

Revised Draft of Short Bios AICIS Invited Speakers 2025

1 Prof. Farish A. Noor (Malaysia – UIII, Depok)

Farish A. Noor is a renowned historian and political scientist specializing in Southeast Asian studies and colonial history. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Essex, UK and has taught at leading institutions across Europe and Asia, including Nanyang Technological University (Singapore) and Friedrich-Alexander University (Germany). He currently serves as Professor of Politics and Political Science at the Faculty of Social Sciences, International Islamic University of Indonesia (UIII). His research explores themes of colonialism, orientalism, and Islamic political movements, particularly in Malaysia and Indonesia. A prolific writer and public intellectual, Farish bridges academic scholarship with broader discourse through essays, books, podcasts, and global lectures. His work is widely recognized for its critical insight and interdisciplinary approach to history, religion, and identity in the region.

2 Dr. Muhammad Ahmad Ibrahim Al-Jahsh (UAE – Al- Qasimiya University, UAE)

Muhammad Ahmad Ibrahim Al-Jahsh is Associate Professor of Islamic Studies in English at Al-Qasimiya University, United Arab Emirates. He earned his Ph.D., master's, and postgraduate diplomas with honors from Al-Azhar University, Egypt. With extensive teaching experience in Saudi Arabia and the United States, his academic journey includes roles at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology and Iqra School. His research focuses on Islamic Studies, Quranic exegesis, comparative religion, and religious translation. He has published widely in indexed journals and received multiple accolades, including the Al-Qasimiya University Distinguished Academic Research Award (2024–2025). Beyond teaching, he leads academic departments and coordinates Islamic and legal studies programs, contributing to research quality assurance and scholarly development.

3 Assoc. Prof. Stéphane Lacroix (France – Science Po, Paris)

Stéphane Lacroix is Associate Professor of Political Science at Sciences Po, Paris, and a senior researcher at its Centre de Recherches Internationales (CERI), France. He also co-directs Sciences Po's Chair for the Study of Religion. His research focuses on the political sociology of religion, particularly in the Arab world. He has authored and co-authored several influential works, including *Awakening Islam: The Politics of Religious Dissent in Contemporary Saudi Arabia* (Harvard, 2011), *Saudi Arabia in Transition* (Cambridge, 2015), *Egypt's Revolutions* (Palgrave, 2016), *Revisiting the Arab Uprisings* (Oxford, 2018), and *Twilight of the Saints: The History and Politics of Salafism in Contemporary Egypt* (Columbia, 2025). His scholarship bridges political science and religious studies, offering deep insights into the dynamics of Islam, state power, and social movements in the Middle East.

4 Aria Nakissa, Ph.D (USA – UIII, Depok)

Aria Nakissa, Ph.D. is a lecturer at the Faculty of Islamic Studies and the Faculty of Social Sciences at the International Islamic University of Indonesia (UIII). He holds a joint Ph.D. in Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies and a JD from Harvard University, USA as well as an MA in Islamic Law from IIUM Malaysia. Trained as an anthropologist and historian, his research explores religion and law in Muslim societies across the premodern and modern periods, with a focus on the Middle East and Southeast Asia. His work combines historical, anthropological, and cognitive science approaches, drawing on multilingual sources and fieldwork in Egypt, Indonesia, and Malaysia. He is the author of *The Anthropology of Islamic Law* (Oxford, 2019) and has published widely in leading journals across Islamic studies, history, religious studies, and cognitive science.

5 Prof. Abdurrazzaq Hesamifar (Iran – Imam Khomeini International University, Qazvin)

Abdurrazzaq Hesamifar is a distinguished professor of philosophy at Imam Khomeini International University, Qazvin, Iran, where he also serves as Vice President for Cultural and Social Affairs. He earned his Ph.D., master's, and bachelor's degrees in Western Philosophy from the University of Tehran. His research spans contemporary philosophy, Islamic metaphysics, epistemology, and the intersection of Western and Islamic thought. He has published extensively on topics such as pragmatism, realism vs. anti-realism, and perception theory. Beyond teaching, he contributes actively as an editor and board member for leading philosophy journals. Fluent in Arabic and English, Prof. Hesamifar integrates linguistic and philosophical expertise to enrich both Islamic and Western discourses. His leadership in academic and cultural affairs reflects a deep commitment to advancing philosophical education and interdisciplinary scholarship.

6 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hamrila binti Abdul Latif (Malaysia – Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Sarawak)

Hamrila binti Abdul Latif is an academician, author, certified trainer, industry fellow, and resident columnist at *Utusan Sarawak*. With over two decades of experience, she teaches across 21 business-related subjects at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Malaysia. She hosted 13 episodes of the *Visi* talkshow on Astro TVS, spotlighting intellectual discourse on society and development. A fellow of the CEO@Faculty program (Petronas, 2018–2019), she has led major academic initiatives including APMMC2013 and serves as Associate Managing Editor of the Scopus-indexed *International Journal of Business & Society*. She has published over 200 works and supervised dozens of postgraduate and undergraduate research projects. Her accolades include international awards from Australia and Indonesia, and national honors such as UNIMAS's Excellent Service Award. Her leadership in academia and community engagement reflects a deep commitment to education, research, and social impact.

