



Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies



SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

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Asia-Pacific Responses to U.S. Security Policies

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Editor's Note

S A T U P . L I M A Y E

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This Special Assessment entitled *Asia-Pacific Responses to U.S. Security Policies* reflects two key considerations. First, the perspective of regional countries about U.S. security policies is important to appreciate. A number of useful studies of U.S. relations with the Asia-Pacific have recently been published in the United States, and some of these inform the analyses in this volume. However, they tend to approach the topic from a U.S. or thematic perspective. This Special Assessment utilizes the expertise of the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) faculty to assess Asia-Pacific country responses to U.S. security policies. APCSS hopes that, taken together, these various approaches will provide a fuller picture of U.S. relations with the Asia-Pacific region. A second reason for this project is that the timing is right. This is an appropriate time to take stock of the United States' relations with the Asia-Pacific given that it is the mid-point of the first George W. Bush administration, a year and a half after September 11 and the release of the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), six months following the new National Security Strategy (NSS) and in the midst of intense debates about Iraq, North Korea and U.S. security and foreign policies more broadly.

Deliberately, no detailed template or format for the analyses was established. The most accurate way to depict Asia-Pacific countries' views of U.S. security policies was for each expert to determine what issues are critical from their country's perspective. However, all authors were asked to consider responses to documents such as the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), the National Security Strategy (NSS), and other major administration speeches regarding U.S. defense, strategic and military policies in the Asia-Pacific region. The issues on which country responses are assessed include the global war on terrorism, the doctrine of "integration," preemption, weapons of mass destruction, military-to-military relations and deployment of missile defenses.

The focus of each analysis is on the governmental response as evident in official speeches, comments, and publications. However, attention is also given to differences and convergences of opinion between governmental responses and public opinion and civil society, and media commentary — especially if there is a marked dissonance. In essence, the goal of these analyses is to capture the state of debate in a particular Asia-Pacific country regarding U.S. security policies.

This is the first Special Assessment in the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies' research and publications program. The analyses in this publication bring together the insights, expertise and experience of a diverse group of security experts who comprise our teaching and research faculty. We hope this and other APCSS publications inform discussion and debate on Asia-Pacific security.