

Myanmar Emerging Leaders: 2025 Policy and Leadership Program

Chiang Mai, Thailand

July 11–13, 2025

	Day 1 (July 11)	Day 2 (July 12)	Day 3 (July 13)
VENUE	ibis Styles Chiang Mai	Ang Kaew Villa, Chiang Mai University	Ang Kaew Villa, Chiang Mai University
09:00 am - 09:15 am	Registration & Opening Remarks	Morning Energizer / Team Building	Morning Energizer / Team Building
09:15 am - 10:30 am	Understanding Federalism (Kai Ostwald)	Civil-Military Relations (Terence Lee)	Peacebuilding & Social Cohesion (Kyaw Yin Hlaing)
10:30 am - 10:45 am	Break	Break	Break
10:45 am - 12:00 pm	Federalism in Practice (Kai Ostwald)	Security Sector Reform (Terence Lee)	Building Cohesive Societies (Kyaw Yin Hlaing)
12:00 pm - 01:15 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
01:15 pm - 02:30 pm	Institutional Design & Electoral Systems (Steven Oliver)	Theories of Civil War: Duration and Pathways to Resolution (Terence Lee)	Simulation Exercise (Kai Ostwald)
02:30 pm - 02:45 pm	Break	Break	04:00 pm – 6:00 pm
02:45 pm - 04:00 pm	Institutional Design (continued) (Steven Oliver)	Role of Foreign Actors in Myanmar (Terence Lee)	
			Closing Dinner Location: TBC
			6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Trainer Profile

Kai Ostwald is the HSBC Chair in Asian Research and an Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia, jointly appointed in the Department of Political Science and the School of Public Policy & Global Affairs. He also serves as Director of UBC's Institute of Asian Research and as Associate Editor (Southeast Asia) for Pacific Affairs. He was trained in the subfield of comparative politics and focus on issues including democratization, governance, ethnic politics, and the political economy of development, with a primary emphasis on Southeast Asia. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from University of California at San Diego.

Steven Oliver is Senior Lecturer of Political Science at the National University of Singapore. Before joining the NUS Department of Political Science, he held appointments at Yale-NUS College. His teaching and research is oriented towards questions and topics within the subfield of comparative politics. His recent work is focused on Southeast Asia with special attention to Singapore and Malaysia. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from University of California at San Diego.

Terence Lee is Senior Fellow at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University. He was previously a tenured Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore. He specializes in the study of civil-military relations, Southeast Asian politics and international security. He earned his Ph.D. and M.A. degrees in Political Science from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Kyaw Yin Hlaing is the executive director at the Center for Diversity and National Harmony. He has taught at the City University of Hong Kong and the National University of Singapore. He is a former Advisor to President U Thein Sein, a former member of the National Economic and Social Council, and a former director of the political dialogue program at the Myanmar Peace Center. His research and teaching interests include state- and nation-building, authoritarian polities, democratization, state-society relations, social movements, communal problems, and peace building. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Cornell University.