The Lodz East Asia Meeting (LEAM) is an international conference, which brings together a wide range of exceptional specialists - scholars, researchers, theoreticians and practitioners of politics, economy and culture of East Asian and Southeast Asian countries. Since 2012 we have hosted almost 400 researchers from 30 different countries.

This year, we invite you to present research projects and conduct multifaceted discussions during the 16th edition of the conference, entitled “Rethinking Southeast Asia in World Politics”. Its main goal is to meet the needs and expectations of the scientific, teaching and business environment about Asian affairs. Department of Asian Studies and the Center for Asian Affairs organise a multi-threaded conference, addressing both the issue of changes in the current policy of Southeast Asian countries towards the world and the reactions (meaning i.e. adaptation, rejection or passivity) for this evolution in international centres of power.

The modern world is changing very dynamically, and these transformations are particularly visible in Asia. Their researchers are recognised scientists, who agreed to accept our invitation and act as keynote speakers. They are:

**Prof. Quansheng Zhao** - Professor of international relations, Director of Center for Asian Studies, and Chair of Asian Studies Research Council at American University, Washington D.C.; serving as Director of the Division of Comparative and Regional Studies for three terms (1999-2008).

**Prof. Jacques Leider** - Director at the Bangkok and Yangon office, Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, the Scientific Coordinator of CRISEA, an EU-supported multinational project (www.crisea.eu) investigating integration and challenges to integration in the ASEAN countries (2017-2020).
Their speeches will be the starting point for discussions subsequently conducted as part of plenary sessions, individual sessions and poster sessions.

**Special sessions**

We offer participants the partaking in special sessions. Researchers interested in publishing articles in internationally recognised publishing houses are cordially invited to attend the “Meet the Editors” panel, whose participant will be **Prof. Pietro Masina** (Editor-in-chief, “European Journal of East Asian Studies”) as well as **Prof. Emilian Kavalski** (Routledge Editor of Series “Rethinking Asia and International Relations”).

Academic teachers attracted to didactics are encouraged to share their experience during a “Teaching & Learning in Asian Studies” session, which will be paying attention to the ways of providing information and activating students.

In addition, together with the Center for Asian Affairs of the University of Lodz, a **roundtable discussion** will be organized on the cooperation of local entrepreneurs (Lodz region) with Asian companies (investments from and in Asia - practical dimension).

We also plan “**Meet with the author**” sessions:

- screening of a documentary film by **Prof. Monika Arnez** (University of Hamburg) “Flow of Sand” on the social effects of Chinese investment in the Strait of Malacca,

- discussion about the book by **Prof. Jeremy Garlick** (University of Economics Prague) entitled “The Impact of China’s Belt and Road Initiative”.

**Poster session**

Researchers and doctoral students are also offered a poster session. During a 60-minute session, scholars will be able to talk about their research in the form of a poster and chat about their assumptions, scope of work and effects in direct contact with other conference participants.
Proposed sessions
We encourage researchers to submit papers for specific sessions, yet we also accept organised panels (moderator + invited panellists).

Paper and session discussion proposals could address, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Changes in the foreign and domestic policy of Southeast Asian countries
- Global and regional ambitions of the SEA countries
- European policy towards SEA
- Relations between Central and Eastern Europe with Southeast Asia
- International discussions on security issues in Southeast Asia
- Southeast Asian Perceptions of the Belt and Road Initiative
- United States policy towards the SEA region - continuation or change?
- Japan policy towards SEA countries
- Paradiplomacy in Southeast Asia

Abstract submission (max. 300 words): 30 March 2020
Notification of accepted abstracts: 15 April 2020
Full paper submission: 31 August 2020
After a positive review process, the articles will be published in a scholarly journal “Eastern Review” (papers on cooperation between Central and Eastern European countries and Southeast Asian countries only); or in an edited volume of Contemporary Asian Studies Series (open access).
Program: 20 May 2020
Conference dates: 18-19 June 2020
Conference venue: Faculty of International and Political Studies, University of Lodz, Poland
Language: English

Registration fee: EUR 90, PLN 390 (payment till 20 May 2020)
Reduced fee for doctoral students: EUR 50, PLN 220
Early bird fee till the end of April 2020: EUR 80, PLN 340

Submit your abstract: leam.uni.lodz.pl/submit-form

Conference participants are to make their travel and accommodation arrangements. The organisers will provide lunches and refreshments during the conference.
LEAM in numbers

Since 2012 LEAM has been conducted in English

First of this kind conference in Central Europe

392 participants from all across the world