

CONCEPT PAPER

21st ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM HEADS OF DEFENSE UNIVERSITIES/ COLLEGES/ INSTITUTIONS MEETING

**“Defense Diplomacy through Education and Research:
Building Confidence, Enhancing Engagement”
17-21 September 2017
Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila, Manila, Philippines**

Main Objectives:

1. To examine **evolving regional security landscape** of the Asia Pacific.
2. To discuss **education and research as components of defense diplomacy**.
3. To exchange views on the **avenues of cooperation** among Defense Universities, Colleges, and Institutions (DUCIs).

Key Areas of Discussion:

1. Evolving Regional Security Landscape of the Asia Pacific

This area of discussion aims to survey the Asia-Pacific security landscape by identifying the major traditional and non-traditional challenges of the region.

2. Education and Research as Components of Defense Diplomacy

This area of discussion examines how education and research figure in as components of defense diplomacy. It also covers discussion on how defense education and research complement efforts in promoting regional security.

3. Building Confidence and Enhancing Engagement: Avenues for Cooperation among DUCIs

This area of discussion seeks to facilitate an exchange of views on possible areas of cooperation among DUCIs. Specifically, this area of discussion aims to identify specific programs for education and research cooperation initiated by DUCIs—bilaterally and/or multilaterally—in the region. It also seeks to examine how such initiatives promote greater confidence and trust between and among countries in the region.

Annotated Agenda

Activities	Description
<p style="text-align: center;">Day 1 (September 17)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Arrival of Delegates</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Welcome Dinner</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Day 2 (September 18)</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Opening Ceremony</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Session I:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Evolving Regional Security Landscape of the Asia Pacific</p>	<p>Discussants: (10 minutes for each discussant)</p> <p><i>Bangladesh</i> <i>Brunei</i> <i>Japan</i> <i>Lao PDR</i> <i>Singapore</i> <i>Thailand</i> <i>USA</i> <i>Viet Nam</i></p> <p><i>(Lead discussants identified above are invited to present, but all participants are encouraged to address the points for discussion during the open forum.)</i></p> <p>Points for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the recent security developments in the Asia-Pacific region? • What are the major traditional and non-traditional security challenges facing the region?

<p>Session II:</p> <p>Education and Research as Components of Defense Diplomacy</p>	<p>Discussants: (10 minutes for the discussant)</p> <p>Cambodia Canada China European Union Indonesia Malaysia Republic of Korea Russia</p> <p><i>(Lead discussants identified above are invited to present, but all participants are encouraged to address the points for discussion during the open forum.)</i></p> <p>Points for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do education and research contribute to defense diplomacy? • How can diplomatic engagement on defense education and research complement efforts in promoting regional security? • What are the relevant agencies/units/offices which promote defense diplomacy through education and research?
<p>Day 3 (September 19)</p>	
<p>Session III:</p> <p>Building Confidence and Enhancing Engagement: Avenues for Cooperation among DUCIs</p>	<p>Discussants: (10 minutes for each discussant)</p> <p>Australia Democratic People's Republic of Korea India Mongolia Myanmar New Zealand Pakistan Papua New Guinea Sri Lanka Timor Leste</p> <p><i>(Lead discussants identified above are invited to present, but all participants are encouraged to address the points for discussion during the open forum.)</i></p> <p>Points for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the areas of cooperation for DUCIs?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the specific programs for education and research cooperation that have been initiated by DUCIs (bilateral and/or multilateral) in the region? • How can such initiatives promote greater confidence and trust among the countries in the region? • How can defense diplomacy through education and research enable states to move more effectively and navigate the regional security landscape of the Asia-Pacific?
Day 4 (September 20)	
Cultural Tour	
Day 5 (September 21)	
Departure of Delegates	

Note to participants:

1. Discussants in all sessions are requested to submit talking points, but a copy of their full paper will also be appreciated. The Secretariat requests to have advance copies of talking points/paper and two-paragraph summaries of the presentations. Discussants are also requested to provide PowerPoint presentations. The presentation of each discussant should not exceed 10 minutes.
2. There will be an open forum after the presentation of all discussants in each session. The presiding chair shall administer the open forum in each session and supervise the time limit. All delegates are highly encouraged to deliberate on the points for discussion as indicated in the tentative annotated agenda.