Looking Ahead

- 25 May - 5 June 2006
  DUBLIN, AMSTERDAM, STOCKHOLM, TAMPERE, RIGA
  Culture and Civilisations Dialogue 14th ASEF Lecture Tour
  "Fahidah Democracy: The Paradox of Press Freedom in Asia and Europe" by David Ceadman (Philippines)

- 7 - 9 May 2006
  SINGAPORE
  Culture and Civilisations Dialogue: 8th ASEF Talks on the Hill
  "Re-fighting intellectual property: Economic and social policy challenges in Asia and Europe"

- 12 - 15 May 2006
  BEIJING (CHINA)
  "fmPulse Minutes"
  In cooperation with the One Minutes Foundation (OMF) and the Centre of Arts Beijing

- 14 - 21 May 2006
  BANGKOK (THAILAND)
  "fmPulse, Third Asia-Europe Music Camp"
  Co-organised with the Danish National Art Festival

- 6 June 2006
  BUON MA THIOT (VIETNAM)
  An ASEF-European Alliance for Asian Studies Workshop
  "Locating the Community in Asian Land Tenure" - Convenors: Institute of Agricultural Economics and Social Sciences Vietnam and Humboldt University Berlin

- 12 - 20 June 2006
  HELSINKI (FINLAND)
  Fourth Asia-Europe Art Camp
  Pan of ASEF cultural events in cooperation with Media Lab, University of Art and Design Helsinki

- 24 - 28 June 2006
  HANOI (VIETNAM)
  Networking Asian and European Young Volunteers
  ASEF Youth Committes; Co-organised with CYDIEU

- 22 -13 June 2006
  SINGAPORE
  International Relations: Preparatory meeting for 5th Asia-Europe Roundtable
  Co-organised with the Singapore Institute of International Affairs and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

ASEM Calendar

19 April 2006

- SEOUL (KOREA)
  International Conference on Customs Protection and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
  20 - 21 April 2006

- LARNACA (CYPRUS)
  Ninth ASEM Customs Enforcement Working Group (EWG) Meeting
  30 May - 3 June 2006

- HELSINKI (FINLAND)
  Seminar: "Regionalism vs Universalism in Global Order"
  8 June 2006

- COPENHAGEN (DENMARK)
  Fourth ASEM Conference on Counter-Terrorism
  5 - 7 July 2006

- LARNACA (CYPRUS)
  Second ASEM Interfaith Dialogue

The Multi-faceted Curator

A workshop on curatorial practices in the context of contemporary art developments and increasing cultural exchange between Asia and Europe

- 11 March 2006
  Jakarta and Bandung (Indonesia)

ASEF, together with the Goethe Institut Jakarta, co-organised the "Multi-faceted Curator", a one-week workshop which gathered 28 curators and critics from 19 ASEF member countries.

Thanks to your positive feedback from all participants, ASEF's partner and numerous supporters, ASEF is encouraged to strengthen its programmes not only in the field of young artists' exchange, independent art spaces and co-operation among museums (recognised by the second ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting in Paris in 2005) but also in areas relevant for curators, who are key actors in translating and mediating cultural contents between artists, audiences and policy makers.
The "Multi-faceted Curator" was prepared in collaboration with three resource curators: Rifky Effendi (Indonesia), Day Koh (Germany-Malaysia/Myanmar) and Angelika Nollert (Germany, replaced by Nina Montmann). Guest curator for the event was Ute Meta Bauer (Germany/USA), the director of the Visual Arts Programme and associate professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and also a co-curator of Documenta 11.

The one-week event, articulated around lectures, working groups and excursions to art organisations, opened the path for more networking opportunities and experience-sharing among the participants. It also served as a launch pad for future projects to be developed within the framework of new curatorial strategies between Europe and Asia.

"I am very happy I have been participating, it made me think again, of the fact that inter-cultural exchanges and the shared development of ideas and projects are the most interesting and mind-stirring experiences in our jobs as a curator. This is definitely where the major future scenes of curating things and projects like this should be thinking tanks for developing new strategies."

"I was informed of curatorial practices more from the West. The topic discussed at the workshop allowed me to articulate my position as a curator in Asia. But the East (the Pakistan)"

Does Asia-Europe cultural exchange really need a portal?

