian Names: Why it Makes a Difference?' which examined the differences between societies in Southeast Asia that use family names and those that do not and what the names at a particular point in history means. Professor Reid believed that names have a correlation with the broader social shifts in society and further explained four principles that have causative relations with the two.



*Professor Anthony Reid addressing the audience*



*Emeritus Professor K.T. Joseph (left) together with Professor Anthony Reid (right) at the seminar*



*Professor Anthony Reid (left), H.E. Ambassador Helena Sangeland (centre), and Professor Datin Dr. Roziah Omar (right)*



# GERMAN FILM WEEK

## A ROARING SUCCESS



*Datuk Rafiah Salim, the Vice Chancellor of University of Malaya acknowledging Ms. Susanne Lenz, Goethe-Institute, Germany*



*Mostly Martha*



*Run Lola Run*



*Nowhere*





*AEI staff and guests at the event*



*Professor Datin Dr. Roziah Omar delivers her opening speech*



*AEI staff at the event*

The German Film Week, which was held on 5-9 February 2007 was a roaring success for the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI) and Goethe-Institute. The auditorium of AEI was filled with an audience which Susanne Lenz from Goethe-Institute described as "kaki wayang" (movie-goers). Jointly organized by the two institutions, it sought to educate students as well as the public on the social, cultural, and political aspects of Germany from a unique perspective by showing five films of various genres in one week. The films that were shown were Mostly Martha, Comedian Harmonists, Goodbye, Lenin!, Run Lola Run, and Nowhere in Africa.

Admission was free and refreshments were provided. Guests of honour who attended the event included the Princess of Kedah, YTM Dato' Seri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz binti KDYMM Tuanku Sultan Haji Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, H.E. Ambassador Thierry Rommel, Head of the European Commission Delegation to Malaysia, H.E. Ambassador Frank Van de Craen from the Belgium Embassy, and Dr. Andreas Radtke, Cultural Attaché of the German Embassy. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Malaya (UM), Y.Bhg. Datuk Rafiah Salim, had also attended the event.



*Participants at the German Film Week*



*Participants from the German-Malaysian Institute (GMI)*



*in Africa*



*Lenin!*



*Comedian Harmonist*



GERMANY

## COLLABORATION WITH GERMANY

Professor Dr. Bernd Nothofer, Head of the Department of Southeast Asian Studies, University of Frankfurt visited AEI on 9 September 2006 and discussed the possibilities of collaboration. As a result, from the 11 – 15 June 2007 the Deputy Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), University of Malaya, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan made a visit to the University of Frankfurt, Konstanz University and Giessen University in Germany with the purpose of

establishing a link between AEI and Germany through partnerships, staff and student exchange and collaborative research. A Letter of Intent was signed by the Chancellor of the University of Frankfurt, Hans Georg Mockel and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan. As a result of the visit, a number of the academic staff members and students from the university will be joining the AEI programme in September 2007.



JORDAN

## VISIT TO AMMAN, JORDAN



At the University of Jordan, Left to right: Haji Sulaiman, Prof. Farhan Yahya, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, and Azmawaty Mohammad Nor.

AEI's delegation, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, Deputy Executive Director and Azmawaty Mohamad Nor, Assistant Registrar visited the University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan on 10 May 2007 for the purpose of collaboration between AEI and Jordan. The Director of the Malaysian Student Department (MSD) in Jordan, Haji Sulaiman Ismail and the Malaysian Ambassador in Jordan, H.E. Dato' Hasnudin Hamzah assisted in the visit. As a result of the visit, students and staff members of the University of Jordan were interested in the opportunities offered at AEI.

NORWAY

## AMBASSADOR OF NORWAY AT AEI



A presentation of the Asia-Europe Institute was shown to H.E. Arild Braastad, the Ambassador of Norway, on 25 June 2007. The meeting aimed to explore the possibilities of collaboration and cooperation between AEI and Norway. As a result, the ambassador accepted the invitation to give a talk on Norway. He will also assist AEI in making connections with Norway and its universities.



