



THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

The Trans-Pacific Partnership and Beyond: Advancing Canadian Trade and Investment in Asia

Canadian War Museum

June 18, 2015
Ottawa, ON

Over the past two decades much of Asia has experienced a phenomenal economic transformation, becoming the global engine of economic growth and offering numerous opportunities for Canadian trade diversification. Canada is not alone in looking toward the region and faces tough competition in accessing Asian markets. Canada's market share of imports to Asia has been shrinking over the last decade, representing 0.9 per cent of total imports to Asia in 2012.* This raises an important question: What are the smartest methods Canada can pursue in order to capitalize on the best trade and investment opportunities Asia has to offer?

Since 2006, Canada has signed nine free trade agreements but only one in Asia (South Korea, 2014). Canada's formal trade linkages with Asia are not as strong as they could be. This symposium will take a closer look at the most significant ongoing multilateral Asian trade negotiation that currently includes Canada: The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Although Canada was slow to come on board, Ottawa has been actively engaged in TPP negotiations since 2012. Discussions will include where things currently stand with TPP negotiations and look beyond the TPP to evaluate the evolving trade landscape in Asia and policy considerations for Canada.

Within the analysis of Asian trade architecture, this symposium will take a closer look at a dynamic and sometimes overlooked sub region: The economies of Southeast Asia (collectively known as ASEAN - The Association of Southeast Asian Nations). With a combined population of 605 million and a GDP of US\$2.2 trillion, ASEAN is a market with strong growth prospects and untapped potential. Recent analysis suggests Canada is trailing behind Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. in terms of engagement in the Southeast Asian marketplace and needs to raise its overall level of commitment to ASEAN or risk being left behind, both within and outside of the TPP (which includes 4 ASEAN states). This symposium will explore how Canada can increase trade and investment in this vibrant region.

* Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada. Note: Higher intra-regional trade flows in East Asia, explain in part the declining Canadian share in the region's imports. <http://www.asiapacific.ca/statistics/trade/market-share/canadas-market-share-asia>



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AGENDA

Thursday, June 18, 2015
Barney Danson Theater
Canadian War Museum

10:25 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Welcome Remarks**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Canadian Trade and Investment Policy and Asia-Pacific**

This panel will discuss Canada’s economic pathway back to Asia through international trade and investment agreements including the current status of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the red-flags Canada should be aware of as negotiations continue. Could the TPP be more ambitious? Should Canada advocate broadening the TPP or moving beyond it? Discussions will also include other trade agreements currently in development in the broader Asian region such as the RCEP and the FTAAP) and the implications that exist for Canada. The panel will explore the status of Canada’s current bilateral trade negotiations with countries such as Japan, India and potentially China as well as the importance of Canadian investment agreements, such as FIPA’s, in the region and the next steps for Canada. Are there lessons learned from the experiences of others in the region, such as the United States, Australia and New Zealand?

Scene setter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eva Busza, Vice-President, Research and Programs, Asia Pacific Foundation
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Ailish Campbell, Vice President Policy, International and Fiscal Issues, Canadian Council of Chief Executives • Martha Hall Findley, Executive Fellow, The School of Public Policy & Chair, Advisory Committee - Partnership for Resource Trade • Jeffrey Schott, Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics • Peter Petri, Carl J. Shapiro Professor of International Finance, Brandeis University
Respondent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Dawson, Director, Canada Institute, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch with Keynote Address:**
Randolph Mank, Vice President and Board Member, Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Singapore, and former Ambassador to Malaysia, Pakistan and Indonesia

1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Canada and Southeast Asia: Getting Back in the Game**



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The huge economies and opportunities in Northeast Asia often result in overlooking the vibrant economies of Southeast Asia (the ten states of ASEAN). Although Canadian efforts in ASEAN have increased in the past several years – to what extent do such actions represent a long-term strategic vision for the region? To pursue Canadian initiatives and to negotiate bilateral/multilateral deals, Canada needs participate more actively in regional institutions, as commercial policy alone will not work in this complicated region. How does Canada advance trade with ASEAN (or its individual states), within the larger strategic picture of Southeast Asian regional architecture? The panel will also explore where Canada is currently engaged within Southeast Asia, what more needs to be done as well as the regional institutions that are key for Canada to actively participate in. Questions will also include: Are there key ASEAN partners we should be focussing on and is the TPP a necessary first step for greater access to Southeast Asian markets? Should Canada be pursuing direct negotiations with ASEAN, as others have done and what would a strategic approach to Southeast Asia look like?

Speakers

- Moderator: **Hugh Stephens**, Senior Fellow, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and Fellow, Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute and Principal, Trans-Pacific Connections
- **Deanna Horton**, Senior Visiting Fellow, The Munk School of Foreign Affairs
- **Prashanth Parameswaran**, Associate Editor, The Diplomat
- **Marius Grinius**, Fellow, Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute
- **Eva Busza**, Vice-President, Research and Programs, Asia Pacific Foundation

Respondent

2:45 p.m.

Closing Remarks