The idea of the portal may have been mooted at the ASEF level - but the need for it has been echoed by a whole range of practitioners, from policymakers to artists, that constitute the Asia-Europe cultural community. The Cultural Partnership Mapping feasibility study that ASEF and its partners than embarked upon revealed real areas for investigation as well as certain weak links in the chain of cultural information between the two regions that Culture360 could strengthen potentially. Still, doubts remain and these are some of the questions asked - followed by ASEF's responses.

There are so many information websites in Asia and Europe. Can't we just focus on them instead of inventing a new tool?

Yes, many websites exist in Europe, in particular, but they are also focused on particular disciplines (performing arts, visual arts, heritage etc.) or geographically limited (local, national or regional). There is currently no tool that directly promotes cultural exchange through a virtual platform and that serves as a gateway to other existing resources. The aim is thus not to duplicate what already exists but to add value to the existing resources while promoting easier access to information by approaching this information from a thematic angle (cultural policy, arts education, artists mobility etc.).

Can't we just Google it?

Taking the example of a theatre company from Spain looking for touring opportunities in Indonesia, it could perform a search using combinations of keywords like "touring", "theatre" and "Indonesia" on any conventional online search engine. The results displayed would be numerous and difficult to sift through especially if they relate to concepts or thematic areas rather than venues, individuals and events. The portal is expected to provide not just access to these resources but to also direct information seekers to information on the legal and policy framework related to touring in Indonesia, weblinks to theatres and venue opportunities, weblinks to articles related to touring experiences in Indonesia and other value-added services. The research engine available within the portal will be designed to track the most appropriate links and offline references on practical issues to promote mobility and its streamlined database will ensure that unsorted information is filtered out of the search results.

Will virtual spaces replace real meetings between Asian and European cultural professionals?

Not in a million years! Culture360 is designed to be a means to an end - the end being a vibrant, well-informed and empowered Asia-Europe Cultural Community engaged in real cultural exchange. Virtual exchanges will never replace real face-to-face dialogue. However, blogs, Nectar files and collaborative Wiki-based information sharing could add value to real-world long-term partnerships. In ASEF's work alone, Culture360 could be an excellent tool for project alumni to "keep in touch", update each other on their work, transmit information from the grassroots to policymakers, debate current events in the cultural scene, disseminate information on calls for applications and auditions, offer feedback on events, conferences and festivals and so much more.

Will posting information on the portal just be a free-for-all? How will we ensure the quality and accuracy of the content?

Experienced content providers and partner organisations will provide the majority of Culture360's content. Some sections of the portal will allow users to post their own content directly. In order to maintain the high standards expected of it, Culture360 will only feature online content that has been verified, vetted and approved by its content manager. Prior to approval, submitted content will be reviewed by a section accessible only to the content manager.

"The Multi-Dimensional Curator" was prepared in collaboration with three resource curators: Rifky Effendi (Indonesia), Day Koh (Germany-Malaysia/Myanmar) and Angelika Nollert (Germany, replaced by Nina Montmann). Guest curator for the event was Ute Meta Bauer (Germany/USA), the director of the Visual Arts Programme and associate professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and also a co-curator of Documenta 11.

The one-week event, articulated around lectures, working groups and excursions to art organisations, opened the path for more networking opportunities and experience-sharing among the participants. It also served as a launch pad for future projects to be developed within the framework of new curatorial strategies between Europe and Asia.

"I am very happy I have been participating, it made me think again, of the fact that inter-cultural exchanges and the shared development of ideas and projects are the most interesting and mind-stirring experiences in our jobs as a curator. This is definitely where the major future scenes of curating things and projects like this should be thinking tanks for developing new strategies."

"I was informed of curatorial practices more from the West. The topic discussed at the workshop allowed me to articulate my position as a curator in Asia. But the East (the Pakistan)"

Does Asia-Europe cultural exchange really need a portal?

The idea of the portal may have been mooted at the ASEF level - but the need for it has been echoed by a whole range of practitioners, from policymakers to artists, that constitute the Asia-Europe cultural community. The Cultural Partnership Mapping feasibility study that ASEF and its partners than embarked upon revealed real areas for investigation as well as certain weak links in the chain of cultural information between the two regions that Culture360 could strengthen potentially. Still, doubts remain and these are some of the questions asked - followed by ASEF's responses.

There are so many information websites in Asia and Europe. Can't we just focus on them instead of inventing a new tool?

Yes, many websites exist in Europe, in particular, but they are also focused on particular disciplines (performing arts, visual arts, heritage etc.) or geographically limited (local, national or regional). There is currently no tool that directly promotes cultural exchange through a virtual platform and that serves as a gateway to other existing resources. The aim is thus not to duplicate what already exists but to add value to the existing resources while promoting easier access to information by approaching this information from a thematic angle (cultural policy, arts education, artists mobility etc.).

Can't we just Google it?

Taking the example of a theatre company from Spain looking for touring opportunities in Indonesia, it could perform a search using combinations of keywords like "touring", "theatre" and "Indonesia" on any conventional online search engine. The results displayed would be numerous and difficult to sift through especially if they relate to concepts or thematic areas rather than venues, individuals and events. The portal is expected to provide not just access to these resources but to also direct information seekers to information on the legal and policy framework related to touring in Indonesia, weblinks to theatres and venue opportunities, weblinks to articles related to touring experiences in Indonesia and other value-added services. The research engine available within the portal will be designed to track the most appropriate links and offline references on practical issues to promote mobility and its streamlined database will ensure that unsorted information is filtered out of the search results.

Will virtual spaces replace real meetings between Asian and European cultural professionals?

Not in a million years! Culture360 is designed to be a means to an end - the end being a vibrant, well-informed and empowered Asia-Europe Cultural Community engaged in real cultural exchange. Virtual exchanges will never replace real face-to-face dialogue. However, blogs, Nectar files and collaborative Wiki-based information sharing could add value to real-world long-term partnerships. In ASEF's work alone, Culture360 could be an excellent tool for project alumni to "keep in touch", update each other on their work, transmit information from the grassroots to policymakers, debate current events in the cultural scene, disseminate information on calls for applications and auditions, offer feedback on events, conferences and festivals and so much more.

Will posting information on the portal just be a free-for-all? How will we ensure the quality and accuracy of the content?

Experienced content providers and partner organisations will provide the majority of Culture360's content. Some sections of the portal will allow users to post their own content directly. In order to maintain the high standards expected of it, Culture360 will only feature online content that has been verified, vetted and approved by its content manager. Prior to approval, submitted content will be reviewed by a section accessible only to the content manager.

For more information on the development of Culture360, please turn to page 10 for some information on the recent Partners’ Coordination Meeting.
Once upon a time... At the First ASEM Culture Minister's Meeting... The IDEA for an online tool to promote exchanges of cultural information and expertise is mooted. ASEF is tasked with carrying out a feasibility study on the development of the proposed CULTURAL PORTAL!

Research!
- Resources in Asia
- Resources in Europe
- Technical Aspects of Portal Development

Consultative Meetings
- On content
- On technical aspects
- On partnerships and Sustainability

This is the Cultural Partnership Mapping Process!

1. The NEED to address the DISPARITY in the availability of information, between Asia and Europe

2. The NEED for a THEMATIC APPROACH to the organisation and of presentation information.

3. The NEED for DIVERSED PARTNERSHIPS

Main Recommendations...

Feedback!
Presentations on the idea of the PORTAL are made at several INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS and FEEDBACK is gathered from cultural managers, policymakers and artists!

The Partners' Coordination Meeting

Aims
- Establishment of development timeline for Culture360
- Agreement upon partners' roles and responsibilities
- Brainstorming on Culture360's future development and management
- Discussion on strategies to raise awareness about Culture360
- Agreement upon parameters of the Asian Mapping Exercise

Launch of the Culture360 USER SURVEY!

Launch of the ASIAN MAPPING EXERCISE!

More Feedback!
MORE presentations on Culture360's progress are made and more FEEDBACK is gathered from its future stakeholders!

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT begins!

FUNDING AND SPONSORSHIP are sought and obtained!

Crucial PARTNERSHIPS are built
- Content Development
- Technical Development
- Funding
- Legal
- Government Support

We need a NAME for the portal... one that embodies everyone's 1 represents...

