



DANIEL K. INOUE ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES

TRANSNATIONAL SECURITY COOPERATION (TSC 23-1)

Purpose:

The Transnational Security Cooperation (TSC) course provides senior security practitioners from the Indo-Pacific region a unique opportunity to enhance their understanding of transnational security issues while connecting with fellows from different parts of the region. The course offers new ways to think about translating shared perspectives into collaborative policies and actions in a complex security environment. At the completion of the course, Senior Executive Fellows (course participants) should walk away with an enhanced understanding of the opportunities, and the challenges of the complex and rapidly evolving security landscape they encounter, now and in the future in the Indo-Pacific.

Course Description:

This is an intensive, one-week program for current security sector leaders—both civilian and military—on the upward track for positions of significant national and international responsibility. The course will look at a comprehensive array of emergent and over-the-horizon issues such as: Indo-Pacific strategy, geopolitical competition, cybersecurity climate change, maritime domain awareness, economic disruptions, global pandemic, irregular warfare, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR). Additionally, this course will consider challenging geo-strategic issues such as power shifts among states in a situation of evolving conflicts and alliance shifts. Senior Fellows will interactively exercise strategic thinking and cooperative responses to real-world transnational security scenarios (e.g., the evolving security dynamics in South China Sea, the Taiwan Straits, and Oceania). The program is based on the broad notion that regional security is significantly enhanced by collaborative efforts at monitoring, preventing, preparing for, or responding to any transitional security threat.

The curriculum emphasizes the impact of change in the region and capacities to manage change both from the leadership and institutional level. The course integrates a challenging program of interactive presentations, dialogue, and action-planning. Course participants join an expanding network of regional security practitioners that includes their course mates, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS) faculty, and over 14,000 alumni across the region and beyond, linked via a dedicated web portal.

This course typically accommodates about 25 to 30 senior executives from varied ministries and organizations within governments, as well as non-governmental organization and international organizations (NGO/IO) officials with security-related portfolios. Peer level ranks would be ambassador/deputy minister, flag-general rank military officers, and regional directors. This unique education and networking opportunity will benefit senior leaders whose responsibilities require influencing or making decisions within multilateral, multinational, and whole-of-government forums.

Educational Objectives:

To achieve the course purpose stated above, the TSC has specific educational objectives in three areas:

1. Enhancement of Senior Fellow Knowledge
 - a. Strategic planning and leadership skills for understanding the nature of a security situation.
 - i. Comprehensive strategic analysis.
 - ii. Multi-agent (including Non-State Actors).
 - iii. Emergent and unpredictable.
 - b. Integration of the impacts of current and emerging trends shaping the regional security environment.
 - i. Multidimensional Geopolitical Competition.
 - ii. Trends that will affect future possibilities (Supply Chain; Climate Change; Cyber/AI/Quantum).



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2. Strengthened Collaborative Skills and Leadership Capacity
 - a. Strategic Assessment.
 - i. Identify the critical information required to make strategic decisions.
 - ii. Identify the key components of the system (i.e., actors, processes, and linkages), its current condition and mutually desired changes to the system.
 - iii. Evaluate the linkages among trends for likely impact, and reinforcement across trends.
 - iv. Consider the broad sources of information to keep current on trends and to broaden the range of perspectives considered.
 - b. Policy Formulation: Articulate succinctly the strategic approach, priorities, and purpose for acting.
 - c. Development of Strategic Action Options: Identify and evaluate a set of possible actions that are realistic, effective, and generate acceptable 2nd/3rd order effects.
 - d. Team building: Establish team and mission/task goals/objectives, establish team rules, roles, and responsibilities.
3. Senior-level Security Sector Networks
 - a. Among TSC Fellows, DKI APCSS leadership, faculty, and other security practitioners.
 - b. Through connections with DKI APCSS alumni and alumni organizations at home.

Educational Approach:

1. Beginning with stage-setting, Senior Fellows are provided several opportunities for intensive and vigorous discussions through plenaries, seminars, and table-top exercises.
2. Senior Executive Fellows are then placed into small, diverse groups to maximize group interaction and role playing, given likely/possible security situation/threat scenarios. Scenarios are challenging and realistic.
3. DKI APCSS faculty-led group discussions with regional and functional area information.
4. Senior Fellows sharpen their skills through role-playing exercise and active discussions.