### Opening Session

**Moderation/Welcome remarks**

**Ms. Sol Iglesias** (The Philippines)

**Director**

**Asia Europe Foundation**

Sol Iglesias, a Filipino national, joined ASEF in 2003. She manages ASEF projects in international relations, human rights and democracy, sustainable development and academic co-operation. Prior to joining ASEF, she had worked for the Local Government Academy in the Philippines on UN projects in the areas of poverty alleviation and social reform and held various research posts in the Philippines and Singapore. She received her BA in Public Administration at the University of the Philippines and obtained her MA in Political Science at the National University of Singapore. She also attended a summer course on European institutions at the Institut d’Édutes Politiques de Paris in 2004. She has published a number of articles in Asian and European journals on politics in Southeast Asia as well as foreign relations between Asia and Europe.

### Session 1

**Chair:**

**Assoc. Prof. Chayodom Sabhasri** (Thailand)

**Director**

**Interdisciplinary Department of European Studies**

**Chulalongkorn University**

Chayodom Sabhasri received his B.Econ. from Chulalongkorn University, MSc in Economics from the LSE, and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with the scholarships from Chulalongkorn University and the Marie Christine Kohler Fellowship. He has taught for Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University since 1994. He served as a Deputy Director of MAEUS programme in 1997 and has become the Programme Director in 2006.

His academic works focus on international trade and international economic cooperation including the trade strategies under the
negotiation of WTO, APEC, ASEM, and ASEAN, the Development of the Non-Tariff Measures, and the Thai Strategic Trade Policy. Concerning international finance, he worked on the development of the EURO as a single currency which was published as a book. An important work on the economic integration, as being selected as a member of the joint research team between ASEAN and China, was to support the ASEAN Secretariat for the report on “Forging Closer ASEAN-China Economic Relationship in 21st Century”. Later, it has become the technical evidence in forming the ASEAN and China Free Trade Area (ACFTA). The current interest is on the EU-ASEAN economic cooperation.

Speakers:

**Dr. Albrecht Rothacher** (Germany)
Directorate General – External Relations, European Commission

Dr Albrecht ROTHACHER, born 1955 in Erlangen (Germany), works as a Counsellor and DCM at European Commission Delegation to the International Organisations in Vienna (www.ec.europa.eu). He is additionally a lecturer of Japanese economics at the Munich Business School. Dr. Rothacher received his M.A. from the University of Bridgeport/Yale University (1978) and his Ph.D. in Economics from the London School of Economics in 1982. He is married with four children.

**Dr. Natalia Chaban** (Ukraine)
National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE), University of Canterbury.

Dr Natalia Chaban is Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director of the National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE), University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Since 2002, she has been a research leader and co-supervisor of the comparative cross-national research project “The EU in Asia Pacific Region: Public, Elite and Media Images and Perceptions” currently involving 18 locations in the region. Dr Chaban has an extensive publication record actively pursuing her research interests in cognitive and semiotic aspects of political and mass media discourses, cross-cultural adjustment, image studies, and European/EU identity studies outside the EU.
Mr. Graham Watson MEP (United Kingdom)
Chair of the Delegation for relations with India, European Parliament

Graham Watson was born in Rothesay, Scotland, in March 1956, the son of a Royal Naval Officer and a teacher. He was educated at The City of Bath Boys' School and at Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh, where he gained an honours degree in Modern Languages. He is a qualified interpreter who speaks four European languages.

From 1983 to 1987 he served as Head of the Private Office of the Rt.Hon. Sir David Steel MP, then Leader of the Liberal Party. He had previously been active as General Secretary of the Liberal International's youth movement, and was a founder of the European Communities' Youth Forum.

Immediately before entering parliament Graham Watson worked for the Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation in their London and Hong Kong offices. His six years with HSBC encompassed a three-month stint with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Graham Watson was the first British Liberal Democrat ever to be elected to the European Parliament, winning the Somerset & North Devon constituency with a majority of over 22,500. In June 1999 Graham was elected to represent the new enlarged South West of England constituency, which covers Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon and Cornwall. He was also elected leader of the now eleven-strong group of UK Liberal Democrats in the European Parliament.