Ideas take SHAPE!
Culture360 is BORN!

Cultural Practitioners
Policy Makers
Artists
Researchers
Cultural Resource Managers
ASEMUS Virtual Collection of Masterpieces
22-24 January 2006
Chiang Mai (Thailand)

update

The ASEMUS Virtual Collection of Masterpieces (VCM), a web-accessible selection of images and accompanying information about 1,000 exquisite, "masterpieces" objects from Asian and European museums.

The VCM is different from other museum portals or virtual exhibitions because at its core is a collection that represents the coming together of masterworks from 40 Asian and European museums. It is spearheaded by the National Museum of Ethnology, Leiden (The Netherlands) and Gyeonggi Provincial Museum (Korea).

To maximise the full potential and establish high visibility for both ASEF and ASEMUS, the project consortium is expected to produce a prototype by August 2006. This project will also be a part of ASEF's presentation called "Borderless Me" during the ASEF 6 Summit in Helsinki, Finland in September 2006.

Official launch of the VCM project is expected to take place in December 2006. For more info, please visit www.asemus.org.

ASEMUS Travelling Exhibition
Self and Other (Curators' Meeting)
25-29 January 2006
Stockholm (Sweden)

The team of ASEMUS Travelling Exhibition (Travex) has been working closely together for the past three years with 18 museums from Asia and Europe, with over 30 curators actively engaged in its development. The planned three-year touring portraiture exhibition Self and Other, led by the British Museum (United Kingdom) and the National Museum of Ethnology (Osaka, Japan), is done in close partnership with ASEF.

Travex is now moving towards the next stage in the realisation of this exhibition. During this Stockholm meeting, 14 curators from museums from China, Ireland, Japan, Portugal, Sweden, Spain, Thailand and the United Kingdom were present to discuss the curatorial contents and organisational concerns of the project. On 26 January 2006, a public forum was hosted at the Far Eastern Antiquities Museum as part of the team's preparatory outreach programme.

This exhibition is scheduled to be opened at the Shanghai History Museum in China in July 2008 and to travel in Asia and Europe until 2010. For more info, please visit www.asemus.org.

Eighteenth ASEF Board of Governors' Meeting
16-17 February 2006
ASEF Headquarters (Singapore)

The 18th ASEF Board of Governors' Meeting took place on 16-17 February 2006 at ASEF headquarters in Singapore. It was the largest assembly at this level since the expansion of ASEM's membership from 26 to 39 member governments in 2004.

This meeting saw the hand-over of the Chairmanship of the Board from Ambassador Paul Brouwer of the Netherlands to Ambassador Satoharidjo Wiyono of Indonesia. Governor Kaurina Suen of Finland assumed the Vice Chairmanship.

The 18th BoG was preceded by the meetings of the Finance and Audit Committees (chaired by Dr. Tom Hardevan of Ireland) and the Executive Committee (whose new membership comprises the Governors of China, Finland, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, Thailand and the European Commission, in addition to the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director). Mr. Bertrand Fort of France, the incumbent Director of Intellectual Exchange, was also appointed as the Deputy Executive Director at this meeting of the Board.

The new chairman, Ambassador Wiyono (right) in a discussion with the new vice-chairman Governor Suen.
In a spirit of openness and mutual respect, 100 officials and civil society representatives from 36 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) countries converged in Budapest, Hungary, to exchange views and perspectives on the state of play and best practices in the field of human rights of ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities.

Hosted by the Central European University (CEU), whose social science curriculum places a strong emphasis on human rights and democracy issues, the 7th Informal ASEAN Seminar on Human Rights is the latest in a series initiated on the occasion of the first meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Singapore in February 1997 to promote mutual understanding and cooperation between Asia and Europe in the area of political dialogue, particularly on human rights issues.

Recommendations from 7th Informal ASEAN Seminar on Human Rights

Presented at the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting in Vienna, Austria, on 8 March 2006:

1. Member states should make more use of ASEAN to discuss minority rights due to the Informal Character of the ASEAN process;
2. Asian ASEAN members could consider a regional instrument on human rights, in general and, minority rights, in particular;
3. ASEAN governments could utilise the sidelines of United Nations meetings and relevant ASEAN ministerial meetings for further relevant discussions;
4. ASEAN is encouraged to consider becoming more active in the area of training and awareness-raising on minority rights issues.

