



SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES



Alexander Knoth (Head of Section Digitalisation S01 & Designated Chief Digital Officer, DAAD)

Alexander Knoth, historian and sociologist, works as Head of Section Digitalisation at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in Berlin. He is responsible for the strategic planning and management of DAAD's digitalisation activities. Before he took over this position, Alexander Knoth worked as an Advisor for the Digitalisation of Teaching and International Affairs at the President's Office of the University of Potsdam. As Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) coordinator, Alexander has gained experiences in interdisciplinary and international co-teaching scenarios, connecting classrooms around the globe. He also worked at the chair of Complex Multimedia Application Architectures (Institute for Computational Science) and at the chair of Gender Sociology both at the University of Potsdam. Alexander is an Educational Expert Fulbright Alumnus. He has been honoured by the Federal President of Germany and he has won the Teaching Award of the Federal State Brandenburg twice. His mobile application "Reflect.UP" has been nominated for the German E-Learning Innovation award (delina).



Nina Knops (Senior Desk Officer, DAAD)

Nina Knops is a Senior Desk Officer at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)/German Erasmus+ National Agency for Higher Education. She is in charge of coordinating the German participation in the ASEM Education Process. Before taking up her current position, Nina Knops worked as a Project Administrator for the Erasmus+ Key Action 3 (Policy Support) at the German Erasmus+ National Agency for Higher Education.

Nina Knops holds a BA in European Studies (Maastricht University) with a semester abroad in South Korea, as well as a MA in Peace and Security (UK)



Leonie Nagarajan (Director, Education Department Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF))

Leonie NAGARAJAN, a German national, has been working in the field of international relations for over 15 years, with a focus on Education Diplomacy since 2014. As the Director of the Education Department, she is responsible for leading the department in the conceptualization and execution of a programme portfolio covering 51 countries across Asia and Europe. Her work addresses education policies and higher education cooperation, activities in the field of lifelong learning as well as experiential learning and skills development for young people. Prior to joining ASEF Edu, Leonie worked in ASEF's Executive Office and advised and supported three ASEF Executive Directors, seconded by the French and the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the planning and implementation of ASEF's long-range strategy, programmes and operations. Leonie's started her professional career in the fields of international relations, communication and public affairs. She worked for the House of World Cultures in Berlin, the newspaper Berliner Zeitung and gained working experiences at the Pretoria News and the Icelandic national broadcaster Ríkisútvarpið (RÚV). Having studied in Berlin, Germany, with a stint at Háskóli Íslands in Reykjavik, Iceland, she received her Master's degree in Communication Sciences with minors in Cultural and Political Sciences from the Free University and the Humboldt University of Berlin. Next to her international work at ASEF, she volunteers in the local education sector in Singapore and co-chairs the Executive Committee of a Parents Group in a public Primary School.



Dr. Keuk-Je Sung (Director General ASEM DUO Secretariat)

Dr. Keuk-Je Sung is a professor emeritus at Kyung Hee University in Korea. He served as an advisor to the Minister of Communications, an economist at the President Office and also as a diplomat and chief trade negotiator for WTO services negotiations. He is the Director General of the Secretariat for ASEM DUO Fellowship Program since its inception.



Adrian Veale (Policy Officer, European Commission, DG EAC Unit C3 - International cooperation)

Adrian Veale works in the international cooperation unit of the European Commission's DG for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, primarily on Erasmus+ and the international opportunities it offers. He maintains a particular focus on higher education and other Erasmus+ cooperation with Asia, and on the EU's support for making Europe a more attractive higher education destination. Earlier in his career he worked in the Asia unit of the DG for development cooperation (now called DG International Partnerships), and for the European Social Fund. He has also worked as an editor in the private sector. Adrian is originally from the UK.



Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond (Centre Director SEAMEO-RIHED)

Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond holds an A.B. in English and Public Administration, an M.A. in Linguistics and PhD in Education Administration as well as an ED.S in Curriculum Development & Instruction from Michigan State University, USA. She also received the Elaine K. Komo Award of the East-West Center, Hawaii, for outstanding accomplishments in strengthening internationalisation. Dr. Chantavit is currently the Centre Director of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Center for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) and previously served as Deputy Director (Administration and Communication) of the SEAMEO Secretariat. She held the position of Deputy Secretary-General of the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Ministry of Education, Thailand and has concluded nearly two decades of service with OHEC throughout her professional career. In her administrative capacities, she has represented Thailand in various regional and international platforms for intergovernmental cooperation as well as bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