From left to right: Prof. Datin Dr. Roziah Omar, H.E. Mr. Arild Braastad, Dato' Mat Amir Jaafar, and Prof. Dr. Corrado G.M. Letta



## MEETING WITH THE JAPANESE DELEGATES

The Executive Director of AEI had the pleasure of receiving Mr. Kazuyuki Katayama, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission and Mr. Takeshi Ishii, First Secretary from the Japanese Embassy, Kuala Lumpur in AEI on 8 December 2006. The AEI representatives at the meeting were Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, Deputy

Executive Director; Dato' Mohd Amir Jaafar, Senior Research Fellow; Prof. Dr. Corrado Guido Maria Letta, Senior Research Fellow and Ruhanas Harun, Programme Coordinator. The meeting aimed to enlighten the visitors about the international postgraduate programmes that AEI offers.



JAPAN

## OUR DELEGATES IN MANILA

The AEI delegation consisted of Dato' Amir Jaafar, Senior Research Fellow; Ruhanas Harun, Programme Coordinator and Jodhy Seenivasagam, Principal Assistant Registrar went to Manila from 5 - 6 March 2007. They visited the University of Philippines, De la Salle University, Ateneo de Manila University, Commission of Higher Education office, and the Malaysian Embassy in Manila. The visit aimed to promote AEI's postgraduate programmes and to establish a liaison with the Philippines. The



students and staff responded well to our promotion and two students had signed up for the AEI's Masters programme.



*Dato' Mat Amir Jaafar (left) and Commissioner for Higher Education of the Philippines, the Hon. Nenilyn P. Defensor (right)*

PHILIPPINES



## OUR DELEGATES IN VIETNAM

The AEI's delegates also made a trip to Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi from March 8 - 9, 2007. They visited the Vietnam National University. The purpose of the visit was to survey the possibilities of collaboration between AEI and the Vietnam National University and to promote the postgraduate programs offered by AEI. Consequently, the Vietnamese government through Mr. Mai Anh, Deputy Director General, International Cooperation

Department, Ministry of Education and Training had conveyed interest in AEI's postgraduate programmes. As a result, three students enrolled to study at AEI in 2007.

## VIETNAM'S DELEGATES IN AEI

A delegate of seven members from the Institute of Financial Research, Vietnam Ministry of Finance, comprised Assoc. Prof. Dr. Do Due Minh, Vice Director and Leader of the Delegation; Dr. Bui Duong Nghieu, Chief of Information

Centre; MA Le Le Tien Phue, Vice Chief of Financial Market Division; Mr. Ngo Van Khoa, Chief of Enterprise Finance Division; MA Doa Quynh Hoa, Researcher of Financial Market Division; MA Nguyen Phuong Anh, Researcher of International Finance Division and MA Nguyen Thi Mai Phuong, Researcher of Public Finance Division visited AEI on the 13 December 2006. The purpose of the visit was to discuss the possibilities of collaboration through research collaboration and student exchange, among others.

VIETNAM



## AEI VISITS THE ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION (ASEF)



*Bertrand Fort, the Deputy Director of ASEF receiving a souvenir from Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan (left)*

The AEI delegate visited the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in Singapore comprised of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, Azmawaty Mohd Nor, and Hanadiah Supa'at. The visit was held in the National University of Singapore (NUS) on 20-21 December 2006. The aim of the meeting was to discuss collaboration of research and cultural activities between ASEF and AEI.



*The AEI delegate with representatives from ASEF at National University of Singapore (NUS)*

## AEI VISITS ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ARI)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, Deputy Executive Director; Azmawaty Mohamad Nor, Assistant Registrar and Nur Syafrina Mohd. Sharif, Research Assistant at AEI visited the Asia Research Institute (ARI) in Singapore on 2 February 2007. The purpose of the visit was to explore the likelihood of partnership between

AEI and ARI in the area of research. A meeting was held with Prof. Anthony Reid, Director of ARI and his team. Some of the topics discussed were tourism and events at ARI. As a result of the meeting, Professor Reid showed keen interest to work with AEI on tourism research.



*Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan in a meeting with Prof. Anthony Reid together with other members of the National University of Singapore.*



*The AEI delegate with Prof. Anthony Reid and his team at ARI*



# BUILDING TIES

## UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA



*Professor Dr. Hariyadi Wirawan during his visit at AEI*

Professor Dr. Hariyadi Wirawan from the Department of International Relations, University of Indonesia (UI) visited AEI on 13 November 2006 and discussed potential collaboration between the two academic institutions.