From 1994 to 1999, Graham was a member of the Committee for Economic & Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy and the Budgets Committee. From July 1999 to 2002 he served as Chairman of the Committee on Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs. He also maintains an active interest in the Far East and is an Adviser to the Asia Pacific Public Affairs Forum.
On 15 January 2002 Graham Watson was elected as Leader of the 53 strong group of Liberal Democrat members of the European Parliament. Graham stood down from this role after the European Election in June 2009 to return to the back benches. He sits on the Foreign Affairs Committee. He is a member of the European Parliament's delegations to China and India, the latter of which he chairs. Beyond Parliament, Graham is chairman of the global e-Parliament.


Mr. Kanishk Tharoor (India)
Associate Editor
Open Democracy

Kanishk Tharoor is associate editor at openDemocracy. His writings on politics and culture have also been published in the Guardian, The Independent, The National, The Hindu, The Times of India, The Telegraph (Calcutta), the Virginia Quarterly Review, Foreign Policy and YaleGlobal Online. His appearances on radio and TV include BBC's Today programme, BBC News, BBC Radio Scotland and the Colbert Report.

He is a published and award-winning author of short fiction. He studied at Yale, where he graduated magna cum laude with BAs in History and Literature. He is currently a FLAS scholar at Columbia University.

Session 2
Chair:
Mr. Xavier Nuttin (Belgium)  
Directorate-General for External Policies,  
Policy Unit,  
European Parliament  

Xavier Nuttin, a citizen of Belgium but above all a European citizen, is an official of the European Parliament since June 2005. He works in the Directorate General for External Affairs of the European Parliament where he covers Asia in the Policy department. His main responsibility is to provide tailor-made political analysis of Asian countries and advice to parliamentary bodies such as the Foreign affairs committee.

Prior to this, Xavier was an official of the European Commission, working in the Asia directorate. In the 90's he was posted at the European Commission Delegation to Thailand and the EC Delegation to Vietnam where he further developed his interest in and knowledge of the political situation of South-East Asia, including human rights and rule of law aspects. He has also been working in several countries in Asia in the 80's for Unesco, Unicef and the World Bank.

Speakers:

Ambassador Takayuki Kimura (Japan)  
Visiting Research Fellow  
European Union Institute

Ambassador Prof Takayuki Kimura presently serves as Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Professor at the International Christian University.

Born in the Miyagi Prefecture in and graduating from Tokyo University in 1962, Ambassador Prof Kimura entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) where he became 1st Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in Thailand.

Throughout his career in the ministry, Ambassador Prof Kimura took on positions such as Director, Multilateral Cooperation Division, Economic Cooperation Bureau, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Japan in Malaysia and Director-General, Cultural Affairs Department, MOFA. He has previously served as Ambassador to Jordan, Ambassador in

As an academic, Ambassador Prof Kimura has been a Visiting Fellow, Royal Institute of International Affairs, UK and Visiting Professor, University of South Florida, USA. Prior to his present appointment, he was a Corporate Advisor at Marubeni Corporation.

| Associate Professor Dr. Hamidin Abd. Hamid (Malaysia) |
| Deputy Executive Director |
| Asia-Europe Institute |

Hamidin Abd. Hamid is currently the Executive Director of Asia-Europe Institute (AEI), University of Malaya, Malaysia. He is also a member of the Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya. He graduated from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

| Prof. Rajendra K. Jain (India) |
| Professor |
| Centre for European Studies |
| Jawaharlal Nehru University, India |

Rajendra K. Jain is Professor of European Studies and Chairperson, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. He has been teaching contemporary European Studies at JNU since 1986. He is President, European Union Studies Association – Asia Pacific (2009- ); Secretary-General, Indian Association for European Union Studies and Guest Faculty at the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. He was Network Coordinator of the JNU European Union Studies Programme (funded by the European Commission).

Dr Jain was formerly Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellow at the University of Constance (1992-1993) and Visiting Fellow at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London (1993) and the Stiftung fuer Wissenschaft und Politik (1998), Germany. He has been Visiting Professor at Freiburg, Leipzig and Tuebingen (2002) university and at the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Paris (2005,
Michael Bruter is senior lecturer in European Political Science at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is currently directing several large scale comparative research projects on electoral psychology, European identity and citizenship, public opinion, electoral memory, political participation, and extreme right politics. He is involved in the APPP project directed by Prof. Martin Holland and Dr Natalia Chaban, particularly in the project’s public opinion component and its methodological aspects. In particular, Bruter is founding Europe’s only research structure dedicated to the study of electoral psychology, which will open at the LSE in early 2011 with prestigious partnerships with such institutions as Stanford and Columbia universities.

Some of Dr Bruter’s recent books include Mapping Extreme Right Ideology (forthcoming with Sarah Harrison), From the Engine Room: methods and Approaches in the Social Sciences (with Martin Lodge, forthcoming), The Future of our Democracies? (2009, with Sarah Harrison), Encyclopaedia of European Elections (2007, with Yves Deloye), Citizens of Europe (2005), and he has also published in numerous leading political science journals.

Dr Bruter’s talk will deal with the methodological, technical, and analytical challenges involved in the new EU in the eyes of Asia survey. He will present some of the team’s choice about how these challenges were tackled and answered and how the survey will be conducted.
Dr. Sebastian Bersick (Germany)
Associate Fellow
German Council on Foreign Relations

Dr. Sebastian Bersick is Lecturer in the Department of Government, National University of Ireland, Cork. He is also Associate Fellow at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), Berlin, in the China and Asia-Pacific Program.

He is a specialist in international relations, security and Asian affairs. His areas of research and teaching include EU-Asian relations (esp. EU-China, ASEM, EU-ASEAN), US-Asia relations, Chinese foreign and domestic politics, political transformation processes in Asia as well as regional cooperation in Asia (esp. ASEAN, EAS, APEC). He has published widely in these areas and is a frequent commentator in national and international media (e.g. Deutsche Welle World, The Economist, Financial Times Deutschland, International Herald Tribune).

Between April 2007 and June 2009 he was Associate in the Research Division Asia at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). From 2004 until 2007 he held the position of Senior Research Fellow at the European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS) in Brussels and served, inter alia, as the Expert Political Analyst of the Europe China Academic Network (ECAN).

Closing remarks:

Mr. Paul Van De Velde, (The Netherlands)
Senior Policy Advisor,
International Institute of Asian Studies,
University of Leiden, &,
General Project Manager, Europe-Asia Policy Forum

In 2008 Paul van der Velde established the Europe-Asia Policy Forum in Brussels as a think tank specialized in Europe-Asia Relations. He manages the overall project and provides the reports for the European Commission. In addition to his role with the Europe-Asia Policy Forum Paul is the Chief Executive Officer of International Convention for Asian
Studies, an organization which since its inception in 1997 has initiated six large-scale global Asian studies conventions bringing together academics across numerous disciplines.

Paul has studied Chinese and Expansion History in Leiden University and has received his Phd in 2000 from Leiden University. Paul has co-edited several books on Europe-Asia Relations.

Co-ordinators:

**Mr. Ronan Lenihan** (Ireland)
*Project Officer*
*Intellectual Exchange*  
*Asia-Europe Foundation*

Ronan Lenihan, is Project Officer for the European Studies in Asia (ESiA) network, an initiative of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF). The ESiA network promotes European Studies throughout Asia through numerous initiative most notably through the implementation of a large scale perceptions research project entitled, “The EU through the Eyes of Asia”. He also works in ASEFs new working area of “Economy and Society”, implementing projects looking at economic integration and the impact of the crisis on Asia and Europe.

He graduated from Dublin City University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies in 2006 and following this completed his MA in Globalisation and International Relations at the Centre for International Studies at Dublin City University. Prior to joining ASEF, he worked for a period in the private sector with Rabobank International in Dublin.

**Mr. Ger-Bart Egberts** (The Netherlands)
*Project Co-ordinator*  
*Europe – Asia Policy Forum*

In March 2010 Ger-Bart Egberts was appointed as Project Coordinator for the Europe-Asia Policy Forum. Previously he was a member of the University Council of Leiden University, specialized in Finance and Real Estate. He has studied Business Economics and Japanese Studies, and his fields of expertise include International Relations of East-Asia, International Political Economy and International Finance.