

Indo-Pacific

PROMOTING THE STUDY OF INDO-PACIFIC GEOPOLITICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

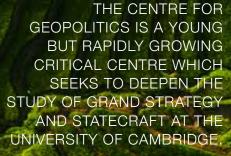








#### Our team



Headed by Professors Brendan Simms and William Hurst, it has a growing and diverse team of researchers whose work strives to provide historically grounded approaches to enduring geopolitical problems.

The Centre and each of its individual research programmes have flourishing partnerships and networks with leading international institutions and practitioners. These relationships offer innovative opportunities for collaboration and deliver impactful engagement with the wider world.

The Centre's main method of outreach is via a widely revered annual programme of nearly 100 (and growing) online and in-person events. Speakers and participants typically include high-profile academics, government officials, policymakers, and journalists. In addition to its events, the Centre has a podcast, summer school programme and extensive video library. This diverse range of bespoke content was accessed by over 100,000 people in the last year, and this output it set to grow further in line with an everexpanding team of researchers and interest areas covered.



Professor William Hurst Deputy Director and Leader of the Indo-Pacific and Global Research Strands



Dr William Figueroa Postdoctoral Research Associate, specialising in the China-Iran relationship



Professor Brendan Simms Director and Leader of the European and Middle-East and Eurasian research strands

## The background

# What is the aim of the Indo-Pacific Geopolitics Programme?

THE AIM OF THE CENTRE'S INDO-PACIFIC GEOPOLITICS PROGRAMME IS TO DELIVER POLICY-RELEVANT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF GEOPOLITICAL ISSUES RIGHT ACROSS THE ENTIRE REGION, FIRMLY AND DEEPLY GROUNDED IN HISTORY AND AREA STUDIES. THIS OFFERING IS UNIQUE WITHIN THE UK (AND WE BELIEVE MORE WIDELY).



To this purpose, the programme has thus far delivered a robust series of speaker events, ongoing commentary articles for the Centre's newsletter and a variety of major media outlets, and the first two iterations of our Indo-Pacific Roundtable. The Roundtables are a particularly important part of building a new Indo-Pacific Network, as they bring academics from various disciplines and specialties from across the country together and into conversation with think tank analysts, consultants, officials and experts from various government departments and agencies, and others.

The Indo-Pacific Geopolitics Programme is led by Professor William Hurst, Chong Hua Professor of Chinese Development at the University of Cambridge. He has been joined this academic year by Postdoctoral Research Associate William Figueroa, whose work and expertise focus on Iran and China in the 20th Century.

The Indo-Pacific

## Why is the Indo-Pacific region important?

THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION ENCOMPASSES THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION AND OVER 40% OF GLOBAL GDP (ALONG WITH ALMOST TWO-THIRDS OF GLOBAL GDP GROWTH, PER WORLD BANK DATA).

The Indo-Pacific also includes the largest and second largest countries in the world, as well as at least three global powers (China, Japan, and India – though the other two global powers, Russia and the US, are also both very active there), the largest and most important newly democratic country in the world (Indonesia), the world's largest and second largest majority-Muslim countries (Indonesia and Pakistan), the most important high-technology economies (Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan), at least three world financial hubs (Tokyo, Hong Kong, and Singapore), and many of the most critical geopolitical flashpoints (Korean Peninsula, Taiwan, South China Sea, India-Pakistan, etc.).

# How far have we got and what do we need

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## OUR WORK AT THE CENTRE FOR GEOPOLITICS IS DIVIDED INTO RESEARCH STRANDS AND PROGRAMMES.

Some of these, such as that focused on the Baltic, have been extremely effective and established themselves in the national and international academic and policy conversation. Others have been striving for similar success but have not so far had the necessary resources or complement of personnel.

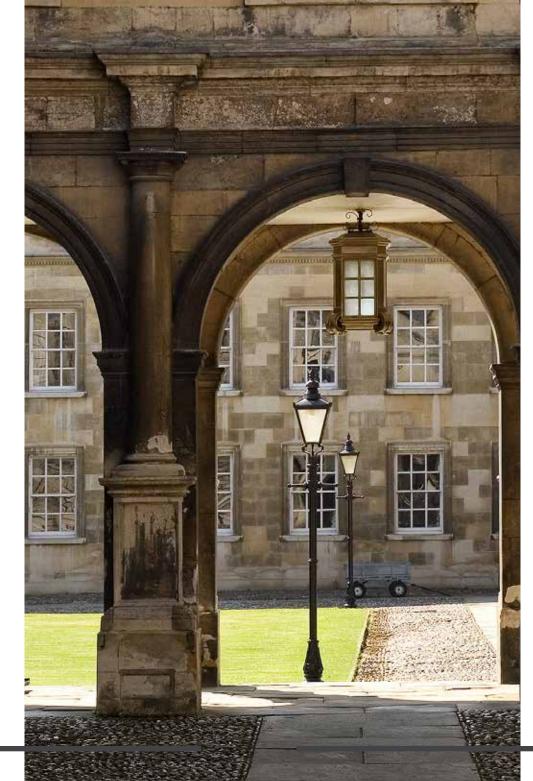
To date, Professor William Hurst, has been working more-or-less on his own on the Indo-Pacific. Though Professor Hurst has long been working on Indonesia as a major component of his research, we currently are still too heavily weighted toward China and would benefit immensely from expanding our base of expertise and connections to cover more of our remit. Specifically, support for a Postdoctoral Research Associate focused squarely on Southeast Asian politics or history would be transformative to our work over the next several years. With such a colleague in place, we could expand our offerings in this most dynamic yet under-studied part of the wider Indo-Pacific – home to the ten countries of ASEAN, with a collective population of nearly 700 million and encircling the South China Sea.

Beyond Southeast Asia, our work would also benefit from the addition of Postdoctoral Research Associates focused on Japanese, Korean, or South Asian politics or history. These countries and regions are equally important and, as yet, not that well covered by our research team.

# How can you support us?

THE CENTRE FOR GEOPOLITICS' WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS, LARGE AND SMALL.

The Indo-Pacific Geopolitics Programme is in particular need of funding to support new academic and research posts, and to help cover the operational costs associated with running its extensive events programme.



### Supporting us

#### Academic and research posts:

A Chair or Lectureship in the Geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific (one or more of its countries or regions): £3.6m or £2.4m

A two-year Postdoctoral Research Associate: approximately £200,000 A student research assistant for one year: £8000

## Operational support and regular giving:

One iteration of our Annual Roundtable: £50,000 Speaker series for one term: £10,000 One speaker or panel event: £3000 -£5000

Each gift makes a difference, and we are immensely grateful to everyone who supports us.

To discuss how you can get involved with the Indo-Pacific programme, or offer support, please contact **Professor William Hurst at wjh45@** cam.ac.uk.