

# Navigating the New Geopolitics of Asia and Global Order of Tomorrow

A regional programme by FES in Asia

In 2022, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Asia continued to build on our regional programme Navigating the New Geopolitics of Asia and Global Order of Tomorrow. We brought together wide-ranging experts from Asia and Europe in our multidisciplinary strategy and foresight labs, and created new avenues for constructive dialogue and innovative thinking. We also continued to use multiple formats and platforms to present our reports, interviews and policy recommendations.

## AT A GLANCE



In 2022, FES in Asia has brought together and engaged over **200 stakeholders from more than 25 countries**. They included key thought leaders, policy makers, members of parliament, academics and journalists.



We built on and expanded our **FES Asia Strategic Foresight Group**. This year, we organised a **dialogue programme** for an interdisciplinary exchange of ideas and viewpoints between senior members and European thought leaders in **Brussels and Berlin**. Their reflections further exploring what was seen as **divergences and areas of convergences between Asia and Europe**, were published on our website.



FES in Asia convened **four national and one regional policy labs**, working in collaboration with FES country offices and partners from across Asia. The labs are executed in partnership with the **Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Executive Education Singapore Futures Team**.



We published a **short video** introducing our geopolitics programme and the role of the Asia Strategic Foresight Group and a **second video**, produced by the FES Korea Office, exploring the role of South Korea in the new geopolitics of Asia.



Through a partnership with the Delhi-based Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies and the Leiden Asia Centre, we undertook the research project **“The Transitioning Security Order in the Indo-Pacific: What can India-EU Cooperation Look Like?”**.



We spoke with senior members of the FES Asia Strategic Foresight Group about the larger implications of **Russia’s attack on Ukraine and its impact on the future global order**, and in particular how it may play out in the Asia-Pacific region.

## PLATFORMS FOR NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL EXCHANGE

### FES ASIA STRATEGIC FORESIGHT GROUP

The [FES Asia Strategic Foresight Group \(ASFG\)](#), established in 2021, is an interdisciplinary pan-Asian network of thought leaders, decision makers, and experts from 20 countries. This platform encourages insightful exchange of ideas and viewpoints on the future of Asia-Pacific & EU.



### INFORMATION AND DIALOGUE PROGRAMME

The Information and Dialogue Programme in Brussels and Berlin (9-15 October) facilitated a structured and interdisciplinary exchange between decision makers and experts from Asia and Europe. The delegation visit included ASFG members from 10 Asia-Pacific countries. This presented a high level and enhanced opportunity to explore divergences, and points of strategic convergences as also opportunities for collaboration between Europe and Asia.

The ASFG members [Ummu Salma Bava](#) and [Yeo Lay Hwee](#) who were part of the delegation as well as [Marc Saxer](#), Director of the FES Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia wrote reflective pieces to summarise some of the key points that emerged through the dialogue process.

### FES STRATEGY AND FORESIGHT LABS

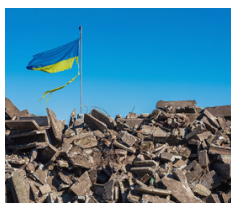
More than 200 thought leaders, decision makers, and experts participated in the Foresight and Strategy Labs over the course of the year. The labs provide a platform for dialogue and foresight-based policy exploration, allowing participants to analyse the major internal and external geopolitical and geo-economic dynamics that might affect each country and develop visions and strategic recommendations and options for the future.

This year, four national labs were successfully convened in joint partnership between the FES country offices, FES Asia regional programme, and the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy: [Nepal National Lab](#) (22-23 February), [Mongolia National Lab](#) (22-23 September), [Thailand National Lab](#) (25-26 July) and Pakistan National Lab (1-2 December).

### 2-DAY REGIONAL GEOPOLITICS THEMATIC DIALOGUE

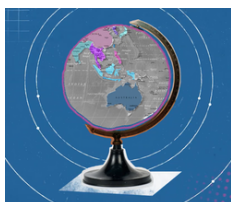
We partnered with the Kuala Lumpur based think tank Research for Social Advancement (REFSA) in organizing a two-day dialogue (27-29 July) titled, "The New Geopolitics of Asia and Global Order of Tomorrow: Implications for Southeast Asia" focusing on the Southeast Asia region. Participants that included politicians, academics and experts shared observations and analysis of power politics between great powers, understanding of China and its relations with ASEAN, the US and Russia, and the way forward for the region. Read the [report](#) or watch the [video highlights](#).

### INTERVIEW SERIES: Implications of the war in Ukraine on the Asia-Pacific region.



While the situation in Ukraine lay many miles away from the Asia-Pacific region, the effects of the war have been widely felt across the region and around the world. FES in Asia spoke with experts from [India](#), [Philippines](#), and [Singapore](#) on the diffused implications the situation in Ukraine has had and may have on the Asia-Pacific region as well as the future global order. Our expert from [Korea](#) also shared her thoughts on the consequences for East Asia and the Korean Peninsula. Marc Saxer, Director of the FES Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia, also shared his thoughts [here](#).

