

CASO Panel Bios

"Key issues in Southeast Asia: Allies, Partners and China"

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- **LTC Dave McCaughrin** currently serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Joint, Interagency, and Multinational Operations at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School. He is an Indo-Pacific Foreign Area Officer whose past assignments include China Desk Officer in the USINDOPACOM J5; Senior Policy Analyst in the USINDOPACOM China Strategic Focus Group; and Indo-Pacific Branch Chief in the G35 International Affairs Division, Headquarters, Department of the Army. In these capacities, he engaged frequently with the Chinese People's Liberation Army as well as the militaries of Japan, Singapore, and Thailand. He has traveled extensively throughout China and East Asia.
- **LTC Phil Kerber** is a 48P INDOPACOM FAO currently serving as an instructor in the Department of Joint Intergovernmental Multinational Operations here at the Command and General Staff School. A career Army foreign area officer, he has served multiple assignments in the INDOPACOM AOR to include two tours in the Republic of the Philippines and a tour at USINDOPACOM J5 Southeast Asia Directorate where he served as country director for our bilateral military relationship with the Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia. He has extensive travel and work experience throughout Southeast Asia.
- **MAJ. Petrus Paramayudo Prabowo** is currently a student in CGSC Staff Group 11C and serves as the Head of the Joint Exercise and Military Cooperation Section at the Indonesian Army Infantry Centre in Bandung, Jawa Barat. His responsibilities include planning, coordinating, organizing, and executing joint exercises with partner nations and the Indonesian Army's Infantry units. Before taking on his current role, Maj. Prabowo was the first Indonesian Instructor at the Royal Military College – Duntroon in Canberra, Australia. He has spent most of his career in the Indonesian Army's Special Forces unit, serving as a direct-action unit leader, team leader, staff officer, and detachment commander. This has provided him with extensive experience traversing various areas in Indonesia, as well as other countries, and interacting with numerous national and international organizations.



- **Dr. Mahir J. Ibrahimov** (Dr. I., as many calls him) Director of the U.S. Army Cultural and Area Studies Office, Command and General Staff College, U.S. Department of Defense. He is the author or editor of six books, including his latest two autobiographies: "Across Cultures and Empires: An Immigrant's Odyssey from the Soviet Army to the U.S. War in Iraq and American Citizenship," and "Soldier of Cultures and Empires," an Anthology of Poetry and Short Stories, among many other publications. Dr. I.'s expertise is featured in global media outlets such as BBC World News, Los Angeles Times, movie, and Army venues.

While providing vital assistance to U.S. forces in the Middle East, Dr. Ibrahimov was featured as the linguistic 'genius' in early years of Iraq war and during the U.S. and coalition Counterinsurgency (COIN) operations in the region. He has then served as the first senior U.S. Army Culture and Foreign Language Advisor, travelled to Ukraine as part of the U.S. Army Chief of Staff 'Study,' and provided follow on recommendations in support of U.S. national security.

Based on his extensive first-hand knowledge, regional and global expertise, Mahir has been regularly invitee to support our European NATO partners' regional policy development over the last years.

He is fluent in multiple languages and versed in many cultures.