

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS

Felicia Istad

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Felicia Istad is a PhD student at Korea University in Seoul, South Korea. Her research interests include public policy, political economy, labor and employment, corporate governance, and corruption. Felicia has a Master of Science in Management and Human Resources from London School of Economics, and a Bachelor of Arts in Korean from School of Oriental and African Studies.

Dr. Stephen Magu

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Dr. Stephen Magu is an assistant professor of political science at Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia. He previously taught at Regent University, Old Dominion University, and the Junior Statesmen of America's Stanford University Summer Program. In 2015, he was a laureate at CODESRIA and a 2016 delegate to the Fourteenth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). His publications have appeared in academic journals such as *Cultural Encounters, Conflicts, and Resolutions: A Journal of Border Studies, Journal of African Studies, and African Journal of International Affairs and Development*. Dr. Magu has written several fictional novels, including *Tower of Terror* (Nairobi: East African Educational Publishers, 2005). He holds a Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Kenyatta University in Nairobi. As a passionate educator, he founded the White Highlands Book Club Literacy Project, which brings parents into primary school classrooms and distributes books for parents and their children to read together. The program has now been implemented in fifteen primary schools in Kenya's Nyandarua South sub-county and will be extended to the entire county.

Sarah Lohschelder

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Sarah Lohschelder graduated from Georgetown University with a Master of Science in Foreign Service and a Juris Doctor. She was a Global Law Scholar and Executive Editor of the *International Law Journal* at Georgetown University Law Center. Previously, she was a Defense Fellow with Young Professionals in Foreign Policy and a Legal Research Associate with the Public International Law and Policy Group in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Jie Gao

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Dr. Jie Gao is an assistant professor of history at Murray State University in Kentucky, USA. She obtained her PhD from The University of Western Ontario in Canada and her MA and double BA from Peking University in China. Dr. Gao has engaged in the study of modern Chinese history in China, Canada, and the United States. Her research interests include popular culture, intellectual history, Sino-foreign relations, and women's studies. Her work has appeared in numerous respected journals and books. Currently, she is working on her new project on Chinese cigarette cards.

Yi Li, PhD

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Yi Li is an associate professor in the Middle East Studies Institute at Shanghai International Studies University and works as the editor director of the journal, *Arab World Studies*. After obtaining her PhD in Arabic language and literature at Shanghai International Studies University in 2009, Li became a postdoctoral fellow in the International Relations & Public Affairs Department at Fudan University. During this period, she came to University of California, Santa Barbara as a visiting scholar in the Department of Sociology. Li's areas of expertise are religion and international relations in

the Middle East, security issues in the Gulf states, and think tanks in the Arab world. She has published nearly thirty articles in periodicals such as *Contemporary International Relations*, *Foreign Affairs Review*, *International Forum*, *West Asia and Africa*, and *Religion and American Society*. She has also published three monographs. Li presided over the following projects: Chinese National Philosophy and Social Science Foundation Project (2015), China Postdoctoral Fund Project (2008), a project for the Humanities and Social Science of the Ministry of Chinese Education (2007), and two major projects for the Ministry of Chinese Education.

Eileen Chong Pei Shan

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Eileen is a master's candidate at Yonsei University's Graduate School of International Studies. Prior to her graduate studies, she received a Bachelor of Law in International Politics from Peking University in China. She is currently the head of the China desk at a Singaporean education start up, The Global Citizen, which strives to revolutionize the education landscape in Asia through global citizenship education. Eileen will be returning home to serve as a diplomat for Singapore after graduating this summer.

Nigel Callinan, PhD

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Professor Callinan is currently working for the Global Studies Department at Pusan National University. He has a background in business and technology research along with significant professional experience with multinational corporations. He completed his PhD at the Euro-Asian Research Center of the Kemmy School of Business in the University of Limerick, Ireland, with a focus on the trajectory of Korea's IT business industry. Before moving into academia, Professor Callinan worked in IT management for over ten years, setting up networks, cloud-based communication systems, and MIS systems for international companies including Google, Microsoft, and Bertelsmann.

Working in the European operating centers of these large companies provided him with an insight into the skills needed to succeed in modern, diverse working environments. Before coming to Pusan National University, Professor Callinan worked for both Hannam University's School of Global Business and Postech University in Pohang. His current research focus is on security standards in the payment card industry and how the transition between standards is managed.

Nur Zafirah Binte Zainal Abidin

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Zafirah is pursuing her master's degree in Korean Studies and East Asian Studies at Yonsei University's Graduate School of International Studies. She is particularly interested in traditional history and culture. She also specializes in literature and gender studies. Zafirah's current research interest is in the construction of national memory and heritage through media.

Scott Kardas

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Scott Kardas completed a Master of Global Affairs & Policy from Yonsei University's Graduate School of International Studies in February 2017. He also has a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research interests center on the political dynamics and economic development in South Korea. He currently works in Seoul, South Korea.