### VIDEOS



We published a short [video](#) introducing our geopolitics programme and the role of the Asia Strategic Foresight Group.



A [second video](#), produced by the FES Korea Office, explored the role of South Korea in the new geopolitics of Asia with eminent local and international experts.

### INTERACTIVE MAP: The New Geopolitics of Eurasia

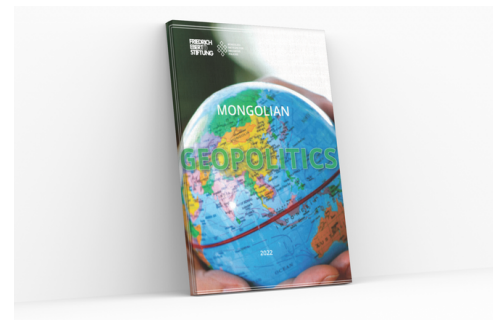


Wider Eurasia has always been subject to great power rivalries. An interactive map by FES puts the often-confusing multitude of smaller clashes, economic projects and political alliances into the wider context of recent struggles over regional and global hegemony: [Explore here](#).

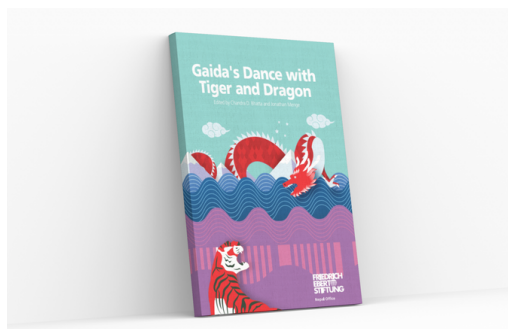
## PUBLICATIONS



The blue economy in the Indo-Pacific  
Sinderpal Singh



Mongolian Geopolitics  
FES Mongolia and the Mongolian Institute for  
Innovative Policies



Gaida's Dance with Tiger and Dragon  
FES Nepal



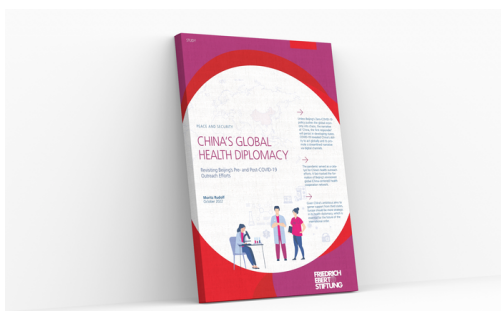
China and the global financial architecture  
Paola Subacchi



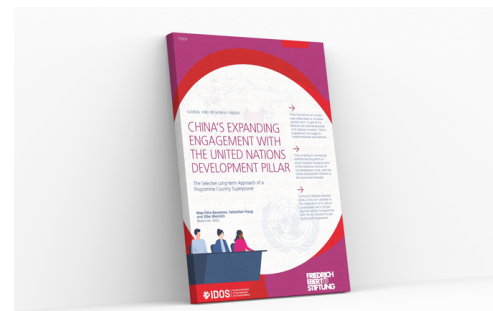
China's role in the multilateral trade system  
Stefan Pantekoek, Yvonne Bartmann and Hajo Lanz (eds)



China's role in multilateral arms control  
Oliver Meier and Michael Staack



China's global health diplomacy  
Moritz Rudolf



China's expanding engagement with the United Nations development pillar  
Max-Otto Baumann, Sebastian Haug and Silke Weinlich

## ARTICLES

### The new geopolitics of the Pacific Island nations

What makes foreign interests in the Pacific Islands grow and what does their engagement mean for the future of the small island nations?

### Pakistan and the new geopolitical order in Asia

The Asia-Pacific is one of the most strategically contested areas on the globe. The superpower confrontation comes with a multitude of challenges and opportunities for middle powers like Pakistan.

### Remaking a rules-based world order

As China continues to rise in, many are asking whether liberal hegemony can hold out. Marc Saxer, Managing Director of FES ORCA shares his thoughts on how to uphold the rules-based world order in an increasingly polarised world.

### The end of the end of history

The ever-unfolding situation between the United States and China added with the war in Ukraine will determine the future of the world order. Marc Saxer, Managing Director of FES ORCA in the Asia Pacific, provides five scenarios for a new world order.

### The coming world order

Marc Saxer, Managing Director of FES ORCA, explores changes and the underlying dynamics to global energy, production, infrastructure, distribution, and money and financial markets in his article.

### Decoding the German Zeitenwende

In Decoding the German Zeitenwende, Marc Saxer, Managing Director of FES ORCA, explains the German Zeitenwende (turn of time) through the external and internal factors, and provides a perspective of the future of Germany and Europe.

For more publications by our FES country offices throughout the region, [visit their websites](#).

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Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, the oldest political foundation in Germany, is committed to the advancement of socio-political and economic development in the spirit of social democracy, through civic education, research, and international cooperation.

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