



American Institute
for Contemporary
German Studies
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY



JOHNS HOPKINS
SCHOOL of ADVANCED
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Rising Tensions in East Asia? A Transatlantic Perspective

October 24, 2014

SAIS Nitze Building - Kenney Auditorium
1740 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20036

The rise of Asia has become a key issue for transatlantic relations. While the United States “rebalances” or “pivots” toward the Asia Pacific, its European allies are pursuing their own interests with rising powers. Germany has taken a leading role not only as one of the biggest exporters to the region, but also as a key partner for China within the European Union. Recently, these relationships have been tested by rising tensions in Northeast Asia and the grave threat of regional instability.

What are the consequences of Asia’s rise for transatlantic relations? What are the opportunities for increased U.S. and European political coordination and risks of economic competition in Asia? Can the deep-seated, historical antagonisms between China, Japan, and South Korea be addressed by an exchange of knowledge about Germany’s experience with reconciliation? What is the role of leadership in dealing with these challenges?

This conference will seek to inform and expand the ongoing transatlantic debate about China, Japan, and South Korea. AICGS has already initiated dialogue between German and Northeast Asian experts from civil society and is now adding the U.S. perspective on the political, economic, and historical dimensions to rising tensions in East Asia.

10:00 – 10:30am **Check-in and Breakfast**

10:30 – 10:45am **Introductions**

Lily Gardner Feldman, AICGS
Jae H. Ku, U.S.-Korea Institute, SAIS

10:45 – 12:00pm **Panel I: Regional Economic Challenges and Opportunities**

What are U.S. and German trade dynamics in the region, including the implications of TPP and TTIP? Have tensions impacted trilateral trade among South Korea, Japan, and China? Is there a potential for a more integrated East Asian community and a U.S. or European role in supporting regional integration?

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Moderator: Jackson Janes, AICGS
Speakers: Bill Brooks, Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, SAIS
Thomas Hueck, Bosch GmbH
JoAnn Fan, Brookings Institution

12:00 – 12:30pm **Lunch Break**

12:30 – 1:45pm **Panel II: The Burden of the Past in East Asian Relations**

Reconciliation is a long-term, messy process of turning enmity into amity. This panel will focus on the hotly contested issues of compensation of war-time victims, interpretations of history in textbooks, and the role of civil society in addressing this challenge. How significant do the U.S. and German governments consider these historical issues? As different types of international powers (global vs. middle power), do they have different perspectives on reconciliation?

Moderator: Lily Gardner Feldman, AICGS
Speakers: Mark E. Manyin, Congressional Research Service
Seiko Mimaki, Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, SAIS
Martina Timmerman, TIMA International

1:45 – 2:00pm **Coffee Break**

2:00 – 2:45 pm **Keynote Speech and Q&A**

Volker Stanzel, former Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Japan and the People's Republic of China

2:45 – 4:00pm **Panel III: The Role of Leadership in Resolving Conflict**

What is the role for political leadership in East Asia in resolving territorial issues and developing conflict resolution mechanisms? What are the regional implications of Japan's reinterpretation of the security provisions of its constitution? What is the role of U.S. and German/European leadership in East Asia?

Moderator: Daqing Yang, The George Washington University
Speakers: Pascal Abb, German Institute of Global and Area Studies
Jae H. Ku, U.S.-Korea Institute, SAIS
Sheila Smith, Council on Foreign Relations