World Deauville Conference

16 – 11 March 2006

Deauville (France)

Economic and political leaders, experts, academics and professionals from Asia and Europe gathered for an intensive two-day forum in Deauville (France) to exchange perspectives on current controversial issues of the Asia-Europe business relationship, namely, work and consumption, corporate social responsibility, trade and globalisation and to provoke transformation of public attitudes towards the Asia-Europe economic and trade relations.

held back-to-back with the International Asian Film Festival of Deauville, the Forum positioned itself at the crossroads between business and culture to identify a way to encourage exchanges and promote cultural understanding in the business sector, in a means for growth. The panel organised specifically by ASEF looked into social and cultural determinants of work and consumption behaviours in Asia and Europe.

During one plenary session and two workshops, participants discussed the role of trade unions, corporate social responsibility and inter-cultural management. This last aspect was the highlight of this panel. It was developed through two aspects, one of observation on the ground illustrated by three short movies from the series "Deadly Deauville" featuring the Philippines Commission on Indigenous People, Philippines (the Philippines); and the University of Economics and Technology of Bocconi University (Milan), UNESCO Italia (Turin) and the Harriet Taylor Mill Institute/ Berlin School of Economics (Berlin).

Paris, 15 March 2006

Credit: France 2

The full text of this lecture is available on the website of the Cultures & Civilisations Dialogue programme. For more information, please contact Ms. Sohini Kaur at sohini.kaur@asef.org.

The lecture is entitled "Gender Wage Differentials in Asia and Europe: An Overview of Issues and Findings," spanned across 5 days in Europe. The lecture elaborated on identifying the various factors that has impacted the wage differentials in the various countries of Asia and Europe. Further, it discussed whether the focus of policy to narrow the gender wage gap should be upon enhancing equal pay within occupations or redistributing female employees between occupations.

In the various cities, the lectures were hosted by Panteion University Centre for Gender Studies Athens, Institute for International Economic Relations (IREEA), Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS), Nicosia, Institute di studio economico-socio per l’Asia Orientale e Basso Medio (Milan), UNIFEM Italia (Turin) and the Harriet Taylor Mill Institute/ Berlin School of Economics (Berlin).

Mr. B. Ganesh, from the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS, France), and one, a more conceptual approach developed by Ms. Assia Dabbour (consultant, Malaysia).

This significant event was held under the High Patronage of the President of the French Republic and co-organised by ASEF and the French association Le Monde de Demain, in partnership with the United Nations Economic, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and with the support of various corporate and institutional sponsors such as Hutchison Whampoa, Cayden Group, Suec, Arcelor, Koreen Air, the Japanese External Trade Organisation, the Financial Times, and many others.

Prestigious speakers such as Hershey V. Singh, Deputy Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Kyriatoka Akasaka, Deputy Secretary General of the OECD, Long Yen (Secretary General of China’s Boao Forum and Christian Suttor, former French Finance and Budget Minister launched the debates.

Mr. P. Haritman, chairman of IBM International Treasury service and ASEF’s Board of Governors for India, also made a stimulating intervention. This media widely reported on the Forum, which shows a need to further extend Asia-Europe discussions in this area.

For more information, please visit the dedicated conference website at www.wb2006.org or contact Ms. Sohini Kaur at sohini.kaur@asef.org.

"Rather than fear the economic expansion of China and the rest of Asia, Europe should look for ways to reap benefits from it to the maximum." Long Yen (Secretary General of the Boao Forum of China) advocated, while Gary Cox, President of the Hong Kong-based investment bank CLSA, observed that "there is an increase in costs where local capital from Asia is buying up European firms" and recommended that "Europe must not take this in negative light."
**Culture360**

**Partners' Coordination Meeting**

17-18 April 2006
Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

This meeting, jointly organised by ASEF and the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage of Malaysia, marked the beginning of a new phase in the development of the Culture360 portal.

A true collective effort amongst its diverse stakeholders and a concrete example of ASEF having a real, tangible output, Culture360 is planned to be launched at the 3rd ASEF Culture Ministers' Meeting to be held in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) in 2007.