The meeting was chaired by AEI's Executive Director, Professor Datin Dr. Roziah Omar, and member of the AEI's management team who were present at the meeting included Associate Professor Dr. Jariah Mohd. Jan, Deputy Director; Ms. Jodhy Seenivasagam, Principal Assistant Registrar; Puan Azmawaty Mohamad Nor, Assistant Registrar; Puan Hanadiah Supa'at, Financial Officer; Dato' Mat Amir Jaafar, Visiting Senior Research Fellow; and Puan Ruhanas, Course Coordinator of the International Masters in ASEAN Studies (IMAS).

The discussion concentrated on promoting AEI's International Masters programmes to students of UI. With regards to the Ph.D programme at AEI, a student from UI was offered to pursue her studies at AEI as the first Ph.D student from UI. AEI plans to send some of its student to the ASEAN Secretariat in Indonesia for their internship programme.



*Prof. Datin Dr. Roziah Omar, the AEI management team and Prof. Dr. Hariyadi at the meeting*



## PROMOTING COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH WITH BRITISH INSTITUTIONS



*Datuk Rafiah Salim in a discussion with H.E. Boyd McCleary (left) and Mr. Gerry Liston (right)*

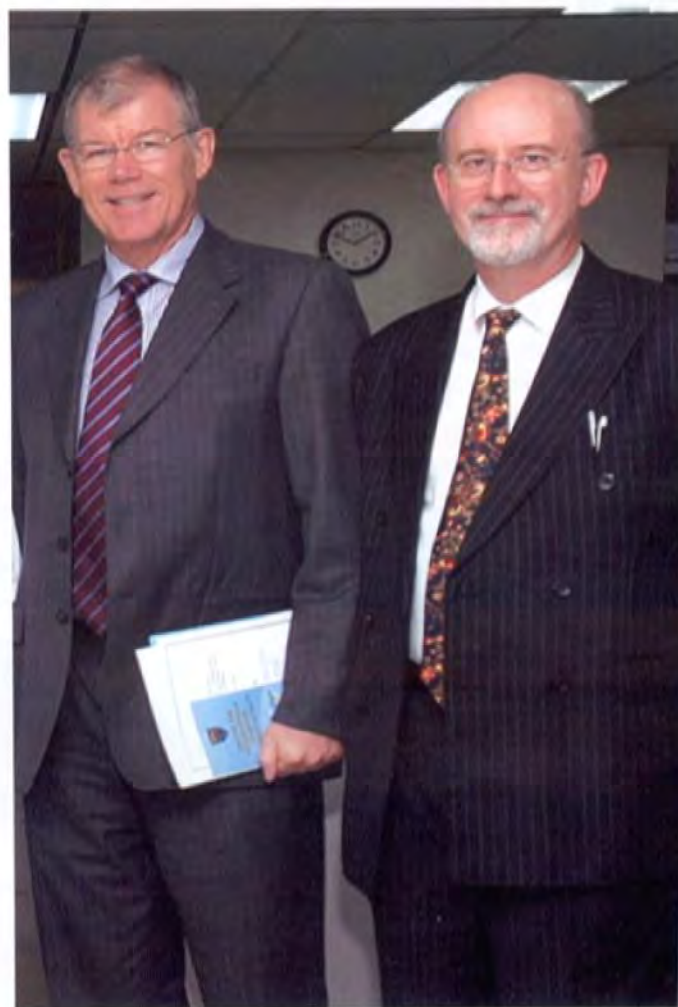


*Prof. Datin Dr. Roziah Omar briefs H.E. Boyd McCleary and Mr. Gerry Liston about AEI's projects*



*UM Researchers with our British guests*

On 17 November 2006, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Malaya, YBhg. Datuk Rafiah Salim, received a visit from the British High Commissioner to Malaysia, His Excellency Boyd McCleary and Mr. Gerry Liston, the Director of the Malaysia British Council. A meeting with the British guests, chaired by the Vice Chancellor, was conducted at the Asia-Europe Institute. The AEI management, Deans of various faculties and several researchers were invited to the meeting in order to brief current research at their respective faculties and institutes. The meeting also discussed possibility of promoting collaborative research between UM and universities in the United Kingdom.



*H.E. Boyd McCleary, British High Commissioner to Malaysia (left) and Mr. Gerry Liston, Director of the Malaysia British Council (right)*



## UNIVERSITY OF ROME, "LA SAPIENZA" ESTABLISHES LINK WITH AEI



*Dato' Mat Amir Jaafar, together with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan and team, presenting a token of appreciation to Prof. Gioia di Cristoforo Longo representing the University of Rome "La Sapienza". Also present are Italian Ambassador H.E. Dr. Anacleto Felicani (second from left) and Dr. Eva Rossi (far left)*

Asia-Europe Institute was honoured to receive a delegation from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" on 19 September 2006. The delegation comprised of Professor Gioia di Cristoforo Longo and Dr. Eva Rossi.

His Excellency Mr. Anacleto Felicani, the Italian Ambassador to Malaysia, was present to convey the intentions for academic collaboration between the University of Rome "La Sapienza" and the University of Malaya (UM).

The discussion with the delegation was led by Visiting Senior Research Fellow of AEI, Y.Bhg. Dato' Mat Amir Jaafar. It resulted in the formation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two institutions. It outlines the terms of reference of collaboration including the exchange of students and scholars as well as their mutual participation in research programmes. The collaboration will facilitate the sharing of scientific information, documentation, and publications via meetings, seminars, and various course subjects as stated in the agreement.



*The delegates from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" at a meeting with AEI*



*Dr. Eva Rossi, visiting scholar at AEI*



# SOKA UNIVERSITY'S VISIT



From left to right: Kimiko Iwata, Ichiro Sugimoto, Koki Ezaki, Prof. Hiroto Teranishi, Prof Yoshihisa Baba, Prof. Datin Dr. Roziah Omar, Prof. Dr. Corrado G.M. Letta, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, Puan Ruhana Harun and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suraiya Mohd Ali



Koki Ezaki (left), Prof. Hiroto Teranishi (centre) and Prof Yoshihisa Baba (right) at the meeting



Prof. Yoshihisa Baba (left) and Prof. Datin Dr. Roziah Omar (right)

A team from Soka University, Tokyo, Japan visited Asia-Europe Institute on 8 December 2006. The team comprises of Prof. Yoshihisa Baba, Vice President of Soka University; Prof Hiroto Teranishi, Director of International Affairs Office and Mr. Koki Ezaki, Administrative Director of International Affairs Office.

The bridge between University of Malaya and Soka University, Japan was established since the late 80s. In 2000, Soka University and University of Malaya organized "The Seventh Pacific Basin Symposium".

A meeting was held in AEI to further discuss possibilities of further collaboration between Soka University and AEI, University of Malaya. One of the issues discussed was the Soka University's international student exchange programme and to consider student exchange between the two universities. Soka University collaborates with some 70 universities around the world for the exchange programme.

The Japanese delegates considered the relationship between both the universities as one of the most active and successful.



## DATO' MAT AMIR JAAFAR

Dato' Mat Amir Jaafar was born on the 1 November 1942 in Bangi, Selangor.

He graduated with B.A. (Hons) from University of Malaya in 1966. He then joined the Malaysian Administrative and Diplomatic Service (PTD), and was appointed as Assistant Secretary at Wisma Putra. A year later, Wisma Putra assigned him in various capacities to the Malaysian Diplomatic Missions in Tokyo, Singapore, Dhaka, Vienna and Geneva.

He was appointed as Under-Secretary (Planning) at Wisma Putra (1982) followed by a number of Ambassadorial appointments; Ambassador to Myanmar (1984); High Commissioner to India and concurrently to Nepal (1988); Ambassador to Germany (1993); Ambassador to People's Republic of China (1995) and finally, High Commissioner to United Kingdom and concurrently to Ireland (1998).

During his diplomatic career he had been a member of the Malaysian delegations to various international Commodity, Trade and Refugee Conference besides the Non-Aligned and ASEAN Summits.



He retired from Government service in early 2001 after being Malaysia's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom for three years. He was then appointed director in a number of company boards as he began to experience life in the private sector.

