

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

VENUE: People's Center, House of Representatives, IBP Road,
Batasan Hills, 1126 Quezon City, Philippines

Moderator: **PI-SF Chairperson Robert Pittenger**

REGISTRATION

Light Breakfast
(9:30 – 10:00 am)

INVOCATION

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM

OPENING AND KEYNOTE REMARKS

(10:00 – 11:00 am)

*Keynote Speaker on the security and geo-political
challenges of the Indo-Pacific*

HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

Speaker, House of Representatives

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

Chairperson, Parliamentary Intelligence-Security Forum

SENATOR BILL CASSIDY

U.S. Senate *(video message)*

HON. MATT POTTINGER

Former Deputy National Security Advisor for President Trump
(video message)

RULES-BASED INTERNATIONAL ORDER IN THE INDO-PACIFIC: VIEWS FROM THE REGION

(11:00 – 11:40am)

This session is premised on the belief that establishing a rules-based international order in the Indo-Pacific region is essential to ensure the continued peace and prosperity of countries in this part of the world that have benefited from the security and stability of the last few decades. Parliamentarians, officials or Manila-based diplomats of key countries of the Indo-Pacific may provide their national views on what may be the elements of an RBIO and how this may be achieved.

Hon. Maria Rachel Arenas

Chairperson, Committee on Foreign Affairs

Hon. AR. Siti Rozaimeriyanty Dato Haji Abdul Rahman

Secretary General, ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)

US-CHINA STRATEGIC COMPETITION: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE INDO-PACIFIC

(11:40am - 12:35 pm)

This session presents various perspectives on the on-going US-China strategic competition and its implications for the two superpowers' political, economic, and technological relations with countries of the Indo-Pacific.

Hon. Carl Delfeld

Blackthread LLC / Hay Seward Economic Security Council

Hon. Cristian Bacanu

Member of Parliament, Romania

Hon. John Strand

CEO of Strand Consult, Denmark

LUNCH BREAK WITH KEYNOTE REMARKS

(12:35 - 1:30 pm)

Keynote Speaker on the South China Sea.

Justice Francis H. Jardeleza (Ret)

former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines
and former Solicitor General of the Philippines

SOUTH CHINA SEA: THE STATE OF PLAY

(1:30 - 2:25 pm)

This session is an unclassified briefing on what key players in the South China Sea see as the state of play. It will include views from some of the claimant states as well as other stakeholders on the political, economic, environmental, and social dynamics at play in respect to the maritime disputes in the South China Sea.

Hon. Neptali "Boyet" M. Gonzales II

Chairperson, Committee on West Philippine Sea

(video message)

Hon. Emigdio P. Tanjuatco III

Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Foreign Affairs

MGEN Nestor C Herico PN (M)(Ret)

Deputy Director-General, National Security Council

SHINING A LIGHT: COUNTERING ILLEGAL, COERCIVE, AGGRESSIVE, AND DECEPTIVE ACTIONS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

(2:25 – 3:35 pm)

This session will feature presentations from the Philippines on and a discussion of the transparency initiative that it undertook in order to shine a light on and counter illegal, coercive, aggressive and deceptive actions (“grey zone tactics”) conducted against it in the South China Sea.

Hon. Eric Swalwell

U.S. House of Representatives (*video message*)

RADM Rommel Jude G Ong (Ret)

Ateneo School of Government

ADM Ronnie Gil L Gavan

Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard

Atty. Jay L. Batongbacal

Professor, College of Law, University of the Philippines

COUNTERING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND ECONOMIC COERCION: THE EXPERIENCE OF THE INDO-PACIFIC

(3:35 – 3:50 pm)

This session will allow countries in the Indo-Pacific to share their experiences and best practices in countering foreign interference and economic coercion, as well as what they are doing to prepare for such possible activities in the future.

Hon. Robert “Ace” S. Barbers

Chairperson, Committee on Dangerous Drugs

SAFE, ORDERLY, AND REGULAR MIGRATION: PROTECTING MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES / SECURITY CHALLENGES TO MIGRATION

(3:50 – 4:05 pm)

This session will focus on discussing the multi-dimensional factors in and multi-stakeholder responsibility of vetting and protecting migrant workers and their families. It must be emphasized that there are shared responsibilities in dealing with migrant workers and their families among host, sending and transit States, as well as a multitude of factors that affect governance of their presence in the international community in context with preserving the rule of law and properly vetting all migrants in respect to security challenges from adversarial nation states and terrorists groups.

