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RESEARCH - NOON SEMINAR SERIES

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*Research Program Presents*

## How ASEAN is dealing with Chinese Pressure

**Dr. Huong Le Thu**

Visiting Fellow

Strategic & Defence Studies Centre

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Tuesday, October 31, 2017

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 pm

John A. Burns Hall, Room 3012 (3rd floor)

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### Seminar

What are some strategic choices that a small/ mid-size country has when its neighbor is big and assertive China? This seminar assesses Vietnam's position in the current geo-political circumstances of the region, particularly in the wake of the recent developments in the region that suggest some significant shifts in the balance of power and further weakening of the regional institution the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The seminar will discuss Hanoi's foreign and security policy adjustments and remaining limitations since the new leadership was appointed following the 12<sup>th</sup> Vietnamese Communist Party Congress in early 2016.

**Dr. Huong Le Thu** is currently a visiting fellow at the Strategic & Defence Studies Centre, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs. Prior to the ANU, she worked in Singapore, Taiwan and has held short-term research fellowships in Seoul (private think-tank), Kuala Lumpur (University of Malaya) and Jakarta (the ASEAN Secretariat). Huong is a recipient of a US State Department Fellowship on East Asian Security and an alumna of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu. She was awarded an inaugural fellowship of the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue Southeast Asian Young Leaders' Program in 2016. Her research focuses on the nexus of domestic politics and foreign policy in Vietnam and Vietnam's relations with great powers. She has also published on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) norms building. Her analyses and commentaries have appeared in the Brookings Institute's blog, CSIS CogitAsia, Nikkei Asian Review, Japan Times, East West Center Bulletin, the Asia Pacific Policy Forum. She speaks five languages (including Mandarin Chinese) and has published in four of them. Huong has previously worked as a diplomatic translator and a research consultant for the UN, the EC and ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights.

