

SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE SPEAKER



GURCHARAN DAS

Economist and Author

Gurcharan Das is an author and public intellectual, known for a much-acclaimed trilogy on the classical Indian goals of life. *India Unbound* was the first, on artha or 'material well-being'—it offers a personal account of India's recent economic rise and is available in 19 languages and filmed by the BBC.; the second, *The Difficulty of Being Good*, on dharma, 'moral well-being', illuminates our day to day moral dilemmas through a meditation on the epic, *Mahabharata*; *Kama: The Riddle of Desire*, on the third goal, teaches how to cherish desire in order to live a rich, flourishing life. He graduated in philosophy from Harvard University and attended Harvard Business School (AMP). He was CEO of Procter & Gamble India and Managing Director, Procter & Gamble Worldwide (Strategic Planning) before he resigned to become a full-time writer. He writes a regular column for the *Times of India*, five Indian language papers, and contributes to *Financial Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Foreign Affairs*. His other books include *India Grows at Night: A Liberal Case for a Strong State*; a novel, *A Fine Family*; a book of essays, *The Elephant Paradigm*, and an anthology, *Three Plays*. He is editing a history series for Penguin, *The Story of Indian Business*, of which 14 volumes have already appeared. He lives in Delhi with his wife.



BASANTA ADHIKARI

Bikalpa – An Alternative

Basanta Adhikari is the Director and Founding chairperson of Bikalpa—An Alternative; an organization which envisions a Nepal where rule of law is supreme and all citizens can have an equal opportunity to prosper in their own country and enjoy their rights to life, liberty and property. Prior to this, he has worked with Samriddhi—the Prosperity Foundation, leading "Gari Khana Deu" (Livable Nepal) campaign to promote the fundamental principles of rule of law, right to life and property, and Freedom to Enterprise. He graduated from SungKongHoe University, Seoul, South Korea with a Master's in Inter-Asia NGOs Studies (MAINS). Mr. Adhikari is the alumni of US Department of State International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP). He is also a fellow for the Asia 21 Young Leaders class of 2016.



KRISTINE F. ALCANTARA

Foundation for Economic Freedom, Philippines

Kristine F. Alcantara is an attorney, a Fellow of the Foundation for Economic Freedom, and Managing Partner of Abad Alcantara and Associates, a Philippine trade law firm specializing, pioneering at and advocating competition, integration and innovation law. As an attorney, Alcantara provides technical advice and policy development assistance to legislators and agencies on trade, investments, economic and sustainable development, women's economic empowerment, and innovation.



FELIPPA AMANTA

Center for Indonesian Policy Studies

Felippa Amanta is the Head of Research at the Center for Indonesian Policy Studies (CIPS), spearheading CIPS' research activities. Her own research focuses on food security and trade. Previously, Felippa conducted and published policy research with the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment at University of California, Berkeley. When she returned to Indonesia, she then worked at the Women and Youth Development Institute of Indonesia in Surabaya. She received her Bachelor in Sociology degree from University of California, Berkeley, followed by Master of Public Administration from the Australian National University. She was selected as one of Indonesia's Future Leaders by the British Council in 2017 and completed the policy and leadership training from University of Cambridge. She now mentors young public policy practitioners through Think Policy Society.



BHUVANA ANAND

Trayas Foundation

Bhuvana Anand is co-founder of Trayas, an independent research and policy advisory organisation. For the last decade, she has worked across the Indian public policy spectrum on regulatory reform, better governance, public finance, and political economy. She has worked alongside government and civil society partners on regulatory simplification and reforming welfare programmes. She is former Director of Research at the Centre for Civil Society in India. She led the conceptualisation and execution of multiple high-visibility initiatives including Quality of Regulation, Doing Business in Delhi, Anatomy of K-12 Governance, Playbook for Reforming Indian Agriculture, and Regulation for New Realities. She has published several opinion articles on domestic policy in leading pink papers. She has recently picked up the cudgels on ending legislatively-sanctioned discrimination against women job-seekers in India.



CHARU CHADHA

Media 9 Pvt Ltd.

Charu Chadha has worked in the media for over 24 years in various capacities. She is the editor of Business 360, Nepal's leading business magazine and WOW (World of Women) - a woman and lifestyle magazine, products of MEDIA 9 Pvt Ltd where she is also publisher. She is also a photographer and documentary filmmaker. Charu offers her expertise as a consultant on media relations, public relations, marketing communications, communication strategy, branding and conference design to private and public entities and chambers of commerce. She speaks and moderates panel discussions on business, free markets, economic empowerment, wellness, personal development, youth leadership, and the future of work - in Nepal and overseas. She is a strong proponent of freedom, free markets and liberty with integrity and compassion as its core values. She also served on the PISC board for the Visit Nepal Year 2020 and is on the board of Samriddha Pahad that promotes sustainable tourism and livelihood creation in the Kanchenjunga conservation area. She co-owns Rage Fitness, a forerunner in the fitness industry.



DEEPENDRA CHAULAGAIN

Samriddhi Foundation

Deependra Chaulagain is the Director of Operations & Outreach at Samriddhi Foundation (Nepal) where he designs operational systems and oversees outreach programs. His key strengths are coordinating with parliamentarians, politicians and bureaucrats. He has successfully led numerous advocacy campaigns, debate and Leadership programs.

He joined Samriddhi Foundation in 2007 and is a former president of Liberal Youth of South Asia (LYSA). He has experience designing and executing several national and international programs in youth politics, entrepreneurship and leadership. As a Director of Operations and Outreach Deependra also has worked with policy makers, political leaders and non-partisan leaders in Nepal. He is also Acting Managing Country Director of Global Entrepreneurship Network in Nepal. Deependra holds a postgraduate degree in Political Science.



ALEX CORDELL

Atlas Network

Alex Cordell holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics, economics, and law (PPEL) and international relations from the University of Arizona. After graduation, she moved to Washington, D.C., to work for the Institute for Free Speech as a research fellow, prior to joining Atlas Network in February 2018 as a training associate. Alex grew up in Colorado before moving to Arizona, and she currently resides in Alexandria, Va. In her free time, you can find her exploring Virginia and Maryland's hiking trails, fostering rescue dogs, or cheering on the Denver Broncos.



LAKSHMI SAMPATH GOYAL

Centre for Civil Society

Lakshmi Sampath Goyal is the Chief Executive Officer at the Centre for Civil Society (CCS) in India and was previously the CEO of the India Sanitation Coalition (ISC), a program aimed at driving multi-stakeholder engagement to accelerate the adoption of sustainable sanitation practices in India, through partnerships amongst the private sector, implementation partners, multilateral agencies and the governmental agencies. With a leadership career spanning over 25 years in Ogilvy, HSBC and Standard Chartered Bank overseeing multi-geographic teams, Lakshmi has established credentials in leading and nurturing talented individuals and driving a high-performance culture. Apart from experience in brand management, Lakshmi brings with her a creative bent of mind and an in-depth understanding of research and consumer behaviour.

She is currently pursuing a second career in the development sector, with an active interest in education, gender, environment, sustainable livelihoods, renewables and allied areas. Lakshmi is a trekking enthusiast and enjoys exploring the mountains with her husband Suresh and son Arjun.



RAINER HEUFERS

Center for Indonesian Policy Studies

Rainer Heufers is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Indonesian Policy Studies in Jakarta, Indonesia. Being strictly non-partisan and not-for-profit, CIPS suggests policies that are based on the belief that only civil, political, and economic freedom allows Indonesia to prosper. Heufers is also the founder and Managing Director of Siap Solutions Pte. Ltd., a Singapore-based training and consulting firm that provides strategic counseling, public policy consulting, leadership training, organizational development and other services. He is also a Senior Fellow of the Atlas Network.



SIMON LEE

AdvB Public Affairs Consulting

Simon Lee is a serial entrepreneur and an author. He is one of the three co-founders of the Lion Rock Institute, a think tank dedicating itself to promoting and protecting Hong Kong's free-market heritage. A seasoned strategist and communicator, Simon served two veteran legislative councilors, ran five election campaigns, authored two books and three newspaper columns. He manages a consulting company and a newsletter business.



RAJESH JAIN

Netcore Solutions

Rajesh Jain is a tech entrepreneur based in Mumbai, India. He was a pioneer in Asia's dotcom revolution, creating IndiaWorld, India's first Internet portals in the late 1990s. He then started Netcore, which is today Asia's largest marketing technology company. Rajesh writes daily at <https://rajeshjain.com>. Rajesh's prosperity initiative, Free A Billion, worked from 2015-2019 to bring economic freedom to Indians. Its flagship initiative was Nayi Disha (<https://www.nayidisha.com>), which was established to create a demand for freedom and prosperity. Rajesh's previous political venture, Niti Digital, was one of the key organisations that supported the 2014 BJP election campaign for Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



SATHYA KARUNARATHNE

Advocata Institute

Sathya Karunaratne is a researcher at the Advocata Institute in Sri Lanka. Her research is based on public policy concerns, enhancing human freedom and welfare at large. Sathya has a keen interest in female empowerment and contributes to the sphere of feminist research advocating for equality and female political and economic empowerment. Prior to this, she stepped into the field of policy as a fresh graduate serving at the Ministry of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution as an Analyst where her work centered on market and technology-driven solutions to ensure food security. Sathya is a BSc holder in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science, she also holds a degree in English from the University of Sri Jayawardenapura.



BRAD LIPS

Atlas Network

Brad Lips is the Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Network, which increases opportunity and prosperity by strengthening a global network of independent civil society organizations that promote individual freedom and remove barriers to human flourishing. Since he became CEO in 2009, the budget of Atlas Network has more than doubled and the scope of its programs has extended worldwide. He is the author of a monograph titled *The Freedom Movement: Its Past, Present, and Future*. Lips is a member of the John Templeton Foundation, Templeton World Charity Foundation, and Templeton Religion Trust. He serves on the boards of directors of the American Friends of the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Institute of Economic Studies—Europe. As a member of the Mont Pelerin Society, Lips chaired the Organizing Committee of its General Meeting in 2016. Prior to joining Atlas Network in 1998, Lips co-founded an Internet start-up, conducted equity research for Smith Barney, Inc., and worked in a policy research capacity for the Progress & Freedom Foundation. He has spoken on five continents on solutions to poverty, and his work has been published in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Regulation*, *National Review Online*, *Investor's Business Daily*, *The Daily Caller*, *Forbes*, *Fox News*, *American Spectator*, *American Thinker*, and *RealClearPolitics*. Lips received his MBA from the Goizueta Business School of Emory University and his undergraduate degree from Princeton University. Brad lives with his wife, Stephanie, and their four children in Falls Church, Virginia.



MR. DINH TUAN MINH

Market Solutions Research Center for Social and Economic Issues

Mr. Dinh Tuan Minh is the Research Director of the Center for Research on Market Solutions for Socio-Economic Issues (MASSEI). Mr. Minh is known in Vietnam as one of the fervent advocate for the development of a free market economy in Vietnam. He is the author and editor of many academic books. Minh is also a translator of some valuable works of thinkers such as F.A. Hayek, Ludwig von Mises, Milton Friedman etc. into Vietnamese. He also regularly writes analytical articles, comments or gives interviews on socio-economic issues of Vietnam. Mr. Dinh Tuan Minh graduated with a master's degree from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) (Bangkok, Thailand), and joined the PhD program in the economics of technical change at Maastricht University (Netherlands).



LUIS MIRANDA

Centre for Civil Society

Luis Miranda is Chairman of CORO and Centre for Civil Society. He is Advisor to the Nadathur Group. Luis has been involved in setting up 2 companies - HDFC Bank and IDFC Private Equity. Luis spends his time these days connecting the dots, using his network to help the organisations he is connected with. He is a member of the Global Advisory Board of Chicago Booth and writes a blog for Forbes India. Luis received an MBA from the Booth School of Business, University of Chicago, and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.



DR. PRASHANT NARANG

Centre for Civil Society, India

Dr. Prashant Narang is Senior Fellow, Research and Training Programs at Centre for Civil Society in India. At CCS, his work focuses on street vending regulations, ease of doing business, agriculture, and K12 education laws. Prashant did his doctorate at the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He is a lawyer as well as a policy researcher who is deeply interested in the constitutional right to carry on business and trade and the Rule of Law. While he enjoys legislative drafting, he finds law and economics, and empirical legal research also quite fascinating. Spotting logical fallacies in judgments is his favorite pastime.



ARPITA NEPAL

Samriddhi Foundation

Arpita Nepal is the co-founder and advisor of Research & Development at Samriddhi Foundation. She also oversees curriculum design of The Foundation's education and training programs along with strategizing advocacy campaigns. Some of Samriddhi's flagship programs such as Arthalaya – School of Economics & Entrepreneurship and Nepal Economic Growth Agenda (NEGA) were conceived and executed under her leadership.

She has remained a part time faculty member of two colleges in Nepal for over five years and has been involved in activism for democracy. She is trained in Strategic Planning and has extensive experience of working with parliamentarians, representatives of private sector, experts and several stakeholder groups. She holds double Master degree in Economics from George Mason University (USA) and Tribhuvan University (Nepal).



JEFFREY NG

Cathay Land, Inc.

Jeffrey Ng is currently the President of Cathay Land, Inc., developer of South Forbes Golf City and Astoria Hotels and Resorts. He was a BA Economics Cum Laude graduate of University of the Philippines Diliman with Master's Degree in Business Economics at University of Asia and the Pacific. Mr. Ng is President of UP School of Economics Alumni Association (UPSEAA), and Board Director of The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) and Foundation for Economic Freedom (FEF).



CASEY PIFER

Atlas Network

Casey Pifer is the Director of Institute Relations at Atlas Network. She manages the grants and awards programs of Atlas Network, including the prestigious Templeton Freedom Award. Originally from West Virginia, Casey joined Atlas Network in 2014 on the events team and has since transitioned to become the institute relations director. She grew up in West Virginia and graduated from West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in economics and political science.



MOHAMMAD KHALID RAMIZY

Friedrich Naumann Foundation

Mohammad Khalid Ramizy is a leader and Human Rights Activist in Afghanistan and is from an Afghan intellectual family, who devoted their entire lifetimes to promote human rights, individual freedom and other free society values in Afghanistan. He continued these invaluable activities since the collapse of the Taliban regime by working with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation of Germany and some other national and international organizations. He is the CEO of Afghanistan Economic and Legal Studies Organization (AELSO), (Afghanistan libertarian think tank), a partner of Atlas Network, and he is the founder and Director of Silk Road Online Radio & TV, Afghanistan's first online scientific Radio & TV Station. He has a huge network with different stratification and organizations of the Afghan society, who are involved and working with different youth groups. He is one of the founders and a board member of The White Assembly, and leads over ten thousands of youths across Afghanistan to educate them the ideas and philosophy of liberty. Khalid is studying for a Master's Degree in the field of Educational Management at Kabul University. Khalid wishes to bring peace, love, prosperity and liberty in Afghanistan!



DHANU RAJ

Centre for Public Policy Research

Dhanu Raj serves as Chairman of the Centre for Public Policy Research (www.cppr.in) in India. A social entrepreneur by profession, Dhanuraj is also a seasoned policy researcher. He has worked with several national and international organizations and government bodies in the development sector. Dhanuraj has been trained by Friedrich Neumann Stiftung (FNSt) at the International Academy for Leadership (IAF), Theodore Heusse Akademie, Germany. He is also trained for Startup ThinkTanks by Atlas USA and in Austrian Economics by Foundation for Economic Education (FEE), New York. His area of interest includes Urbanisation, Financial Market, Education, health, Law and International Relations. He has worked with different governments (international, national and state), international and national NGOs, corporate houses, development organisations, and educational institutions. Dhanuraj also is a well-known panelist on primetime news on news channels and writes extensively for news portals and magazines.



MR. SARWAGYA RAJ PANDEY

Bikalpa—An Alternative

Mr. Sarwagya Raj Pandey has 5 years of experience in research, advocacy and filmmaking. He specializes in public policy research at the local level and creating advocacy campaigns, with a focus on small businesses, trade, governance, and urban transportation. He has also headed the research wing of the post-disaster management team of Biratnagar in 2017, managing the data collection team and providing the assessment report to the Metropolitan office. More recently, he worked as a research and survey consultant for Digo Bikas Institute on the e-Rickshaw solar stand project, with a focus on introducing solar charging stations for e-vehicles across the city. He has worked with Makalu Television as a production staff and has been part of various youth movements and campaigns. He is currently associated with Bikalpa an Alternative as a researcher and with Swisscontact Nepal as a consultant. Mr. Pandey completed his Bachelors of Engineering in Biotechnology from Visvesvaraya Technological University in Karnataka, India, and Masters of Arts in Sociology from Tribhuwan University, Nepal.



DR. SARATH RAJAPATIRANA

Advocata

Dr. Sarath Rajapatirana was the Economic Adviser to His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka (2015-2019). Before that, he was a regular staff member of the World Bank (1975-1999) in which role he led World Bank missions to three continents. He was the Director and the main author of the 1987 World Development Report on Trade and Industrialisation, Director of the Macroeconomic Comparative Study of Developing Countries, Division Chief for Trade and Industry for Latin America and the Caribbean and Economic Adviser in the Latin America Technical Department and a Member of the Editorial Board of the World Bank Economic Review. He was a consultant to the World Trade Organization, International Trade Centre in Geneva, USAID and to the International Cooperative Alliance in Latin America. He was a Visiting Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute (1999-2006) and an External Examiner for PhD students at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He has given seminars at Stanford University, Harvard University, University of California at Los Angeles, George Washington University and Simon Fraser University, among others. He is the author and co-author of six books and fifty-five papers in refereed publications. He is the Academic Chair of the Advocata Institute. He speaks Sinhala, English, Indonesian, Spanish and Malay.



GIDEON ROZNER

Institute of Public Affairs

Gideon Rozner is the Director of Policy at the Institute of Public Affairs. Gideon came to the IPA because of a lifelong interest in personal and economic freedom.

Prior to joining the IPA, Gideon spent several years practicing as a lawyer at one of Australia's largest commercial law firms, as well as several months as interim general counsel of an ASX-200 company. He has also served as an adviser to ministers in the Abbott and Turnbull Governments, advising on areas as diverse as electoral reform and northern Australian economic development. He holds a Bachelor of Laws (with Honours) and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne.

Gideon has been published in a number of outlets including The Australian, Daily Telegraph, Herald Sun, The Age and The Spectator Australia, and has appeared on Sky News, 2GB, 3AW, ABC TV and Network Ten's The Project.



ALI SALMAN

Islam & Liberty Network

Ali Salman is Founder & Managing Trustee of Islamabad based Policy Research Institute of Market Economy (PRIME), an independent economic think tank that he founded in 2013. PRIME is credited with leading national debates on public debt, tax reforms and national finance commission. Most recently, he served as CEO of Malaysia's prominent independent think tank, IDEAS from 2018-2020. He is also a co-founder and CEO of Islam and Liberty Network, a global platform for researchers and academics exploring and promoting 'A Muslim Case for Freedom'.

Ali has remained actively engaged with the government as an economist and public policy expert over years. He has advised the Competition Commission analyzing economic implications of legal decisions. He has also served on the Board of Punjab Saaf Pani Company, a government owned company for provisioning of clean drinking water in Pakistan. Ali played an instrumental role in writing Pakistan's first youth policy while working with the Government of the Punjab. His evaluation of Government's Education Vouchers scheme helped the authorities and donors to use his report as an evidence to scale up the programme significantly, which now caters to more than 500,000 students.



DR. PARTH J. SHAH

Centre for Civil Society

Dr. Parth J. Shah is the Founder of the Centre for Civil Society (CCS), India's foremost market-liberal think tank that advances social change through public policy. Parth also serves as Director at the Indian School of Public Policy. His research and advocacy work addresses economic freedom, choice and competition in education, a property rights approach to the environment and new public management. He holds a PhD in Economics and has taught at the University of Michigan, at JNU, New Delhi, and MS University, Vadodara. As the President at the CCS, for over two decades, Parth has worked to further market-solutions to India's educational crisis and enduring poverty. He has steered the Centre's flagship School Choice Campaign, including India's first school voucher pilot, and championed livelihood freedom and the rights of marginal entrepreneurs in India. Some of his authored and edited works include Liberalism in India, Morality of Markets, Law, Liberty, and Livelihood, and School Vouchers: Direct Benefit Transfers in Education.



DR. SANDESH DASS SHRESTHA

Birat Shree Media Network

Dr. Sandesh Dass Shrestha, resident of Biratnagar, Nepal is the Associate Professor at Purbanchal University School of Management (PUSOM), Biratnagar and Executive Director of Birat Shree Media Network (BFM 91.2). Dr. Shrestha has done his MBA from Tribhuwan University, Nepal and PhD from Mohanlal Sukhadia University, India. He has also completed Faculty Development Program in Management from Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, India. In the professional front, he is currently the Executive Council Member, Purbanchal University Executive Council and Senate Member, Purbanchal University Senate Council. He is currently the Central President of Purbanchal University Teacher's Association. He is also currently serving as Coordinator of Broadcasting Association of Nepal (BAN), Province No. 1. Dr. Shrestha is actively involved in social activities. He is the Founder President of Biratnagar Junior Jaycees and Past President of Biratnagar Jaycees. He is currently active with the Lions Club International as Lions Certified Instructor (LCIP) and Faculty Development Institute (FDI) graduate. He has served as President of Lions Club of Biratnagar Central and is currently the Chief, E-Training, District 325 A1, Nepal, Lions Clubs International. He is also the Advisor of Bikalpa – an Alternative, Biratnagar, an organization that advocates for rule of law, equality, liberty and accountability. Dr. Shrestha is an alumni of US Department of State International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP). He is also the graduate of JCI Academy - 2008, Japan. He has been honored with education excellence award "Nepal Bidya Bhushan – Class A" by the President of Nepal. Dr. Shrestha is a transformation accelerator and is a keen practitioner of the learning and unlearning process that life offers.



VALE SLOANE

Atlas Network

Vale Sloane is Atlas Network's Strategic Partnerships Advisor. In this role, Vale connects Atlas Network's community of donors with opportunities to support the 500+ organizations in our global network of partners. This includes providing our donors with regular updates on important partner achievements, identifying investment opportunities to support major partner projects, and keeping donors updated on how their support is making a real difference in the worldwide freedom movement.

Vale joined Atlas Network in 2016 on the Institute Relations team, where he managed relationships with Atlas Network's global network of partners and directs various grants and awards programs. He also participated in the Charles Koch Institute's Koch Associate Program in 2016-2017. Hailing from Sydney, Australia, Vale attended the University of Sydney where he received his Bachelors of International and Global Studies (2013) and Bachelors of Laws (2015). He worked in Australian politics throughout college and after graduation, including on local, state, and national election campaigns between 2009-2015. Vale has also worked in the private sector as Business Development Manager at an eLearning company prior to joining Atlas Network. He lives in Washington, DC, and enjoys reading, traveling, and watching Netflix.



ANDREE SURIANTA

CIPS

Andree Surianta is an Associate Researcher at the Center for Indonesian Policy Studies and a PhD candidate in Policy & Governance at the Australian National University. His research interest spans the field of investment, global value chains, innovation, and health policy. He has published various policy papers on these topics, as well as opinion pieces with both mainstream and online refereed media, such as Sindo and Kompas newspaper, and The East Asia Forum. He is one of the top contributors of COVID-19 vaccination articles in The Conversation Indonesia. He was also a Fellow with the Center for International Private Enterprise, where he contributed in-depth analyses on the investment reforms and pharmaceutical supply chain linkage in Indonesia. Prior to his research career, he spent over fifteen years living and working for the private and public sector in Indonesia, Canada, and Malaysia. Currently, his research tracks the COVID-19 vaccination policies in Indonesia. He strongly believes that a massive vaccination program such as this can only succeed when all parties – government, private, and society – are actively involved in the process.



NUR ZULAIKHA AZMI

IDEAS

Nur Zulaikha Azmi is a Research Executive in the Public Finance Unit at IDEAS. She obtained a First-Class Honours in Economics and International Economics from the University of Nottingham Malaysia. At IDEAS, she is working on state-owned enterprises and public procurement in Malaysia. Her research interests include developmental economics and public economics.



TARUN VATS

Atlas Network

Tarun Vats joined the Atlas Network team in June 2016 and currently serves as their Associate Director of Training. He grew up in India and graduated from Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh, India, with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. His previous work experiences includes being the senior associate for development and strategy at Center for Civil Society; a Smith Fellowship and internship with Atlas Network; president at Make a Difference; and Bid Management Engineer at Schneider Electric. He loves travelling, playing with his dogs, and talking with people about measuring social impacts.



TRICIA YEOH

Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs

Tricia Yeoh is the Chief Executive Officer of IDEAS (Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs), having formerly served as its Chief Operating Officer. She is presently a PhD candidate in Political Studies at the School of Politics, History and International Relations at the University of Nottingham Malaysia and was recently a Visiting Research Fellow at the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute at the National University of Singapore (NUS). She has served as Research Officer to the Selangor Menteri Besar (Chief Minister) at the Selangor State Government and Director of the ASLI Centre for Public Policy Studies. She is a columnist at Channel News Asia and the Sun. She is editor of the books The Spirit of Merdeka, The Road to Reform: Pakatan Rakyat in Selangor and author of States of Reform: Governing Selangor and Penang. Her documentary, "The Rights of the Dead," the story of political aide Teoh Beng Hock, who died in 2009 under the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's custody, won the Justin Louis Award at the FreedomFilmFest 2012 and was screened at the 9th Aljazeera International Documentary Film Festival 2013 in Doha, Qatar. She has been featured on BBC, Bloomberg, CNN, Al-Jazeera and The Economist commenting on public affairs in Malaysia.