In August 2006, he was appointed Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya, where he interalia reads Cultural Dynamics.

He is married to Datin Zaleha Arshad and has three children.

He was awarded the Johan Setia Mahkota (JSM) by the Federal Government and the Dato' Paduka Mahkota Selangor (DPMS) by HRH Sultan of Selangor.





## PROFESSOR DR. CORRADO G.M. LETTA

Prof. Dr. Letta joined the Asia-Europe Institute as a Senior Research Fellow in October 2006. He has published his research work: *South Korea-Japan Relations* and *Can Asians Think? Can European Listen?* Presently, he is carrying out an analysis of *The Malaysia-Europe Strategic Partnership*.

Prior to his appointment at AEI, Prof. Letta was the strategic thinker at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs responsible for making an assessment on ASEM. The result was the research *ASEM's Future* prefaced by the Secretary General of ASEAN and the President of the European Commission. The 625-page study was published by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was translated into Japanese and Mandarin and widely distributed in China and Japan. The launch was sponsored by the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through a series of international forum in Shanghai, Beijing, Tokyo, Kyoto, and Seoul.

In the era of the much talked about *clash of civilizations*, the Asia-Europe Foundation (AEF) appointed Dr. Letta to carry out a special assignment that is in building up a dialogue between the values of the East and those of the West. He created the dialogue between the oldest breathing thing on earth living in the West, *Methuselah Sequoia Tree*, and the most endangered species of butterfly, *Queen Alexandrae Rotshild*, living in the East. AEF published the dialogue in Singapore on the background of music from the East and the West, especially chosen by the AEF's Executive Director.

Dr. Letta was also the special advisor to the President of Kobe University, Japan. He was responsible for the introduction of the internationalisation process of the University.



Further, he served in South Korea as the Senior Advisor to the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs and as Senior Fellow at Korea most important think tank, the Sejong Institute. In addition to the results proper to the confidential nature of this assignment, Dr. Letta produced a one hour nationwide television debate on the Integration Processes in Europe and in East Asia -which was broadcast on prime time on Arirang Television worldwide - and the publication of the book *East Asia-European Union Partnerships*. It was published in Seoul by the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Korea Foundation.

During the Six-Parties-Talks in Beijing, Dr. Letta was asked to prepare a special report on: *What is our Role in North Korea?* At the end of this assignment in Pyongyang, North Korea the report was presented to the Six-Parties-Talk prior to their final round of sessions which led to reaching an agreement among all the stakeholders concerned.

Dr. Letta was also the Senior Advisor to the Indonesian Government on several programs / projects, financed by the World Bank and the Batam Island Industrial Development Authority; Senior Counsellor on Cambodian programs financed by the Asian Development Bank; Senior Consultant to the European Union in Indonesia and other East Asian countries; Special Counsellor to the President of Indonesia, the King of Saudi Arabia, the Shah of Iran, the Presidents of Cameroon, Liberia, Nigeria, Angola; and the Director of the Arts Council in Melbourne-Sidney, Australia. He has been Senior Vice President for East Asia for ten years, based in East Asia, for a major American multinational, P.R.C.

He has written and published thirty books/DVDs, Videos and Multimedia Shows. He is often a guest speaker on International Conferences, Seminars, Symposium, Fora and he is also often invited on television for interviews and/or public debates.





## DR. CHRISTOPH MARCINKOWSKI

Dr. Christoph Marcinkowski, an award-winning German scholar in Islamic and Southeast Asian studies, is a Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Europe Institute (AEI), University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia since June 2007.

He was Senior Research Fellow (1999-2002) and Associate Professor of Islamic History (2002-2004) at the International Institute of Islamic Thought of Civilization (ISTAC), Kuala Lumpur, and Associate Research Scholar and member of the editorial staff of Encyclopaedia Iranica at the Center for Iranian Studies, Columbia University, New York City (2004-05). From February 2006 to May 2007, he was a Visiting Research Scholar at the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU), as well as Visiting Affiliate at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore (NUS).

