



# Resume

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## **Dr. Florian A. Alburo**

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Dr. Florian A. Alburo is the President of Centre for Advancement of Trade Integration and Facilitation (CATIF) which is a non-governmental organization that seeks to contribute to the understanding and enhancement of trade and economic integration, and to informed policy formulation on trade-related issues. Dr. Alburo has Ph.D. in Economics from University of Colorado. He has research interests in Agricultural Economics, International Economics, and Monetary Economics. Although formed in 2006, CATIF's members have long established records in research, teaching, IT development, and project management, and maintain linkages with institutions here and abroad. CATIF has worked on various international and domestic projects including two JICA-funded studies of cargo release time in the Philippines, an ADB-funded study on Customs, and AADCP-supported projects on ASEAN telecommunications (with the Australian National University and Thailand Development Research Institute) and ASEAN Cargo Processing (with the Centre for International Economics).

## **Dr. Ngo Xuan Binh**

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Dr. Ngo Xuan Binh is a Professor in economics and international relations. He is currently Director-General of the Vietnam Institute of Indian and Southwest Asian Studies; Editor-in-chief of Vietnam Review of Indian and Asian Studies and Dean of Department of Business Administration, Graduate Academy of Social Sciences, Hanoi, Vietnam. His research interests include Vietnam-India relation, India's international relations with major powers such as US and China, Japan, India-ASEAN relations. He has been visiting scholars at Georgetown University and Cornell University (1990), Harvard University (1996), South Florida University (2007), Japan Institute of International Affairs (1993), University of Tokyo (2001), International Center for the Study of East Asian Development Kitakyushu, Japan (2010). Prof. Binh has published 9 books and co-authored 14 books. He has also published approximately 80 articles in various journals in Vietnam and 03 articles in international journals. His recent books include Asia-Pacific in the policy of the USA, Japan and China (2008), Promoting Vietnam-India relation in the New Context (2012), Vietnam, India and Southwest Asia: Historical Links and Present Situation (2013).

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## **Dr. Yose Rizal Damuri**

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Dr. Yose Rizal Damuri, Head of the Department of Economics, Center for Strategic and International Studies. His research activities focus on international trade, regional integration and globalization of value chain. He is active in several research and advisory networks both in Indonesia and in East Asia, such as Indonesia Service Dialogue (ISD) and Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT). Dr. Yose also teaches International Economics courses at the Faculty of Economics University of Indonesia. In addition, he occasionally writes in local and national newspapers. He received his Bachelor of Economics from the Faculty of Economics, University of Indonesia. He continued his study at the National Centre for Development Studies, Australian National University (ANU), Canberra and got his Master of Economics of Development (MEcDev). He received his PhD in International Economics from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI), Geneva, Switzerland.

## **Dr. Prabir De**

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Dr. Prabir De is the Coordinator of the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) and Professor at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS). De works in the field of international economics and has research interests in international trade and development. He was a visiting research scholar of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo; Korea Institute of International Economic Policy (KIEP), Seoul; and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok. He has been conducting policy research for the Government of India and several international organisations. De has a Ph.D in Economics from the Jadavpur University, Calcutta. He has contributed several research papers in international journals and written books on trade and development. He is the managing editor of *South Asia Economic Journal*, published by Sage, and edits a policy brief series, called *Mekong – Ganga Policy Brief*.

## **Dr. Do Duc Dinh**

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Dr. Do Duc Dinh is currently President of the Centre for Economic and Social Research, and was former Director of the Vietnam's Institute for Africa and Middle East Studies. He worked at some think tanks of Vietnam like the Institute of Vietnam Economics and the Institute of World Economics and Politics. He has taught at some universities in Vietnam such as the National University of Hanoi and the University of National Economy. He was a visiting scholar and visiting professor to a number of universities in other countries like the Harvard University and the John Hopkins University in the USA, the University of Toronto in Canada. His research interests are primarily in the field of developing countries' development, particularly in the areas of industrialization, socio-economic reforms, regional economic integration and international economic relations. He is the author of 15 books, co-author of over 20 books, and more than a hundred academic papers and articles published in Vietnam and abroad.

## **Ambassador Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa**

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Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa has been appointed as the Chief Executive of ISIS Malaysia on 1 January 2014. He graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) degree from Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia (1974). He also holds a Master of Arts degree in International Relations and Strategic Studies from the University of Lancaster, U.K. (1986) and a Certificate of Diplomacy from the University of Oxford, U.K. (1977). Tan Sri Rastam spent more than 36 years as a career diplomat in the service of the Government of Malaysia. He began his career in the Malaysian Administrative and Diplomatic Service (PTD) as an officer attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in April 1974. He served in various capacities at the Ministry and Malaysian diplomatic missions abroad, including as High Commissioner of Malaysia to Pakistan (1994-1996), Ambassador of Malaysia to Bosnia Herzegovina (1996-1998), Ambassador of Malaysia to the Republic of Indonesia (1999-2003) and Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York (2003-2005). He returned to serve as Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs at the Ministry in August 2005 and was appointed as Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 8 January 2006. He was Chairman of the Non Aligned Movement Coordinating Bureau, (NAM-COB) in New York (2003-2005). Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa was appointed as Special Envoy of the Government of Malaysia on the Implementation of Exchange of Letters between Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam in September 2010 and as an Advisor at the Chief Minister's Department, Sarawak in

November 2010. He is also currently an independent and non-executive member of the board of directors of Eversendai Corporation Bhd. and Sime Darby Energy Sdn. Bhd. Tan Sri Rastam has received Federal and State awards namely, the Panglima Setia Mahkota (PSM), SSAP, PJN, SIMP, DIMP, KMN and AMN. He is married to Puan Sri Norizan Sulaiman. They have three children.

## **Dr. Vu Minh Khuong**

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Dr. Vu Minh Khuong is a faculty member at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (National University of Singapore). His research interests concern economic growth, competitiveness, and Asian economic integration. Dr. Vu has published on prestigious international journals, including Information Economics and Policy, Journal of Contemporary Economic Policy, Journal of Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Journal of Policy Modeling, Telecommunication Policy, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, German Economics Review, Energy Policy. Dr. Vu is a winner of the 2011 Best Article Award of the Public and Non-Profit Division of the Academy of Management (USA). He also won the LKY School Research Excellence Award in 2012 and the LKY School Annual Teaching Excellence Award in 2009 and 2011. Dr. Vu received a BA in Mathematics from Hanoi University and MBA and PhD from Harvard University. He is an Editorial Board member of the Journal of Telecommunication Policy and the Journal of Asian Policy.

## **Dr. Shankaran Nambiar**

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Dr. Shankaran Nambiar is a Senior Research Fellow at the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER). His research interests include development economics institutional economics and trade policy. He has published journal articles and book chapters in these areas. He has been engaged as a consultant for the Ministries of Finance, International Trade and Industry, and Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, Malaysia. Besides undertaking consultancy projects, he has been involved in policy discussion sessions conducted by these ministries. He has also undertaken commissioned work for international organisations such as the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC), the International Labour Organization (ILO), Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and Japan External Trade Organization

(JETRO). He has been consulted on areas such as competition policy, distributive trade, industrial development, international trade, and poverty. He has been a member of the International Working Group on the Doha Agenda. He has also been a consultant for the East-West Centre, Hawaii on the feasibility of a US-Malaysia FTA; the ASEAN Secretariat on the feasibility of a possible ASEAN-Pakistan FTA; and has done work on the ASEAN-India FTA. In addition, he has been a resource person for capacity-building programmes in transition economies in Central and Southeast Asia. He is author of the recently published book - *The Malaysian Economy: Rethinking Policies and Purposes*. He obtained his PhD in economics from Universiti Sains Malaysia.

## **Dr Amitendu Palit**

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Dr Amitendu Palit is Senior Research Fellow at Institute of South Asian Studies in the National University of Singapore. He is an economist specializing in international trade policy, regional frameworks and political economy. He has earlier worked for a decade in India's Ministry of Finance. He has several academic publications and is an expert for global and regional media. His latest book is 'Trans Pacific Partnership, China and India: Economic and Political Implications' (Routledge, 2014).

## **Dr. Siviengphet Phetvorasack**

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Dr. Siviengphet Phetvorasack is a Deputy Director General at the Institute of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR since March 2013. He obtained his Ph.D. in Foreign languages from the Institute of Foreign languages of Kiev, the Republic of Ukraine in 1993. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1994, as a desk officer for Research and Studies at the Institute of Foreign Affairs. There for three years he has conducted the research on regional and global political and security issues. He worked as a First Secretary to the Embassy of the Lao PDR to Sweden from 2001 to 2005, as a Counselor in Poland from March 2009 to May 2010, and from June 2010 to September 2012 he worked as a Counselor to Austria. He actively attends many workshops, conferences and meetings, organized by ASEAN-ISIS, ASEAN countries and regional institutes for strategic studies, which deal with the Track II diplomacy.

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## **Dr. Wisarn Pupphavesa**

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Dr. Wisarn Pupphavesa is Senior Advisor in Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), Bangkok. He had his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Hawaii, and M.A. in public policy and administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Wisarn is also as Advisor to many international organisations.

## **Ambassador V.S. Seshadri**

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Ambassador V.S. Seshadri did his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (1973-78). Currently, Vice-Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi. Ambassador Seshadri joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1978. He was Ambassador of India to Slovenia, Ljubljana, (2007-2010) and Ambassador India to Myanmar, Yangon (2010-2013). He also served as Minister (Commerce) in Embassy of India, Washington DC (2003-06); Joint Secretary in-charge of WTO matters in Ministry of Commerce (1999-2003); Joint Secretary (ITP) Ministry of External Affairs (1998-99); Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative of India to ESCAP (1993-97); and Director (SAARC) in Ministry of External Affairs (1997). The earlier assignments of Dr. V.S. Seshadri included: Third Secretary and subsequently Second Secretary in High Commission of India, Nairobi (1980-83); Under Secretary (UN), Ministry of External Affairs (1983-86); First Secretary (Trade Policy) in Indian Mission to European Community in Brussels (1986-89); and First Secretary & Counsellor (Commerce) in Embassy of India in Tehran (1990-92).

## **Ambassador Nyunt Maung Shein**

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Ambassador Nyunt Maung Shein has served the Government of Myanmar for forty years before retiring as Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva in 2008. He held various diplomatic positions at Myanmar Missions in Bern, Hanoi, Bangkok, Dhaka and Tokyo. He was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Korea (2001-2002) and the Federal Republic of Germany (2002-2005) with concurrent accreditation to Austria, Poland, Finland and the Czech Republic as well as the Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the UNIDO, UNODC and IAEA, Vienna. He served in the Political Department in different capacities as Director of Boundary Division, (1990-1992), Deputy Director-General (1996) and Director-General (1998-2000). He has represented his country at the Senior Official's Meeting (SOM) and other related meetings of ASEAN including summits. He holds a BSc. Degree from the University of Yangon and MIPP (Master

of International Public Policy) from SAIS, the Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC, USA and a Diploma in French from the University of Foreign Languages, Yangon. He received several medals from the Government for his services; the highest being the Excellent Performance in Administration Medal (First Class) awarded to him in the year 2000. Since January 2013 he is serving as the Chairman of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS), which is a prominent think-tank in the Asia-Pacific Region.

## **Mr. Ngo Sothath**

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Mr. Ngo Sothath is currently a Secretary General of the Cambodian Economic Association (CEA), a professional society of Cambodian researchers and practitioners from various circles of development. Primarily, Sothath conducts operational and policy-oriented research in the areas of public finance, investment and industrial development, rural development, and governance of natural resources including extractive industries. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration and master's degree in development studies.

## **Ambassador Pou Sothirak**

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Ambassador Pou Sothirak is the Executive Director of the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), which is a noted think-tan of Cambodia. CICP is dedicated to the study and dissemination of information about political, economic, and social trends in Cambodia and the region of Southeast Asia as a whole.

## **Dr. Nguyen Xuan Thang**

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Dr. Nguyen Xuan Thang, President of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV). He is also the Vice Chairman of the Theoretical Commission of the Central Committee of the CPV, member of the National Advisory Council of Financial and Monetary Policies, member of the National Council of Science and Technology Policy. Dr. Nguyen Xuan Thang is the Professor in Economics, before becoming the President of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, he was the Academy's Vice President and the Director General of the Institute of World Economics and Politics. He is the author and chief-author of many publications in the fields of economics and politics, such as World and Vietnam's Economy in 2011 and Prospects for 2012, Development gaps and economic security in ASEAN, Economic cooperation strategy



adjustments in Asia and Pacific in the new context. He has been leading various important research projects at the State and Ministerial level, e.g. Impacts of globalization and international economic integration upon the process of industrialization and modernization in Vietnam, Policy choices for services development in Vietnam in the context of international economic integration, The relationship between independent, self-control and international economic integration in the new context in Vietnam.

## **Dr. Poon Thiengburanathum**

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Dr. Poon Thiengburanathum is Assistant Professor at Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineer, Chiang Mai University. He holds a M.S. and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering, Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado at Boulder. Now, he is the director of Infrastructure and Construction Management Research Unit, Chiang Mai University.

## **Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh**

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Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh is the Head of Politics and International Relations Department, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), Hanoi. He has done his PhD thesis on ‘ASEAN in India’s Look East Policy’. His thesis was published in 2013. He has undertaken research on India’s Look East Policy, the process of ASEAN Community building, East Sea/South China Sea disputes, and politics of Thailand and Myanmar. His research paper on ‘Vietnam-India Relations in the Lights of India’s Look East Policy’ was published in Sapru House paper series, one of the publications of India Council for World Affairs (ICWA), in 2012. He also presented his paper on ‘India and the Concept of Indo-Pacific’ at Delhi Dialogue VI in New Delhi, March 2014. He has presented his research papers in national and international conferences in Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and India. He has also contributed articles in journals in Vietnam and India. He is now leading a two-year project on Reforms in Myanmar.