7 Prof. Shahram Akbarzadeh (Australia – Deakin University, Geelong)

Shahram Akbarzadeh is Professor of Middle East and Central Asian Politics at Deakin University, Australia, and Director of the Middle East Studies Forum (MESF) at the Alfred

Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization. His research focuses on security and international relations in the Middle East and Central Asia, with particular attention to political Islam, regional conflicts, and foreign policy dynamics. Prof. Akbarzadeh has published widely in academic journals and policy platforms, contributing to global understanding of the region's complex political landscape. His recent book, *Middle East Politics and International Relations: Crisis Zone* (Routledge, 2023), offers critical insights into contemporary geopolitical challenges. Through his leadership at MESF, he fosters interdisciplinary research and dialogue on pressing issues in the Muslim world.

8 Prof. dr. Meiwita Paulina Budiharsana, MPA, Ph.DP (Indonesia – UI, Depok)

Meiwita Paulina Budiharsana is a full professor in the Department of Population and Biostatistics at the Faculty of Public Health, University of Indonesia (UI). She earned her Ph.DP. from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and holds an MPA with a strong foundation in public health policy and administration. Her expertise lies in biostatistics, epidemiology, and population health, with a particular focus on women's health and statistical modeling for public health interventions. With decades of experience as a senior lecturer and researcher, she has mentored numerous students and led impactful research projects that inform national health strategies. In 2024, she was officially conferred as professor at UI, recognizing her outstanding academic contributions. Prof. Meiwita continues to play a vital role in advancing public health education and research in Indonesia, combining rigorous scientific inquiry with a commitment to improving community health outcomes.

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Fajar Hirawan, Ph.D. is a lecturer at the Faculty of Economics and Business, Indonesian International Islamic University (UIII), Depok. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Sydney, Australia, supported by the Australia Awards Scholarship. He holds a master's degree in Development Studies from the University of Rome "La Sapienza," Italy, and a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Indonesia. Prior to joining UIII, he served as a senior researcher at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Indonesia since 2006, contributing to policy research in Southeast Asia. His expertise spans food security, international trade, digital economy, SMEs, and poverty alleviation. His work has been published in journals such as *CSIS Indonesia*, *Agricultural Development*, *Trade and Regional Cooperation in Developing East Asia*, and *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Pembangunan Indonesia*. Dr. Fajar's research bridges academic insight with practical policy relevance in global development economics.

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Prof. Muhammad Quaddus, Ph.D., is a professor at the School of Management and Marketing, Curtin University, Perth, Australia. His multidisciplinary research spans behavioral modeling in marketing and tourism, ICT applications, sustainability, information systems planning, logistics, and supply chain risk management. He has published over 300 scholarly works in journals, conferences, and book chapters, with appearances in *Omega*, *International Journal of Production Economics*, *European Journal of Information Systems*, and *Supply Chain Management: An International Journal*. Prof. Quaddus has supervised more than 60 doctoral students and received Curtin Business School's "Researcher of the Year" award in 1996 and 2005. He served as Deputy Dean and Dean of Research (2009–2011) and Director of Curtin Graduate School of Business (2013–2014). As a consultant, he has worked with DAFWA, Woodside Petroleum, and the World Bank, contributing to numerous applied research projects with global impact.

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Assoc. Prof. Sulfikar Amir, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Science, Technology, and Society (STS) and faculty member in the Sociology Programme at the School of Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. His research explores the institutional, political, and epistemological dimensions of science and technology, with a focus on technological nationalism, nuclear politics, urban infrastructure, and resilience. He introduced the concept of sociotechnical resilience to examine how systems respond to disruption and crisis. He is the author of *The Technological State in Indonesia* (Routledge, 2012) and editor of *The Sociotechnical Constitution of Resilience* (Palgrave, 2018). Currently, he is researching digitalization and artificial intelligence. Beyond academia, Sulfikar is a documentary filmmaker, having directed three films on nuclear issues, including *Healing Fukushima*, which chronicles post-disaster medical efforts in Fukushima, Japan. He earned his Ph.D. in STS from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, New York), and holds two master's degrees from Arizona State University (USA) and Institut Teknologi Bandung (Indonesia).

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Prof. Eka Srimulyani, S.Ag., M.A., Ph.D., is a full professor at UIN Ar-Raniry in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, where she currently directs the Postgraduate Program and advises the Regional Development Planning Agency of Aceh. She earned her BA in Arabic Education from UIN Ar-Raniry at age nineteen, followed by an MA in Islamic Studies from Leiden University, Netherlands, and a Ph.D. in Asia-Pacific Studies from the University of Technology Sydney, Australia, with a dissertation on female leadership in pesantren. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) in Leiden, she became one of Indonesia's youngest female professors in 2015. Her research focuses on women's agency, peacebuilding, and Shari'a governance. In 2024, she published *Women's Peace Agency in Aceh: What Can We Learn from It?*, followed by *Shari'a, Citizenship, and Identity in Aceh* in 2025, contributing significantly to gender and governance studies in Muslim societies.