Seminar

Political Consequences of Policy Decisiveness in Southeast Asia

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Date: 17 March 2014 (Monday)
Time: 4 pm – 5:30 pm
Venue: Y4-702, AC1, City University of Hong Kong

Abstract
Policy decisiveness reflects a unity of purpose among veto players, or formal approving authorities, in a political system. In international negotiations, the ability of states to adopt policies quickly is desirable so that they could begin work on mutual goals and concerns. However, advantageous for international agreements, policy decisiveness can bring about regime instability, especially if “strong” governments neglect informal domestic ratification constraints. This paper examines the political consequences of policy decisiveness in Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines with respect to bilateral economic partnership agreements with Japan.

Short Bio
Eric Vincent C. Batalla is full professor and current chair of the Political Science Department, De La Salle University (DLSU) in Manila, Philippines. He is senior fellow of policy research groups based at DLSU, namely the Yuchengco Center and the Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance.

Dr. Batalla teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on political economy, public policy, and comparative politics. He has written articles on regional politics and Philippine studies. His most recent article is “Veto players and state decisiveness: negotiating bilateral economic partnership agreements between Southeast Asia and Japan” published in 2012 by the Philippine Political Science Journal. He is currently doing research on corruption and regional disputes.

Dr. Batalla was former Dean of the School of Management and Information Technology, College of St. Benilde and former Vice-Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, De La Salle University. He served as visiting professor/scholar at Waseda University, Kobe University, Hiroshima University, and was also visiting fellow at the Institute of Developing Economies in Japan.

Dr. Batalla obtained his Ph.D. and M.A. from Hiroshima University as well as M.B.A. and A.B. History-Political Science degrees from De La Salle University. He is a member of the Philippine Political Science Association, Pi Gamma Mu International Honors Society in the Social Sciences, and the Association of Asian Studies.

All are welcome.
Language: English

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