

Title: The Economy-Security Nexus: The Case of East Asia

Abstract:

Liberal theories of international relations argue that economic interdependence predicts significant security cooperation in East Asia because interdependence alters cost of war. Yet, only limited security collaboration has been developed between ASEAN and Japan in spite of growth in trade volume and growth in intra-regional trade. How does the development of economic and market relations influence the policy priorities in the security arena? Some may argue that ASEAN countries avoid dependence on a single power, either U.S. or Japan. Others may insist that collective memories from Japan's occupation of Southeast Asia hamper the security collaboration between ASEAN and Japan. Realists are basically skeptical to liberalists' understanding of economy-security nexus.