

## **Day 3 - Securing the future**

### **Session 3:**

#### ***The role of Singapore in bridging East and West***

Singapore has often been described as a bridge or connector between East and West geographically, commercially, intellectually. What exactly does that mean, in a world where traditional flows like goods, services and capital are being complemented by flows of people and ideas? Can this role be expanded in the future, or does it need redefining in a fluid future?

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Dr Adrian Kuah is Senior Research Fellow and Head, Case Studies Unit at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. His research interests include futures studies, urban governance and public policy, and complexity science.

Adrian started his career in the civil service first as a foreign service officer with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and then as an economist in the Monetary Authority of Singapore. He subsequently left for the private sector as a business strategy consultant before embarking on an academic career with the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University. As Assistant Professor on its Military Studies programme, he taught on the MSc programmes as well as the Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College's professional military education courses.

He returned to the civil service for a second stint in 2013 as Lead Strategist in the Centre for Strategic Futures, Strategic Policy Office, Prime Minister's Office, where he was involved in whole-of-Government futures research and scenario planning. He led a team of researchers in analysing complex, cross-cutting public policy issues across the social, economic, infrastructure and security domains. He also conducted training on futures thinking and complexity science for the Singapore Public Service at the Civil Service College.

Adrian joined the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in July 2015 to be part of the Future Ready Singapore project, a research-cum-teaching programme centred on the application of futures concepts and methodologies to public policy in complex environments. He also heads the Case Studies Unit, where he will be developing both cases as well as case writing methodologies.

Adrian obtained his Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Economics and Politics from the University of York, graduating with first class honours, followed by his Master of Arts degree in International Politics from the University of Warwick. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Defence Policy and Economics from Cranfield University, where his doctoral studies were fully funded by RSIS.