As intended by the Culture Ministers of ASEF when they endorsed its development at the 2nd ASEF Culture Ministers' Meeting in June 2005 in Paris (France), Culture360's development continues to be coordinated by ASEF, with the full participation of the governments of the ASEAN partners.

The focus of this meeting, which gathered ministry and national cultural agency representatives from China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, was on the Asian Mapping Exercise. This ambitious endeavour will see the coordinated effort of the Asian ASEAN countries towards the common goal of documenting the existing cultural resources in the region to promote their accessibility and visibility.

Joining the Asian participants were Culture360's content partners from European and International organisations such as the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA), Visiting Arts and the European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA). Observers from several European embassies in Kuala Lumpur were also present at the meeting, which took place two days before a meeting of Deputy Heads of Mission of the European Union embassies in Kuala Lumpur where ASEF had already been scheduled to present the Culture360 portal.

**The Asia-Europe Environment Forum**

**3rd Steering Committee Meeting**

28-29 April 2006
Copenhagen (Denmark)

ASEF's flagship environment programme received fresh support for a second phase during the Asia-Europe Environment Forum 3rd Steering Committee Meeting, held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 28-29 April 2006. Hosted by the European Environment Agency (EEA), the Copenhagen Meeting reiterated the forum's mission to provide policy recommendations on sustainable development issues, with more direct input into official negotiations and regional and inter-regional policy co-ordination, particularly in the ASEF framework.

The meeting not only served as a platform for discussion but also yielded tangible results such as the implementation timeline for the Asian Mapping Exercise that will serve as the basis for ASEF's partnerships with the Asian ASEAN member governments. Also arising from the meeting were recommendations for the management of the portal beyond its launch in 2007, including its governance structure, visibility and funding.

The website features essential information for students, faculty and researchers of European studies:

- What's new on the shelves (new books and articles)
- Who's who and who's doing what (visiting academics in East Asia)
- Calendar (noteworthy events)

The website also features the first extensive directory of European Studies in the 38 Asian and European members of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), spanning East Asia and all the members of the European Union. The site also hosts the newly-launched ESMonitor, an email newsletter that highlights articles and events from website. ESMonitor was initiated to strengthen European studies in Asia, balancing and informing Asian studies in Europe. Apart from the website, ESMonitor partners are collaborating on the research project, ESMonitoring Asia Through the Eyes of Europe, a Public Perceptions and Media Representations in China (Shanghai) and Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand.

For more information, please contact esia@asef.org.

**Cultural Exchange Events and News Summary**

- The Puppet Theatre Performance (including traditional stories from China, Indonesia and Thailand), as part of the ASIA-Europe cultural events supported by ASEF, opened on 23 March 2006 until 26 April 2006. Twenty-one performances were held in front of Chinese children at 11 venues throughout Finland. This was part of the "Year of Asian Culture".

- "Urban Environment," an exhibition based on the Asia-Europe Forum for Young Photographers 2004 in Taipei, was held in Gogeschool Cent (Belgium) from 23 March to 22 April 2006.

- The report on the Staff Exchange Programme between Autonomous Cultural Centres, held from July to October 2005, is now available online at www.asef.org/dtcr/zh/banghu2004

- As a follow-up project of the Asia-Europe Forum for Young Photographers 2005, Kaunas Photos Days 2006 (Lithuania) called for entries from Asian and European young photographers for "Euroasia - Re-mapping Continents" project. The complete information is available online at www.asef.org/dtcr/er/photos2005
Conflict Prevention: Actors, Institutions and Mechanisms Sharing Experiences between Asia and Europe

The volume aims to present an overview of the conceptual case studies and lessons from the 4th Asia-Europe Roundtable (AER) which was held in Berlin, Germany, on 19-20 April 2003. It was co-organised by ASEF, the Friedeburg Stiftung Office for Regional Co-operation in Southeast Asia (Germany-Singapore office) and the Singapore Institute of International Affairs.

Its key message is that actors, institutions and mechanisms for early warning are already largely in place - it is ultimately a matter of political will to effectively prevent conflict. It underlines the importance of broadening the visibilities between Asia and Europe beyond economic ties. The project was featured in the 1st trimester 1/2005.

