



Fourth APISA Congress
Asia in the Midst of Crises:
Political, Economic, and Social Dimensions
12-13 November 2009
Mandarin Oriental Hotel
Manila, Philippines

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA), under the auspices of the Japan Foundation, and, in cooperation with the International Studies Department, De La Salle University, the Yuchengco Center, and the Philippine Political Science Association (PPSA), will convene the Fourth APISA Congress entitled “Asia in the Midst of Crises: Political, Economic, and Social Dimensions” in Manila from November 12 to 13, 2009.

Rationale

The opening years of the new century have seen the emergence of new global challenges. With the increase in global interdependence come new dangers as threats within countries rapidly spill beyond national frontiers. Three major global threats – the global financial meltdown brought about by the US Subprime Crisis; the outbreak of the A(H1N1) epidemic; continuing terrorism – serve to underscore the contagion of global crises. As the countries in Asia accelerate their regional and global integration, the threat of crisis incidents also grows exponentially.

Threats of crisis are not limited to states alone. Looking at the different *levels of analysis*, whether domestic, regional, or international, the nature of threats becomes wider in scope. Looking at *sectors* provides an added nuance to our understanding of global crisis. It is also possible to look at the nature of global crisis via *issue-areas*: security, political, economic, environmental, and social.

Conference Themes

Approved panels and paper presentations for the Fourth APISA Congress shall be organized around four themes that reflect the major crises currently facing the Asian region, namely:

- **Crisis of Security and the Continuing Terrorist Threat**

This theme will discuss emerging trends and patterns of terrorist activities in the region, as well as local and regional responses to this threat. Concurrently, the panel will also explore the ways and means to foster cooperation among states and/or non-state actors, and what processes of international negotiations are necessary in order to minimize the threat of terrorism.

- **Crisis of Finance and the Economic Meltdown**

This theme will identify macroeconomic trends in the world economy that led to the 2008 global financial crisis. Economic crises often raise the intractable link between politics and economics since governments can respond to crises in more effective or less effective ways. Thus, this panel explicates the role of domestic politics in aggravating or mitigating economic downturns. The key element lies in the political structure and institutional configuration that can facilitate or hinder decisiveness in economic policy management. Panels and paper presentations will also analyze the efforts of the Asian region to address and contain the crisis.

- **Crisis of Health and Global Pandemic**

This theme will include the trends and patterns in emerging infectious diseases in the region and their manifestations, transmission, and causation, within and across nations. It will also focus on the environmental and socioeconomic dimension in terms of the implications of diseases on opportunity costs such as school absenteeism, health-seeking behaviors, knowledge of facilities available, and the costs of treatment and prevention. Furthermore, the panel will assess current government measures to prevent the spread of diseases and provide therapeutic services. Regional initiatives will also be reviewed in terms of the prevention and control of epidemics.

- **Crisis of Legitimacy and Political Stability**

This theme will explore the relationship between legitimacy and political security. The ability of individual states to respond adequately to crises is both a function and a product of regime legitimacy. Ironically, most regimes in the region are also facing its own legitimization crisis and political instability. Contested elections, populism, and counter democratic backlash have marked politics in the region.

Paper Submission

Paper presenters and panel organizers are requested to send by email the theme of their panel or the title of their paper along with an abstract (approx 500 words) and a short curriculum vitae by 15 September 2009 to the conference secretariat (address below). Final papers are due by 15 October 2009.

Very limited subsidies for travel, registration and accommodation will be available on a competitive basis.

Contact Address:

Dr. Julio C. Teehankee (Chair), Ms. Charmaine Misalucha, and Mr. Ron Vilog (Coordinators)
Fourth APISA Congress Secretariat
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