New Zealand Asia Institute

Enhancing New Zealand’s understanding of and engagement with Asia
About the New Zealand Asia Institute

The New Zealand Asia Institute (NZAI) undertakes research that promotes engagement with Asia, provides a forum for informed debate and offers a bridge to Asia-related expertise and research within the University of Auckland.

NZAI was established in 1995 as a response to the growing importance of Asia to New Zealand politically, economically and culturally.

Based at the University of Auckland Business School, NZAI is a University-level research institute that draws on the wide body of knowledge available in the University, with a number of core research projects being undertaken by faculty and PhD students.

We also work collaboratively with research institutes and researchers throughout Asia on research projects, programmes and conferences that enhance our understanding of Asia’s transformation.

NZAI engages widely with corporate, government and other stakeholders.
Our research

NZAI aims to produce and disseminate relevant research on Asia and New Zealand’s relationship with Asia. We encourage informed debate and evidence-based policy.

Our research areas include

- New Zealand business engagement with Asia
- Global value chains, logistics and innovation
- Asian business systems and the business environment in selected Asian countries
- Labour rights in global value chains and trade networks
- Contemporary Asian societies
- Economic development, integration and governance in Asia
- Market trends, branding and consumers in Asia
- Asian Investment in New Zealand

Our events and activities

NZAI hosts and co-organises events and activities throughout the year featuring national and international guest speakers with an extensive range of expertise. These include:

- Student-led Asia Savvy conference and networking events
- Public talks
- International conferences
- Briefings and expert roundtables
- Tailored short courses in language and executive education
Our study centres

China Studies Centre

The China Studies Centre seeks to promote cooperation among China researchers, both within and external to the University of Auckland. The Centre has more than twenty Research Associates from throughout the University conducting research in and on China.

Fields of interest include philosophy, linguistics, literature, culture, history, politics, international relations, education, materials science, food quality, consumer behaviour, pharmaceuticals, environmental science, urban planning, logistics and retailing. The Centre also runs seminars and forums on China.

Japan Studies Centre

The Japan Studies Centre seeks to strengthen the University’s leading national role in research on Japan by providing a forum for scholarly cooperation across the disciplines. It draws on the expertise of research associates from departments and schools across the University and promotes international collaboration with scholars and research institutes throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Recent publications based on international conferences hosted by the Centre include Disasters and Social Crisis in Contemporary Japan, Mark R. Mullins and Koichi Nakano, eds. (Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2016) and Belief and Practice in Imperial Japan and Colonial Korea, Emily Anderson, ed. (Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2017).
Our study centres (cont.)

Korea Studies Centre

The Korea Studies Centre brings together scholars and others with an interest in Korea. It regularly holds seminars and conferences on Korean themes. With the support of the Korea Foundation and the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS), the Korea Studies Centre has invited leading scholars of Korea to visit New Zealand to give public seminars and held conferences on a variety of Korea-related topics. Past conferences have included Confucianism and Korea, Korean Women, North-South relations, the 2012 celebration of 50 years of the New Zealand-Republic of Korea diplomatic relationship, ‘Empire of Religions: Exploring Belief and Practice in Imperial Japan and Colonial Korea’, in collaboration with the Japan Foundation, and, most recently, Korean Ethnic Return Migration & Diasporic Engagement Policy.

Southeast Asia Studies Centre

The Southeast Asia Studies Centre provides a forum for researchers and others to share ideas and develop collaborations through seminars and workshops. Previous projects have focused on regional institutions and co-operation, developments in Indonesia and Myanmar, and transnational forces. We welcome researchers and others with an interest in Southeast Asia.
Our publications

**Asia Echo e-newsletter**

Asia Echo provides news relevant for New Zealand businesses engaging with Asia. Every month we select articles from a variety of reputable sources that will help you learn more about Asia.

**Asia Savvy conference e-book**

The Asia Savvy e-book contains a summary of speeches, selected student essays and findings from the breakout sessions held during our annual student-led conference.

**Research Snapshots**

The Research Snapshots series presents findings from recent research carried out by NZAI staff and associates in short, accessible summaries.

**Working papers**

NZAI Working Papers present the work of members and associates before publication in other outlets.

**Books**

NZAI publishes some of the work of members and associates in book form. NZAI books can be ordered from us.

**Staff publications published elsewhere**

NZAI members regularly produce work that is disseminated by other scholarly and general audience publishers. The NZAI website provides updated information and links to such publications.

**Contact us**

New Zealand Asia Institute is a non-profit organisation defined as a Public Benefit Entity and registered with the Charities Commission No. CC 20421 in New Zealand.

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