Extending the War on Terror in Southeast Asia: A Focus on the Abu Sayaff Group in Mindanao

Professor Renato Cruz De Castro

Asian Security Seminar Series

Friday 5 March 2010
12.30pm
Lecture Theatre 1
Hedley Bull Centre (Building #130), ANU

The talk will focus on the Bush Administration’s extension of the War on Terror in Southeast Asia and this counter-terrorism operation’s main target—the Abu Sayyaf Group. It will probe into the Abu Sayyaf Group’s (ASG) history, transnational links, and its current terrorist operations. The lecturer will point out that the ASG’s jihadist credential is superficial and that the band is actually a marginalised movement operating at the fringes of mainstream militant Islamic movement in Southeast Asia.

Renato Cruz De Castro is a full-professor in the International Studies Department, De La Salle University and the holder of the Dr. Aurelio Calderon Professorial Chair of Philippine-American Relations. He earned his PhD from the Government and International Studies Department of the University of South Carolina as a Fulbright Scholar in 2001. He earned his BA and two masters degrees from the University of the Philippines. He has written 60 articles on international relations and security that have been published in a number of scholarly journals and edited works in the Philippines, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the US.

His most recent published articles are: The U.S.–Philippine Alliance: An Evolving Hedge Against an Emerging China Challenge, Contemporary Southeast Asia Vol. 31, No. 3 (December 2009); Domestic Woes and Overseas Tactics in the Philippines, Global Asia, Vol. 4, No. 3 (Fall 2009); Extending the War on Terror in Southeast Asia: A Focus on the Abu Sayyaff, Korean Journal of Defense Analysis (Fall 2009); Linking Two Spokes Together: Exploring a 21st century Japan–Philippines Relations?, Asian Survey XLIX, 4 (July/August 2009) and Confronting China’s Charm Offensive in East Asia: A Simple Case of Fighting Fire with Fire?, Issues and Studies (March 2009) Vol. 45, No. 1.

For enquiries, please contact:
Dr Brendan Taylor
E: brendan.taylor@anu.edu.au
T: 6125 5928.

The seminar is free and open to all but please RSVP to Ms Sheila Flores:
E: sheila.flores@anu.edu.au

The views expressed in this lecture series are those of the presenters and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.