Hon. Hans Leo J. Cacdac

Secretary, Department of Migrant Workers

THE MATTER OF TAIWAN: EXPLORING A LONG-STANDING FLASH POINT OF THE INDO-PACIFIC

(4:05 -5:00 pm)

This session discusses the geo-political and security issues surrounding the Taiwan issue that make it a potential flash point in the Indo-Pacific. It will include perspectives on Chinese intentions, U.S. commitment to the island's defense, and the grave economic and social consequences of a conflict in the Taiwan Straits.

Senator Eric Schmitt

U.S. Senate (*video message*)

Prof. Renato de Castro

Professor, International Studies Department of the De La Salle University

Atty. Neil Simon S. Silva

Legal Officer, UP Law Center

Institute of Maritime Affairs and Law of the Sea, College of Law, UP Diliman

OPEN FLOOR

Hon. Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza

Deputy Speaker

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELEGATES AT THE PLENARY HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(5:30 – 6:00 pm)

DINNER RECEPTION

(6:00 – 8:00 pm)

Venue: Romualdez Hall

2nd Floor, Main Building (North)

House of Representatives

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

VENUE: People's Center, House of Representatives, IBP Road,
Batasan Hills, 1126 Quezon City, Philippines

Moderator: **PI-SF Chairperson Robert Pittenger**

REGISTRATION

Light Breakfast
(8:00 – 8:30 am)

PRAYER BREAKFAST

(8:30 – 9:00 am)

Hon. Bienvenido M. Abante Jr.

Chairperson, Committee on Human Rights

Mr. Lucas Rojas

Soloist

KEYNOTE REMARKS

(9:00 – 9:15 am)

*Keynote Speaker on the importance of free, fair, and open trade
for the Indo-Pacific.*

Hon. Maria Cristina Aldeguer-Roque

Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry

REIMAGINING TRADE TODAY: INDO-PACIFIC PRIORITIES / TRUMP 2.0: U.S. TRADE POLICY

(9:15 – 10:10 am)

This session provides key economies of the Indo-Pacific the opportunity to talk about their trade priorities and how they see working with the new Trump Administration on bilateral, regional and multilateral trade issues and also seeks to understand the Trump Administration's trade policy, which is of paramount interest and concern to the economies of the Indo-Pacific with many of them having benefited from the trade liberalization years following the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. The speaker can outline the new Administration's thinking on tariffs, trade deficits, WTO, and multilateral trade negotiations.

Hon. Brent Sadler

Heritage Senior Research Fellow, Naval Warfare and Advanced Technology,
Allison Center for National Security

Hon. Lucian Pugliaresi

President, Energy Policy Research Foundation, Inc. (EPRINC)

Dr. Kaush Arha

President of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific Forum
Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council's Global China Hub and
Institute for Tech Diplomacy at Purdue
(live streaming)

THE GEOPOLITICAL IMPACT OF DIGITAL CURRENCIES

(10:10 – 10:50 am)

This session explores the rise of digital currencies and their significant national security implications, particularly as China and BRICS nations leverage these developments to reduce reliance on the U.S. dollar. The discussion will focus on how this shift challenges the dollar's dominance as the global reserve currency, potentially undermining U.S. economic influence, weakening sanctions enforcement, and reshaping global power dynamics. It highlights the urgent need for U.S. innovation and leadership in digital financial infrastructure.

Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda

Chairperson, Committee on Ways and Means

Dr. Francisco G. Dakila, Jr.

Deputy Governor, Monetary and Economics Sector
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

SEMI-CONDUCTORS AND CRITICAL MINERALS: SECURING AND SUSTAINING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS

(10:50 – 11:30 am)

This session examines the importance of semi-conductors and critical minerals to the global economy and modern technologies today. It will feature a discussion about the strong geopolitical interest of countries to build and ensure resilient global supply chains in semiconductors, electronics, and critical minerals.

Dr. Sohan Dasgupta

Partner at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP

Hon. Dave McMurtry

CEO, The McMurtry Group, Investor and
Advisor in the Lithium Ion Battery Supply Chain Industry

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: IMPLICATIONS AND CHALLENGES [FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES]

(11:30 am – 12:25 pm)

This session will attempt to understand the implications and challenges of artificial intelligence, including for developing countries, in the areas of growth, efficiency, and innovation. It will discuss wide-ranging issues, including data-related challenges, ethical concerns, regulatory and legal frameworks, and concerns relating to bias and transparency.