His academic achievements are being annually referred to in *Marquis' Who is Who in the World* (New Providence, NJ, U.S.A.) since the 22nd edition of 2005; annually referred to in *Marquis' Who is Who in America* (New Providence, NJ, U.S.A.) since 2006; Best Research on Iranian Culture Award for the Year 2000 (First Prize in the International Category), conferred by the Iranian President on behalf of the Iranian Ministry of Culture for his doctoral dissertation Mirza Rafi'a's Dastur al-Muluk, a study and translation of an early 18th-century Persian handbook of administration.

Dr. Marcinkowski published widely on Islamic history and culture, in particular Shi'ism, as well as on contemporary issues related to Islam in Iran, Iraq, and Southeast Asia. He is the author of ten books, among



them *Religion and Politics in Iraq. Shi'ite Clerics between Quietism and Resistance* (Singapore, 2004) and *Facets of Shi'ite Islam in Southeast Asia. Basic Concepts, Cultural and Historical Aspects, Contemporary Implications* (forthcoming in 2007). Currently, he is working on two new books, the first one entitled *A New Middle East?*, and the other being an edited volume on the future of relations between Europe and the Muslim world, to be published by the Asia-Europe Institute.

He is fluent in German (native speaker), English, French, Persian, Turkish, Arabic, and is able to read and understand Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Malay/Indonesian. He is a beginner in Thai, and has reading ability in Classical Greek and Latin.

Dr. Marcinkowski spent several years in the Middle East (1984-86), the United States and Singapore. Since his arrival in Kuala Lumpur in 1995, he has been living and working continuously in Malaysia.





## DATO' DR. WAZIR JAHAN KARIM

Dato' Dr. Wazir Jahan Karim is an economic anthropologist and was appointed Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Europe Institute on 5 February, 2007. She currently convenes the Research Hub on "Capacity-Building and Human Capital" at the Institute. She is also Executive Director of the Academy for Socio-Economic Research and Analysis (ASERA), a non-profit research foundation dedicated to economic justice.

Wazir Jahan obtained her undergraduate degree in Social Sciences at the University of Singapore (now the National University of Singapore) in 1972. She obtained her Master's in Economic Anthropology in 1974 and Doctorate in Anthropology at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, University of London in 1977. She is the founder Director of the Women's Development Research Centre at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and held the post from 2001-2004. She pioneered Gender Studies in Malaysia and directed the first field based development research programme on Women and Children (KANITA) from (1978-1985); (1989- 2001), at a time when women's capacities were undervalued and even marginalised from mainstream discourses in the academe. She is also the first woman to have lived with the indigenous people of Malaysia (Ma' Betise', 1974) to conduct anthropological research in the mangrove rainforests on the West Coast of Malaysia. Her pioneering works on indigenous knowledge, environment, poverty and the globalisation of the indigenous has enriched interdisciplinary approaches in development research. She is now working on the relationship between political capital and global competitiveness- understanding the transformative process of institutional and capacity-building in the emergence of the Asian experience in Europe.

She has authored and edited several books on minorities, Islam and women including *Ma' Betise' Concepts of Living Things* (Athlone Press: London, 1981); *Emotions of Culture: A Malay Perspective* (Oxford University Press: Singapore, 1990); *Women and Culture: Between Malay Adat and Islam* (Westview Press: Boulder, 1992); *'Male and Female'*



in *Developing Southeast Asia* (Berg Publishers: Oxford, 1995) and *Gendered Fields: Women, Men, Ethnography* (with D.Bell and P.Caplan) (Routledge: London, 1994). She co-authored and co-edited *Cultural Minorities of Peninsular Malaysia: Survivals of Indigenous Heritage* (AKASS and Toyota Foundation 2002) (with Mohd Razha Rashid). Her contributions to chapters in books and referred articles in journals number more than seventy.

She has received several awards, fellowships, visiting professorships and citations for outstanding scholarship and academic excellence including the Raymond Firth Prize (1977) from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, the Rotary Golden Medal for Most Outstanding Scholar in the Social Sciences in 1999, the Anugerah Sanjung for Best International Scholar, USM in 2004 and Tokoh Maal Hijrah (Higher Education), Penang (Pemenang) 2007. She has been a Ford Foundation Fellow (1974-1975); Commonwealth Fellow (1975-1977); Fulbright Fellow (1984: Chicago; Harvard); British Academy Fellow (1990: LSE); Visiting Professor at the Institute of Anthropology, University of Oslo (1991); Centre for the Study of Cultures and Languages of Asia and Africa Tokyo; University of Foreign Studies (1995-1996); Sophia University, Tokyo (1996); the United Nations's University (UNU) (2003); Department of Malay Studies and Centre for Women Studies, University of Victoria, Wellington (1998) and University of Kent at Canterbury in 2001. In 2003, she held the Andrew's Chair in Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii, Manoa. She was Visiting Fellow at the School of Advanced Study, Clare Hall, Cambridge University in 2006. She was appointed Distinguished Fellow of The Social Institute, Malaysia (ISM) in 2005 and is a member of the National Women's Advisory Council, Malaysia. In 2006, she was appointed Life Fellow of Clare Hall, University of Cambridge.





# INTERNATIONAL MASTERS IN ASEAN (IMAS) STUDENT PROFILES



**Yoko Sakurai**  
Japan  
23 April 1981

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature (2004) Kobe College, Japan

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

Officer at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan (April 2005 to-date)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan



**Kanjana Boonyoung**  
Thailand  
13 August 1980

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Master in Public Administration (2004) Chiang Mai University, Thailand
2. Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration (2001) Chiang Mai University, Thailand

**WORK EXPERIENCE(S):**

1. Lecturer, The Graduate School of Public Administration, Burapha University (Sept 2005 to-date)
2. Policy Planning Analyst Chiangmai University (Nov 2004 – Aug 2005)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Royal Thai Government



**Park Jong Hyun**  
Korea  
10 October 1971

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Program in Area Studies, in the Graduate School (Master Course) (2001) Seoul National University, Korea
2. Bachelor of Arts in Malay-Indonesian Department (1998) Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Korea

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

Staff Writer, Segye Daily Newspaper (Jun 2000 to-date)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

AEI Financial Support (FULL)



**Tienkaew Liemsuwan**  
Thailand  
17 June 1979

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Master of Arts in Population and Social Research (2004) Mahidol University, Thailand
2. Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Anthropology (2000) Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

**WORK EXPERIENCE(S):**

1. Lecturer, The Graduate School of Public Administration, Burapha University (Sept 2005 to-date)
2. Policy Planning Analyst, Surathani Rajabhat University (June 2004 – Aug 2005)
3. Assistant in the Collection and Analysis Asia Pacific Leadership Forum on HIV/AIDS (Feb 2004 – Mar 2004)
4. Project Assistant Institute for Population and Social Research (Sept 2003 – May 2004)
5. Research Assistant Institute for Population and Social Research (Oct 2002 – Mar 2003)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Royal Thai Government



**Pansek Artharturasook**  
Thailand  
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**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

Master of Literature (1997) Kanda University of International Studies

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Lecture, Burapha University (1997 to-date)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Royal Thai Government

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Master of Arts in History (2002) Thammasat University, Thailand
2. Bachelor of Arts in History (1997) Burapha University, Thailand

**WORK EXPERIENCE(S):**

1. Lecturer History Department, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Burapha University (February 2004 to-date)
2. Researcher Burapha University (April 2003 – Jan 2004)

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24 July 1975

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

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2. Bachelor of Arts in History (1997) Burapha University, Thailand

**WORK EXPERIENCE(S):**

1. Lecturer History Department, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Burapha University (February 2004 to-date)
2. Researcher, Burapha University (April 2003 – Jan 2004)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Royal Thai Government



**Saranyu Bulang**  
Thailand  
23 August 1984

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (2006) Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

**WORK EXPERIENCE(S):**

1. Part-time Staff Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University (June 2003 – March 2006)
2. Trainee, Malaysian Lubricants Customer, Service Section, ExxonMobil, Thailand (April 2005 – May 2005)

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Royal Thai Government



**Visara Kraiwatanapong**  
Thailand  
4 March 1982

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (2005) Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

-

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Royal Thai Government





# ASIA IN EUROPE, EUROPE IN ASIA

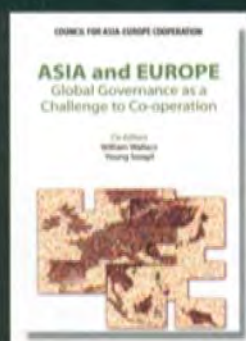
SRILATA RAVI, MARIO RUTTEN,  
BENG-LAN GOH

INSTITUTE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES,  
SINGAPORE (PUBLISHER)

ISBN: 981-230-206-9

This book is an excellent source of information for Asia in Europe, and Europe in Asia. It discusses the socio-political, security, and economic trends and development in Southeast Asia, as well as its wider geo-strategic and economic environment. The main objective of the book is to encourage the study of Asia, and to promote national and international co-operation in this field.

*Srilata Ravi, Mario Rutten, and Lan Goh. (eds), 2004. Asia in Europe, Europe in Asia. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.*



# ASIA AND EUROPE: GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AS A CHALLENGE TO CO-OPERATION

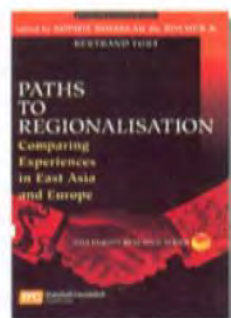
WILLIAM WALLACE, YOUNG SOOGIL (EDITORS)

COUNCIL FOR ASIA-EUROPE COOPERATION  
(PUBLISHER)

ISBN: 4-88907-073-7

This book provides readers with an understanding of the Council for Asia-Europe Co-operation's (CAEC) explanation on international politics. The book identifies problems of particular importance to Asia and Europe, and presents suggestions for Asia-Europe co-operation. It contains an excellent source of information on Asia and Europe's global governance as a challenge to co-operation on the long term.

*William Wallace and Young Soogil. (eds), 2004. Asia and Europe: Global governance as a challenge to co-operation. Tokyo: Council for Asia-Europe Cooperation.*



# PATHS TO REGIONALISATION: COMPARING EXPERIENCES IN EAST ASIA AND EUROPE

SOPHIE BOISSEAU DU ROCHER & BERTRAND  
FORT (EDITORS)

ISBN: 981-210-374-0

building. Europe and East Asia have evolved in different ways with different logics and mechanisms, but it does not mean that they do not have common interests or characteristics to learn from one another. This book seeks to contribute to a better understanding of the experiences and challenges in both regions and to stimulate a much-needed reflection of the benefits of regions to harness globalization.

*Sophie Boisseau du Rocher and Bertrand Fort. (eds), 2005. Path to regionalization: Comparing experiences in East Asia and Europe. Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Academic.*



# ASIA AND EUROPE: THE DEVELOPMENT AND DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS OF ASEM

YEO LAY HWEH

ROUTLEDGE TAYLOR & FRANCIS GROUP  
(PUBLISHER)

ISBN: 0-4158-30697-3

contextualizes the liberal-institutionalists. ASEM is, therefore, examined in the framework of summit diplomacy as an instrument for regional integration and an institution for regime creation. The book not only helps readers to establish an understanding the state of Asia-Europe relations, but more significantly, it provides a sober examination on the issue of international cooperation, and warns that the health and wealth underlying the global order depends on enlightened leadership and wise statecraft.

*Yeo Lay Hwee. 2003. Asia and Europe: The development and different dimensions of ASEM. New York: Routledge.*

Readers of this book would be able to gain knowledge on Asia and Europe. The book provides both a chronological and systematic overview of the conception, birth, and development of ASEM, and





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The Asia-Europe Institute (AEI) has been established successfully as one of Southeast Asia's leading institutions for postgraduate research and teaching in the social sciences. Established under the auspices of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) with the aspiration to enhance Asia-Europe relations, AEI aims to foster exchanges of students and scholars with a view to develop a better understanding of the cultures, histories, politics, institutions, economics, business and legal practices of both regions. The origins of AEI can thus be traced back to the idea of establishing closer higher education linkages between Asia and Europe under the provisions of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) initiative in 1996.

In 1997, the Government of Malaysia established the Asia-Europe Centre (AEC) at the University of Malaya, Malaysia's oldest university, as the first step towards Asia-Europe cooperation in higher education designed to

support the Fourth Pillar of the ASEM process. Three years after its inception, on 2 January 2000, the AEC was upgraded into a full-fledged academic institution and renamed the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI).

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