Democratizing Access to Justice in Transitional Countries

Edited by Bertrand Fort

The book presents bi-regional perspectives on topics such as the quantifying of access to justice through constitutional and legal reforms, the quality and applicability of free legal aid mechanisms and the creation of a culture of openness and public empowerment.

The publication arises from a workshop with the same title, held in Bogor, Indonesia on 27-28 June 2005, jointly initiated by ASEF, the Habbibie Center (Indonesia) and the Hasan Soedji Foundation (HSF Indonesia). The workshop, featured in the 1st trimester 2/2005, was a natural outcome of the integration of new members from Eastern Europe and mainland Southeast Asia into the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process and aimed to be a venue for transitional countries in Asia and Europe to compare their experiences in the domains of legal reform.

Asia-Europe Colloquy on University Co-operation Series volume 1: Asia-Europe Colloquy on Universities of Tomorrow

ISBN 981-05-3108-0
Edited by Ramon Molina

This publication features the contributions of interested experts and touches on the state of Asia-Europe university co-operation, emerging innovations in higher education and the impact of globalisation on the possibilities in store for academic institutions in the two regions. Among the main volume's contributors are Benoit Wichter, Cesar de Prada Yegas, Leo Gao-Waldboume, Erwin van Vught, Carlo Filippini, Oikokhi Abul Razzak, Nantana Guarnier and Datta Sutijanggo of Manchester.

The Jakarta 12 Asia-Europe Agendas for Sustainable Development

Edited by Bertrand Fort and Sol Iglesias

This is a new publication from ASEF’s flagship programme, the Asia-Europe Environment Forum. It presents a summary of the proceedings of the conference “1/3 of Our Planet: What Can Asia and Europe Do for Sustainable Development?” held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 23-25 November 2005, concluding the first phase of the Forum. The conference was attended by 350 high-level representatives from civil society, governments, multilateral institutions and the business community, and co-organised by ASEF, the Hasan Soedji Foundation (HSF Indonesia), the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES-Japan), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and KEDI-The Indonesian Biodiversity Foundation.

The book includes ten special presentations and reports from all twelve workshops, hosted by prominent organisations in the field of the environment and sustainable development, held within the framework of the conference. For more information about the Asia-Europe Environment Forum, please visit http://www.env.asraf.org.

The conference was the cover story of the 3rd trimester 3/2009.

Outgoing Staff:
- Mr Hendrik Kloninger, Germany (Deputy Executive Director)
- Ms Sreemoyee Hu, China (Special Assistant to Deputy Executive Director)
- Ms Claire Robert, France (Project Assistant)
- Mr Jonathan O’Neill, Ireland (Intern)
- Ms Eva Pajacova, Czech Republic (Intern)
- Ms Eva Ruiz, France (Intern)

Incoming Staff:
- Mr Jimmy Singal, Indonesia (Web Designer)
- Ms Peter Sim, Singapore (Maintenance Technician)
- Ms Ng Yen Yan, Singapore (Admin Assistant)
- Ms Alex Ahm Joo, Korea (Intern)
- Ms Anna Kuzina, Estonia (Intern)
- Mr David O’Con, Spain (Intern)
- Mr Marie Rupped, Germany (Intern)
- Mr Eric Pardo Sauvageot, Spain (Intern)
- Ms Tanja Stilman, Finland (Intern)

Appointments:
- Mr Bertrand Fort (France) is appointed Deputy Executive Director.
- Ms Sol Iglesias (Philippines) is appointed Acting Director of Intellectual Exchange.
- Ms Marie Le Souris (France) is appointed Acting Director of Cultural Exchange.
ASEF University Series Volume 12: Asia-Europe Co-operation on the Environment: Towards Sustainable Forest Management

Edited by Ramon Malina

The volume is a compilation of academic papers and presentations on the environment delivered at the 12th ASEF University held in July 2005 in Brno, Czech Republic. It discusses timely issues concerning trans-boundary haze and pollution, biodiversity and global warming and presents alternative and recommendations for government and civil societal action and international co-operation.

Music CD

ImPULSE GOL

This CD features the live recording of ImPULSE GOL, gala concert held at the Daghdha Space in Limerick (Ireland) on 16 November 2005 as a result of the one-week Asia-Europe Music Camp organised by ASEF in co-operation with the Irish World Music Centre.

The project, involving 11 traditional singers from Asia and Europe, was held with the aim of celebrating the human voice in traditional culture in the contemporary world. It was featured in the ASEF Newsletter. 

ASEA in the News

Plan to use comics to bridge Asia, Europe gap

After the communityEuropean, a "community Asia"?

Call for Papers

The Asia-Europe Journal is calling for contributions from Asian scholars writing about Europe, or European scholars writing about Asia.

Article should cover bi-continental relations in the fields of politics, history, economics, culture or communication.

It should be in English, no longer than 7,000 words, footnoted with an abstract, and previously unpublished.

Please email your submission in electronic doc format to asej@asef.org.

For further information on the Asia-Europe Journal, please visit www.asef.org or contact Ms. Suh Lai Yee at asef@asef.org.

DVD

Focus on Asia

The two discs contain 11 interviews with Asian women filmmakers invited at the Cartell International Women Film Festival in March 2005. Background in cinema, sources of inspiration, current and future projects form the core of these dialogues with promising and experienced women filmmakers from China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, The Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The project was featured in the ASEF Newsletter.

ASEAN Newsletter

Volume 4 Number 1/April 2006

Editor in Chief: Dr. Albrecht Rothacher

The quarterly Asia-Europe Journal (ASEA) is devoted to the interdisciplinary and intercultural studies and research between Asia and Europe in the social sciences and humanities. It covers various aspects of bilateral relationships, comparative studies, Asian studies from a European perspective, or European studies from an Asian viewpoint.

The first issue in 2006 features the following articles:

- Fidal: Valdex Ramos, Europe is where the future is being shaped.
- Jörgen Oström Måller: Global trends affecting Asia.
- Wilhelm Van der Geest: Political and Security Issues in EU-East Asia Relations.
- Wu Wu Zhang: The Long-term Outlook for China's Political Reform and European Interests.
- Shige Yeo: How does China perform in Science and Technology?

- Roberta Zavaretti: Family Based Care for China's Aging Population.
- Sophie Rousseau du Rocher: Can ASEAN and the EU-ASEAN Partnership support in Northeast Asia?
- Sebastian Benda: Strategic Considerations in the US-China Relationship: A Role for Europe?
- Sean Golden: Social Cultural Aspects of the Relationship between the EU and East Asia.


Call for Papers

The Asia-Europe Journal is calling for contributions from Asian scholars writing about Europe, or European scholars writing about Asia.

Article should cover bi-continental relations in the fields of politics, history, economics, culture or communication.

It should be in English, no longer than 7,000 words, footnoted with an abstract, and previously unpublished.

Please email your submission in electronic doc format to asej@asef.org.

For further information on the Asia-Europe Journal, please visit www.asef.org or contact Ms. Suh Lai Yee at asef@asef.org.

ASEAN Newsletter

Volume 4 Number 1/April 2006

Editor in Chief: Dr. Albrecht Rothacher

The quarterly Asia-Europe Journal (ASEA) is devoted to the interdisciplinary and intercultural studies and research between Asia and Europe in the social sciences and humanities. It covers various aspects of bilateral relationships, comparative studies, Asian studies from a European perspective, or European studies from an Asian viewpoint.

The first issue in 2006 features the following articles:

- Fidal: Valdex Ramos, Europe is where the future is being shaped.
- Jörgen Oström Måller: Global trends affecting Asia.
- Wilhelm Van der Geest: Political and Security Issues in EU-East Asia Relations.
- Wu Wu Zhang: The Long-term Outlook for China's Political Reform and European Interests.
- Shige Yeo: How does China perform in Science and Technology?

- Roberta Zavaretti: Family Based Care for China's Aging Population.
- Sophie Rousseau du Rocher: Can ASEAN and the EU-ASEAN Partnership support in Northeast Asia?
- Sebastian Benda: Strategic Considerations in the US-China Relationship: A Role for Europe?
- Sean Golden: Social Cultural Aspects of the Relationship between the EU and East Asia.