

NIDS International Symposium on Security Affairs 2017

Maintaining Maritime Order in the Asia-Pacific

The National Institute for Defense Studies

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Foreword

In recent years, China has been pushing forward large-scale and rapid land reclamation and militarization in the Spratly and Paracel Islands and other regions in the South China Sea, while a landmark award was given at an arbitral tribunal on the South China Sea territorial disputes in July 2016. Under such circumstances, the new Duterte administration in Philippines has changed the confrontational attitude of the former government of Aquino, by showing its willingness to discuss with China. Now in 2017, attention should be paid also to the way the new Trump administration of the United States responds to the South China Sea issues as well as the trend of ASEAN, where the Philippines under the Duterte administration will serve as the Chairman.

In consideration of these current situations, this symposium is intended to obtain knowledge on the latest efforts by South China Sea claimants as well as third parties, and to contribute to public understanding on the issues, by providing a forum where domestic and international experts discuss and exchange insights on what impacts these issues have on the problems such as the rule of law and the maintenance of maritime order, and what approach Japan should take to deal with such issues.

Yoshiaki Sakaguchi
Executive Director
NIDS

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