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Introduction

This special issue focuses on the neglected topic of the relationship between security and development in Southeast Asia. Economists and political scientists, who produce much of the separate and distinct literature on development and security in the region, are brought together here in an attempt to scale the barriers to cross-disciplinary research on security and development. The first paper is an overview of military spending, the defence burden, and the relationship between military spending, economic performance, and external indebtedness in Southeast Asia. Robert Looney and P.C. Frederiksen examine the economic determinants of defence expenditures in the second contribution. Lewis Snider's contribution to the literature analyses the relationship between military spending and external debt. An assessment of the economic impact of the United States military bases on the Philippines is provided by William Berry, Jr. Finally, Aaron Karp offers a strategic evaluation of arms procurement, a topic at the core of defence economics, by the Southeast Asian countries.

Andrew L. Ross
Guest Editor

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