Programme of events

3:00pm  Registration and refreshments
3:30pm  Welcome Remarks
        Ambassador Michel Filhol
        Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation
3:40pm  Book presentation
        HE Federico Palomera
        Ambassador of Spain to Singapore
3:50pm  Panel Discussion
        Too Many Foreigners?
        Crises and their impact on Migration Flows
        Prof Antonio Marquina
        Complutense University of Madrid
        Discussants:
        Dr Aris Ananta
        Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
        Dr Mianur Rahman
        Institute of South Asian Studies
        Dr Reuben Wong
        National University of Singapore
4:20pm  Q&A Session
4:50pm  Closing remarks
        Amb Michel Filhol
        Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation
5:00pm  End of programme

When a crisis hits, should a country shut the door to migrants?

Migration is an important and sensitive topic today. Professor Antonio Marquina, who led the ASEF-supported ASEM Education Hub Thematic Network on Human Security, will kick off the panel discussion with the presentation of the latest book he has edited, Perspectives on Migration Flows in Asia and Europe. This publication is the third in a series by Asian and European scholars, after publications on energy security and global warming.

Prof Marquina analyses political, economic, social and environmental trends which prevent countries in Asia and Europe from stemming the flow of migrants. Factors that have played an important part include an ageing domestic population, the effects of the economic crisis, migration caused by environmental degradation and the exodus of political refugees.

Prof Antonio Marquina
Complutense University of Madrid

Professor Antonio Marquina is Chair in International Security and Cooperation at the Faculty of Political Science, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain. He is Founding Director of the Research Unit on Security and International Cooperation (UNISCI) and was Coordinator of the ASEM Education Hub Thematic Network on Human Security.

Dr Maquina has authored, co-authored and edited 108 books in English and Spanish on security and defence policy in Europe, Asia-Pacific and the Middle East.

He holds a Ph.D in International Relations and has degrees in Law, Economics, Political Theology, Sociology and Music.
Ambassador Michel Filhol began his career with the Ministry of Economics and Finance in 1977, later joining the Foreign Ministry in 1982. From 1985 to 1994, he was posted to French diplomatic missions overseas, serving as Deputy Head of Mission at the French Embassy in Prague, Tripoli and The Hague. He was later appointed Ambassador to Singapore (1999-2003) and Ambassador to Australia (2008-2011). He has received several distinctions, including Commander of the Order of the Legion of Honour and Knight in the National Order of Merit.

Dr Aris Ananta

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Dr Aris Ananta is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS). He is an economist-demographer with a multi-disciplinary perspective. His research focuses on two broad issues, namely, the complex relationship between migration, ageing and development in Southeast Asia; and the socioeconomic-political dynamics in Indonesia.

He is the editor of a newly-published book entitled Indonesian Economy: Entering a New Era. His forthcoming book, Poverty and Globalization and Southeast Asia will be published by ISEAS. He is currently editing Environment and Poverty in East and Southeast Asia.

He obtained his BA in Economics from the University of Indonesia, MSc in Socio-Economic Statistics from the George Washington University (USA) and Ph.D in Economics from Duke University (USA).

Dr Reuben Wong

National University of Singapore

Dr Reuben Wong teaches International Relations in the Political Science Department. He was a Foreign Service Officer and served as First Secretary in the Singapore Embassy in Paris from 1995 to 1998 after graduating from NUS as the top Direct Honours student in Political Science. Reuben completed an MPhil in European Politics and Society in Oxford University and a Ph.D in International Relations at the London School of Economics.

He is the author of several publications on EU and French foreign policy, including The Europeanization of French Foreign Policy: France and the EU in East Asia (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), and National and European foreign policies (co-edited with Christopher Hill, London and New York: Routledge, 2011).

Dr Md Mizanur Rahman

Institute of South Asian Studies

Dr Md Mizanur Rahman is a Research Fellow at the Institute of South Asian Studies. He was a post-doctoral fellow at the Asia Research Institute and a research fellow at the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore (NUS).

Dr Rahman has written numerous reports on international migration issues in Asia for the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Development Fund for Women - East and Southeast Asia. His work has also appeared in leading migration journals such as International Migration, Population, Space and Place; Journal of International Migration and Integration; and Asian Population Studies.

Dr Rahman obtained his Ph.D from the Department of Sociology at NUS. He received his Bachelor of Arts (first class Honours) and Master of Arts in Sociology (first class) from the Aligarh Muslim University (India).