

## Alliance Partners

### NIAS



The Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS) is an independent research institute funded by the governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden through the Nordic Council of Ministers. The NIAS, founded in 1967, serves as a focal point for research on contemporary Asia and for promoting Asian Studies in the Nordic academic community.

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### IFA

The Institute of Asian Affairs (Institut für Asienkunde, IFA) was founded in 1956 on the initiative of the German Parliament and the German Foreign Ministry. The Institute studies contemporary political, economic, and social developments in Asian countries, at the same time aiming to procure and broaden scientifically based knowledge of the region and its countries.

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### EIAS

The European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS) is a Brussels-based policy and research think tank supported by European Union (EU) institutions, which aims to promote understanding and cooperation between the EU and Asia. EIAS seeks to offer information and expertise to European Union institutions, the academic world, and business by disseminating concise, thoroughly researched, and up-to-date material on EU-Asia relations and important developments in Asia.

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### AEC

Together with the American Centre and the European Centre, the Asia-Europe Centre forms a resource framework at the service of the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Sciences-Po), acting as an interface between Sciences-Po components and Asian counterparts. It provides information and expertise to both public and European institutions, to Sciences-Po's academic network, and to the business community.

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### CEAO

The Centro de Estudios de Asia Oriental (Centre for East Asian Studies, CEAO) was established in 1992 at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM). The centre's main aim is to train young researchers who originate from different areas of the humanities and the social sciences and specialize in East Asian Studies.

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### IIAS (secretariat Asia Alliance)

www.asia-alliance.org

# Centro de Estudios de Asia Oriental, Spain

From its beginning in 1992, the Centro de Estudios de Asia Oriental (CEAO, Centre for East Asian Studies) concentrated on two main goals. First, to train young researchers with different backgrounds within the humanities and social sciences, who specialize in East Asian Studies. Second, to obtain the official approval of an official degree in East Asian Studies. Considering that there was no significant academic tradition on Asian Studies in Spain, the task was a truly pioneer one and was certainly not very easy. Recently, the CEAO joined the Asia Alliance as its sixth European partner.

### Report > General

By Taciana Fisac

Offering sustained support to CEAO activities, the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) was the first university in Spain to create permanent faculty positions in the area of East Asian languages and cultures. This university will also offer an interdisciplinary official degree on East Asian Studies in 2003/2004. Additionally, the CEAO strongly benefited from governmental and non-governmental research grants and teaching funds and has been endowed with editorial responsibility for the UNESCO East Asian literature series in Spanish.

Aiming to reinforce its research and teaching capabilities, the Centre for East Asian Studies has paid special attention to establishing international relations. At present, there are perma-

nent links and collaborative exchange projects with institutions devoted to Asian Studies all over the world. The CEAO was one of the seven institution members of the European Union-China Academic Network (ECAN), which aimed to promote the collaboration between European institutions specialized in Contemporary China. It has become a prominent research institution in Spain, functioning as a centre of reference for Asian Studies. In addition to regular teaching and research work, CEAO organizes seminars and public lectures. It also provides documentation and consulting services to both public and private entities.

Our interdisciplinary and international research programme ranges from contemporary Chinese culture and gender studies; to Japanese lin-

guistics; to labour studies and economics in both these countries and will soon participate in projects with Vietnam, Malaysia, and other Asian countries. The UAM faculty is currently developing research on science and technology in East Asia.

Every year the CEAO welcomes visiting lecturers and scholars. Apart from the areas of humanities and social sciences, the CEAO collaborates with other departments at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, providing support to joint research agreements between the Departments of Physics, Biology, Environmental Studies, and Medicine with equivalent Asian research groups. On a parallel basis, the CEAO is also engaged in the promotion of Spanish Studies in Asia. This academic year, it has coordinated a PhD programme on 'Contemporary Spain and Latin America', held at Beijing Foreign Studies University. <

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# European Alliance for Asian Studies

### Report > General

The Alliance has just welcomed as a new partner the Centro de Estudios de Asia Oriental (CEAO) and expects the partnership to expand further in the near future. With this in mind, at a recent meeting the Alliance signed a Memorandum of Understanding to ensure a strong and lucid structure for an even larger Alliance in

the future. One of its features is the change of name from Strategic Alliance for Asian Studies to European Alliance for Asian Studies. This does not mean that cooperation with our Asian partners is not still deemed vital. On the contrary, the Alliance feels that, apart from cooperation based on individual projects, it would like to work

towards a strong cooperation with a yet-to-be-formed alliance of Asian institutes, a so-called Asian Alliance for Asian Studies. Asian institutes for Asian Studies who are interested in founding such an Asian Alliance are most welcome to contact us or visit our stand at the International Convention of Asian Studies 3 in Singapore. <

# Asia-Europe Workshop Series 2003/2004

### Report > General

Encouraged by the second call for workshop proposals for the 2003/2004 Asia-Europe Workshop Series, which is sponsored by the Asia-Europe Foundation and the European Alliance for Asian Studies, academic researchers submitted workshop proposals on a variety of issues affecting both regions. The proposals were to have an inter-regional and multilateral importance and focus on a contemporary topic concerning both Asia and Europe in a comparative perspective. Importantly, the workshops had to be jointly organized by an Asian and European partner, so as to stimulate inter-regional dialogue.

Thirty-one proposals had been received by 1 March 2003, covering a wide range of topics. The Selection Committee, consisting of Amb. Delfin Colomé (ASEF), Prof. Jean-Luc Domenach (Tsinghua University), Prof. Chaibong Hahm (Yonsei University), Prof. Lily Kong (National University of Singapore), Prof. Hanns Maull (University of Trier), Prof. Shamsul A.B. (University Kebangsaan Malaysia), and Prof. Wim Stokhof (European Alliance for Asian Studies), met in Leiden, the Netherlands on 9 April.

Not only the overall quality of the proposals, but also the fact that the majority of the proposed workshops were to be held in Asia were pleasing to the committee. The six selected proposals excelled due to their clear-cut relevance to both Asia and Europe, stimulating dialogue between the two regions and creating a node between the scientific and 'practical' domains. <

### The six selected proposals are:

*Social and cultural effects of computer-mediated interactive communications technology in Europe and Asia*  
20-22 October 2003, Manila, the Philippines

Dr R. Pertierra (University of the Philippines)  
Prof. Daniel Miller (University of London, UK)

*Social science and AIDS in Southeast Asia*  
10-11 November 2003, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Dr Sophie Le Coeur (Chiang Mai University, Thailand)  
Dr Evelyne Micollier (Université de Provence, France)

*The Internet and elections in Asia and Europe*  
13-15 November 2003, Singapore

Dr R. Kluver (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)  
Dr Nicholas Jankowski (University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands)

*The security paradox of open borders: surveillance and control of migrants*

15-17 December 2003, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Dr Carl Grundy-Warr (National University of Singapore)

Prof. Didier Bigo (Sciences-Po, France)

*Enabling role of the public sector in urban housing development*  
July 2004, Beijing, China

Prof. Anne Power (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK)  
Prof. Tuan Yang (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China)

*Old-age vulnerabilities: Asia and European perspectives*

5-7 July 2004, Malang, Indonesia  
Mr Warkum Sumitro (Universitas Brawijaya, Indonesia)  
Dr Ruly Marianti (Belle van Zuylen Institute, the Netherlands)

For more information: [www.asia-alliance.org](http://www.asia-alliance.org)