

## Biography

**Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak** is a speaker on topics ranging from Thailand's domestic politics, political economy and foreign policy to ASEAN dynamics and international affairs more broadly. He has delivered stand-alone public lectures and private briefings on these topics to leading financial institutions, multinational corporations, international chambers of commerce, and diplomatic missions, and has lectured widely at local and international universities, military colleges, and international organisations. Dr Thitinan has provided many individual consultations to investors on both portfolio and direct investments in the context of Thai politics and macro-economy with coverage of ASEAN markets, especially with reference to mainland Southeast Asia and Greater Mekong Subregion. Apart from his occasional speaking engagements, Thitinan is Director of the Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS) and Associate Professor of International Political Economy at the Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University. He has authored a host of articles, books, book chapters, and more than 800 op-eds in news outlets such as *The Bangkok Post*, *The Straits Times*, *South China Morning Post*, *International New York Times*, *Project Syndicate*, *Financial Times*, and his comments and views are frequently quoted in international and local media, such as *CNN*, *BBC*, *Bloomberg*, *CNBC*, *Aljazeera*, *Channel News Asia*, and *NHK*. Thitinan has worked for *The BBC World Service*, *The Economist Intelligence Unit* (EIU), and *Gerson Lehrman Group*. He assisted Thai companies, such as Airports of Thailand and Pruksa Real Estate, when they undertook road shows during their IPOs.

From a multicultural and bilingual background, Thitinan was born and raised in Thailand through primary school, and completed high school and university in California. His postgraduate work in international economics and international relations at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) later led to his PhD at the London School of Economics where his work on the political economy of the 1997 Thai economic crisis was awarded the United Kingdom's Best Dissertation Prize in 2002.

Thitinan has held visiting positions at Johns Hopkins SAIS, Stanford University, Yangon University, and Victoria University in New Zealand, and currently serves on the editorial boards of *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, *South East Asia Research*, *Asian Politics & Policy*, and *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*. Apart from many opinion articles in global media, his academic publications include: "Locating ASEAN in East Asia's Regional Order" in *Asia Policy*, April 2018; "Southeast Asia and the Trump Administration: Between a Rock and a Hard Place" in *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, Vol. 39, No. 1 (2017); "Where ASEAN Meets Southeast Asia" in The Asia Foundation's *Asian Views on America's Role in Asia*, 2016; "An Unaligned Alliance: Thailand-United States Relations," *Asian Politics & Policy*, October 2015; "The Mekong Region: A River Runs Through It", *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2014; "Thailand's Uneasy Passage" in Larry Diamond, Marc F. Plattner and Yun-han Chu (eds), *Democracy in East Asia: A New Century*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013; "Thailand's Uneasy Passage", *Journal of Democracy*, April-June 2012. In 2015, he received an award for excellence in opinion writing from the Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA).