

International Lecture Series 2022/23

Entering Choppy Waters? Cooperation and Competition in the Indo-Pacific



Wed, November 16, 2022 11 a.m. Eastern Standard Time / 5 p.m. Berlin time via Zoom
Registration link: https://uni-due.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-RRSCF7MSKS4Jm8hoh5D3g

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How the Ukraine War Undermined Strategic Triangularity in the Indo-Pacific

In the post-cold war era, strategic triangles driven by Russia, Japan, and South Korea changed the face of international relations. By 2020, however, Sino-US polarization was gaining ground although Tokyo and Seoul sought to keep triangularity alive. In 2022 they finally lost hope: the Ukraine war and the strong US response as well as domestic politics overcame their aspirations. This talk will draw on my 2022 book, strategic triangles reshaping international relations in East Asia. It also draws on recent articles in the *Asan* forum on Japan's strategic thinking toward the Indo-Pacific over the past decade and South Korea's strategic thinking toward the region over this time frame. All of these sources are freely available online.

Gilbert Rozman is the Emeritus Musgrave Professor of Sociology and the editor-in-chief of *The Asan Forum*, a bi-monthly, online journal on international relations in the Indo-Pacific region. He taught at Princeton from 1970 to 2013. His specialization is Northeast Asia—China, Japan, Russia, and South Korea—including modernization, national identities, mutual perceptions, regionalism, and strategic thinking. Much of his work has involved comparisons—of socialism and the transition away from the traditional forms of it; of Confucian legacies and their impact on modern societies; of national strategies for regionalism and how they conflict with each other; and of the sources of distrust in bilateral relations and in relations with the United States.

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