



**MEET**

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THE CONTRIBUTORS

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Myriam Cransac is a MIS candidate at Ewha Womans University and a research assistant at the Ewha Institute for Development and Human Security. She currently studies in South Korea as a Korean Government Scholarship Program recipient, and previously graduated from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques of Strasbourg and La Rochelle University, France.

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A native of the San Francisco Bay Area, Eric Han received a BA in History and Communications from the University of California, Davis. Specializing in modern Asian history, he came to South Korea to pursue his master's degree at the Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University. During his graduate career, he has interned at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Asia-Pacific region (UNESCAP), and is currently finishing his thesis. His research interests include Northeast Asian security, human rights and international law.

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Rizwan Ladha is a master's degree candidate at The Fletcher School at Tufts University, where he is studying nuclear nonproliferation policy. He has presented at the annual Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Project on Nuclear Issues conference, is a former research associate with the Project on Managing the Atom at the Harvard Kennedy School, and contributes regularly to the *Huffington Post*.

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Oreva Olakpe is a fourth semester student at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, with a concentration in International Law. She received her bachelor's degree in International Studies from the University of Maine, USA (magna cum laude). Oreva has a wide range of interests ranging from Sino-African relations, China and international law, migration, and children's rights. She has interned at the Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia and UNICEF in Geneva on related issues.

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Emily Pease is in her final semester of a master's degree program in Diplomacy and International Relations specializing in the Middle East and International Security. During her time at the Whitehead School, she has served as a graduate research assistant on numerous projects, acted as the President of the program's student organization, and worked for six months with a Middle East grassroots organization dealing with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict called OneVoice, headquartered in New York.

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Marie-Claude Poirier is currently pursuing an interdisciplinary master's degree in Asian Studies at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and the University of Geneva in Switzerland. Her graduate studies focus on problems and potential for social, political and economic development in contemporary Asian societies, as well as on regional and global geopolitical shifts. Previously, Marie-Claude worked as an education officer in Alberta and the Northwest Territories for a Montreal-based international development organization. She received a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Alberta in 2008. As an undergraduate, she participated in a year-long formal academic exchange to Yonsei University, and later interned at the Korea Economic Institute in Washington DC. She speaks Korean at an intermediate level.

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Majid Rafizadeh is an Iranian-Syrian scholar of international studies and foreign policy with emphasis on the Middle East. He obtained a Diploma of Empirical Science and a bachelor's degree in Translation and Interpretation (Arabic, Persian and English) in Esfahan, Iran. Later he completed a graduate program in Education and Teaching. He came to the United States on a Fulbright Scholarship and taught as a teaching associate in the Religious Studies Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara. As an intern, he has worked at the United Nations and International Committee for the Red Cross. Currently, he is a visiting scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington DC and a columnist for the *Harvard International Review*. He is a native speaker of Arabic and Persian, and his other languages are Hebrew, English, French and Dari.

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Amy Russ is currently pursuing a Master of Science in International Studies at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She completed her undergraduate education at Oglethorpe University with a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies with an Asian concentration. She has pursued her interest in East Asia-Pacific affairs by interning at The Japan America Society of Georgia and the United States Department of State East Asia and Pacific Bureau, the Japan Office.

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Lizette is a current Development Cooperation MA student at the Ewha Womans University Graduate School of International Studies and a Research Assistant at the Institute for Development and Human Security. For the past year, disaster relief has been her main research interest. Born in 1985 in Monterrey, Mexico, she obtained her BA in International Trade at Universidad de Monterrey in 2008. During her studies, she participated in two exchange programs, one in Austin, Texas and the other in Lille, France. She was an intern at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and her social service project with women from a local community won a national Social Development award from Universidad Valle de Mexico. After graduation, she worked for one year at an import company.

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Catherine Smart is a former US Army military police officer, originally from Boston, Massachusetts. She earned a BA in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts in 1992 and an MS in Education (College Student Development) from Long Island University, New York in 2000. Catherine will graduate from Troy University with an MS in International Relations (National Security Affairs) in May 2011. Catherine is currently working as an intern with the Seoul office of the International Crisis Group. She is married with two children.