Prof. Jamil Jaffer

Founder and Executive Director of the National Security Institute
at the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University
Venture Partner at Paladin Capital Group

Prof. Prospero C. Naval, Jr.

Director, Artificial Intelligence Program, UP College of Engineering

Prof. Eduardo Araral

Associate Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
National University of Singapore (*live streaming*)

LUNCH BREAK

(12:25 – 1:25 pm)

SPAGHETTI BOWL OF MARINE UNDERSEA CABLES: PROTECTING CONNECTIVITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

(1:25 – 1:40 pm)

This session looks into the importance of marine undersea cables that are the backbone of internet and communications networks around the world, and understanding how the international community may best ensure their physical, electronic, and legal protection.

Dr. Lee Jaehyon

Principal Fellow, Center for Regional Studies
The Asan Institute for Policy Studies (*live streaming*)

THE NEED FOR NAVAL STATECRAFT TO WIN THE NEW COLD WAR

(1:40 – 1:55 pm)

This session explores the critical role of naval statecraft in addressing the strategic challenges of the emerging "New Cold War," focusing on maritime security, deterrence strategies, and the importance of maintaining a strong naval presence in contested regions.

Hon. Brent Sadler

Heritage Senior Research Fellow, Naval Warfare and Advanced Technology,
Allison Center for National Security

CYBERSECURITY: WORKING WITH AND PROTECTING EACH OTHER

(1:55 – 2:50 pm)

This session reviews cybersecurity threats as one of the most critical modern challenges to global security, such as cybercrimes, cyberattacks on critical infrastructure, electronic espionage, bulk data interception, and the use of cyberspace for the projection of power. The discussion includes the role of international cooperation in addressing the legal, technical, organizational, and capacity building needs of countries in the Indo-Pacific.

Hon. Ivan John E. Uy

Secretary, Department of Information and Communication Technology

Hon. Allan S. Cabanlong

Director, Global Forum on Cyber Expertise

Southeast Asia Hub and CPED Fellow

UP National College of Public Administration and Governance

Mr. Mark Bryan Manantan

Director of Cybersecurity and Critical Technologies

Pacific Forum (*live streaming*)

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THE EXPERIENCE OF THE INDO-PACIFIC**

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Mr. Jules Gerard V. Arceo

MA Faculty, Department of International Studies
Institute of Arts and Sciences, Far Eastern University

Hon. Erik Bethel

Distinguished Fellow, Chamber of Digital Commerce
former U.S. Representative to the World Bank

**CHANGING SECURITY, CHANGING POLICY TOOLS:
MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF
CHINESE AUTHORITARIAN MERCANTILISM**

(3:30 – 3:45 pm)

This session explores the economic and foreign policy tools needed in a post-Washington Consensus world. A generation of lowering barriers to trade, investment, and movement of people is giving way to one where barriers are coming back into place to curtail an adversarial security environment. Discussions will include perspectives gathered from Europe, the United States, and emerging Asia. In order to create a policy toolbox fit for purpose there must be constructive dialogue between business and government to achieve the optimal balance of economic freedom and economic security must be maintained to achieve both growth and security.

Dr. Kaush Arha

President of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific Forum
Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council's Global China Hub and Institute
for Tech Diplomacy at Purdue (*live streaming*)

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Hon. Erik Bethel

Distinguished Fellow, Chamber of Digital Commerce
former U.S. Representative to the World Bank

**FROM CRISIS TO GROWTH: SECURITY CHALLENGES
TO AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY**

(4:00 – 5:10 pm)

This session addresses the pressing security challenges affecting the global pursuit of affordable and reliable energy. It will examine the intersection of energy policy, geopolitics, and technology, highlighting strategies to overcome crises and achieve sustainable growth in energy production and distribution.

Dr. Kevin Dayaratna

Acting Director, Chief Statistician, and Senior Research Fellow
Center for Data Analysis, The Heritage Foundation

Hon. Lucian Pugliaresi

President, Energy Policy Research Foundation, Inc. (EPRINC)

Hon. Mark O. Cojuangco

Chairperson, Committee on Nuclear Energy

Hon. Felix William “Wimpy” B. Fuentebella

Undersecretary, Department of Energy

CLOSING REMARKS

(5:10–5:25 pm)

Hon. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr.

Senior Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives