

**MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**

**MEI 2024 Round-up with General David Petraeus
and Mr Bilahari Kausikan**

Wednesday, 11 December 2024
Conducted via Zoom and in-person
Orchard Hotel, Ballroom 1
442 Orchard Rd, Level 3, Singapore 238879

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Time	Events
2:15 PM	Registration
3:00 PM	Welcome Note <i>Ms Michelle Teo</i> <i>Executive Director, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
3:05 PM	MEI 2024 Round-up with General David Petraeus and Mr Bilahari Kausikan
3:45 PM	Question and Answer Session Moderated by: Mr Bilahari Kausikan <i>Honorary Fellow, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
4:30 PM	End of session

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About the Speakers



General (Ret.) David H. Petraeus served over 37 years in the US military, culminating his career with six consecutive commands – five were in combat, including command of the Surge in Iraq, the US Central Command and coalition forces in Afghanistan.

Following his retirement from the military and after the US Senate's confirmation by a vote of 94-0, he served as director of the CIA during a period of significant achievements in the global war on terror, established important digital initiatives and made significant investments in the agency's most important asset – its human capital.

General Petraeus is a Partner and Chairman of the KKR Global Institute, which he established in 2013. He is also a member of the board of directors of Optiv and OneStream, a venture investor in some 20 start-ups and has engaged in a variety of academic endeavours.

He graduated with distinction from the US Military Academy and is the only person in the US Army's history to be the top graduate of both the demanding US Army Ranger School and the US Army's Command and General Staff College. He also earned a PhD from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs.

General Petraeus taught international relations and economics at the US Military Academy in the mid-1980s, was a visiting professor of public policy at the Honors College of the City University of New York from 2013 through 2016 and for six years, he was a Judge Widney professor at the University of Southern California and a senior fellow at Harvard University's Belfer Center. He is currently a Visiting Fellow at Yale University's Jackson Institute, Co-chairman of the Global Advisory Council of the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, Senior Vice President of the Royal United Services Institute, a member of the Trilateral Commission as well as a member of the boards of the Atlantic Council, the Institute for the Study of War and over a dozen veterans' service organisations.

Over the past 15 years, General Petraeus was named one of America's 25 Best Leaders by US News and World Report, a runner-up for Time magazine's Person of the Year, the Daily Telegraph Man of the Year, a Time 100 selectee, Princeton University's Madison Medalist and one of Foreign Policy magazine's top 100 public intellectuals in three different years. He has also earned numerous honours, awards and decorations, including four Defense Distinguished Service Medals, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, two NATO Meritorious Service Medals, the Combat Action Badge, the Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist and Air Assault Badges. In addition, General Petraeus has been decorated by 13 foreign countries.



Bilahari Kausikan spent his entire career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore (MFA). Over 37 years in MFA, he served in a variety of appointments at home and abroad. These included Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Deputy Secretary for South-east Asia, Second Permanent Secretary, and subsequently Permanent Secretary. Upon retiring in 2013, he was appointed Ambassador-at-Large, a position he held until 2018. Mr Kausikan became Chairman of the Middle East Institute (MEI), an autonomous institute of the National University of Singapore, in 2017, and retired in 2024, but remains associated with the institute as Honorary Fellow.

Mr Kausikan has published three books -- “Dealing with an Ambiguous World” (2016), “Singapore Is Not An Island” (2017) and “Singapore Is Still Not An Island” (2023) -- along with many articles in local and international journals. He continues to lecture on global geopolitics, and developments in North-east Asia, the Middle East, and South-east Asia, to universities and other educational institutions in Singapore and abroad, as well as corporations and financial institutions. Raffles Institution, the University of Singapore and Columbia University all attempted to educate him, but should not be held responsible for the consequences.