

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

PR 2012 10 08 0023

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Will 'multiple currencies' be the answer to the next financial crisis?

20 senior media commentators and financial experts come together to discuss the fate of 'multiple currencies' during the 6th Asia-Europe Editors' Roundtable in Bangkok, Thailand (13 October 2012).

Today, an urgent need for a review of the international monetary system, dominates the headlines. "It has become necessary to gradually change the current monetary system ... to a diversified international monetary system consisting of multiple currencies", said Prof Xu Hongcai to China Daily (June 2012). Prof Xu is the Deputy Director, Information Department of China Center for International Educational Exchange.

To examine the relevance and challenges of 'multiple currencies' to overhaul the global monetary system, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, will present the sixth edition of the Asia-Europe Editors' Roundtable, titled "Multiple Currencies for a Multi-polar World" in Bangkok (13 October).

This biennial event will bring together senior editors and economic experts from 18 countries. Participants will include senior journalists from The Economist, The Nation, Reuters, Bangkok Post, Financial Times, Kyodo News, Channel News Asia, Le Figaro, Shanghai Daily and Forbes Magazine.

Various facets of the international financial system will be highlighted by eminent speakers from prestigious institutions namely – Dr Jae Ha Park (Asian Development Bank Institute), Dr Xu Qiyuan (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), Mr Jens Sondergaard (Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas), Mr David Pilling (Financial Times), Mr Pichai Chuensuksawadi (Bangkok Post), Mr Pierre Rousselin (Le Figaro), moderated by Dr Paola Subacchi (Chatham House).

Topics of discussion will include – 'Deepening Asian integration: Building partnerships for growth', 'The Eurozone crisis: Taking stock', 'Rethinking the International Monetary System: Moving towards a multi-polar currency system', 'How can Asia and Europe work together to contribute to the balanced International Monetary System?', and 'Role of the media shaping global attitudes and decisions'. During the discussion sessions, the speakers and participants will look deeper into the shifting economic realities and examine the reforms needed in the International Monetary System from Asian and European perspectives.

The 6th Asia-Europe Editors' Roundtable will be held in conjunction with the **10th ASEM Finance Ministers' Meeting** (FinMM). The FinMM will be organised in Bangkok (14-15 October) where the theme for discussion will be "Strengthening a Dynamic Partnership, Sharing a Dynamic Growth". More information at www.asefinfboard.org

The recommendations from the 6th Asia-Europe Editors' Roundtable will be shared with the Senior Officials from the FinMM. The outcomes of the Roundtable discussion will be later published on ASEF's website for public dissemination at www.asef.org

ABOUT THE ORGANISERS



Asia-Europe Foundation

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), which currently comprises of 46 member states plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat (www.aseinfoboard.org). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since engaged over 17,000 direct participants through more than 600 projects in the realms of economy and society, public health, sustainable development and environment, academic co-operation and education, arts and culture and governance and human rights. www.asef.org

In 2012, ASEF is commemorating its 15th Anniversary and invites everyone to take part in celebrating 'Connected Histories, Shared Future'.



Chatham House: The Royal Institute of International Affairs

Chatham House has been the home of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA) for over nine decades. Its mission is to be a world-leading source of independent analysis, informed debate and influential ideas on how to build a prosperous and secure world for all. It carries out an extensive programme of research, convenes meetings for leading experts, policy-makers, politicians and business people from around the world, and maintains a highly regarded library and information service. Chatham House research is structured around three areas: Energy, Environment and Resource Governance which incorporates work on energy, environment and development policy; International Economics which is devoted to the study of international economic issues and policies; and Regional and Security Studies, which incorporates work on Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Russia and Eurasia, Global Health Security, International Security and International Law. www.chathamhouse.org

Media Partner



Bangkok Post

The Bangkok Post is Thailand's oldest daily newspaper, and will mark its 66th year in operation this year. Over 170 journalists work directly for the newspaper and its associated digital media channels. The newspaper's audited circulation averages 55,000 to 60,000 copies per day, with an estimated readership of 300,000 to 400,000 per day.

The English-language newspaper is the flagship publication of Post Publishing Plc, a company listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand. Post Publishing also publishes Post Today, a Thai-language business daily newspaper, and M2F, a freesheet city tabloid that is at 400,000 copies is the largest-circulation newspaper in Bangkok. www.bangkokpost.com