



# ASIA HOUSE

HOME OF BUSINESS – CULTURE – PEOPLE



Best wishes for a prosperous 2023, from all of us at Asia House!

## Co-operation in a Fragmented World

**“Co-operation in a Fragmented World”** was the headline for the global economic summit in Davos last week (16-20 January), which marked the first in-person meeting since the COVID-pandemic crisis. The overall takeaway this year from the annual conference was that the global economic outlook remains bleak; the WEF Chief Economists Outlook forecast that the risk of a global recession is high. The IMF expects around a third of the global economy to enter a recession in 2023, and has cut its forecast of global GDP growth for the year to 2.7%.

Panelists at Davos discussed whether the present time can be characterized by “re-globalization or “de-globalization”, with the nations in attendance contributing their projections for the future economy. WTO Director General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala underlined that trade could make a substantial contribution to global growth, while US Trade

Representative Katherine Tai pointed to the need for a global shift to a new trading system that aims to promote inclusiveness, resilience and sustainability. Chinese Vice Premier Liu He reiterated China's goal of common prosperity but emphasized that this was by "no means a synonym of egalitarianism or welfarism".

One sign of global tension was the attendance: while the Summit gathered more than 2,700 attendees, world leaders from G7 and G20 countries were mostly absent in stark contrast to previous years, in itself underlining the fragmented world. Participants from Asia included President Marcos of the Philippines, who warned that increasing tensions in the South China Sea were harming trade, and President Yoon Suk-yeol of the Republic of Korea, who vowed to work with other countries to stabilize global supply chains. Much attention was focused on India with growth prospects for the coming years differing positively from most of the world.

While the failure to mitigate and adapt to climate change top the WEF Global Risk Perception Survey (see below) for the coming 10-year period, over the next two years, the cost of living, geoeconomic confrontation, and erosion of social cohesion loom largest in the risk perception.

Global Risks Report 2023



## Top 10 Risks

"Please estimate the likely impact (severity) of the following risks over a 2-year and 10-year period"

### 2 years

1	Cost of living crisis
2	Natural disasters and extreme weather events
3	Geoeconomic confrontation
4	Failure to mitigate climate change
5	Erosion of social cohesion and societal polarization
6	Large-scale environmental damage incidents
7	Failure of climate-change adaption
8	Widespread cybercrime and cyber insecurity
9	Natural resource crises
10	Large-scale involuntary migration

### 10 years

1	Failure to mitigate climate change
2	Failure of climate-change adaption
3	Natural disasters and extreme weather events
4	Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse
5	Large-scale involuntary migration
6	Natural resource crises
7	Erosion of social cohesion and societal polarization
8	Widespread cybercrime and cyber insecurity
9	Geoeconomic confrontation
10	Large-scale environmental damage incidents

#### Risk categories

■ Economic ■ Environmental ■ Geopolitical ■ Societal ■ Technological

Source: World Economic Forum, Global Risks Perception Survey 2022-2023

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## ASIA HOUSE PROJECTS

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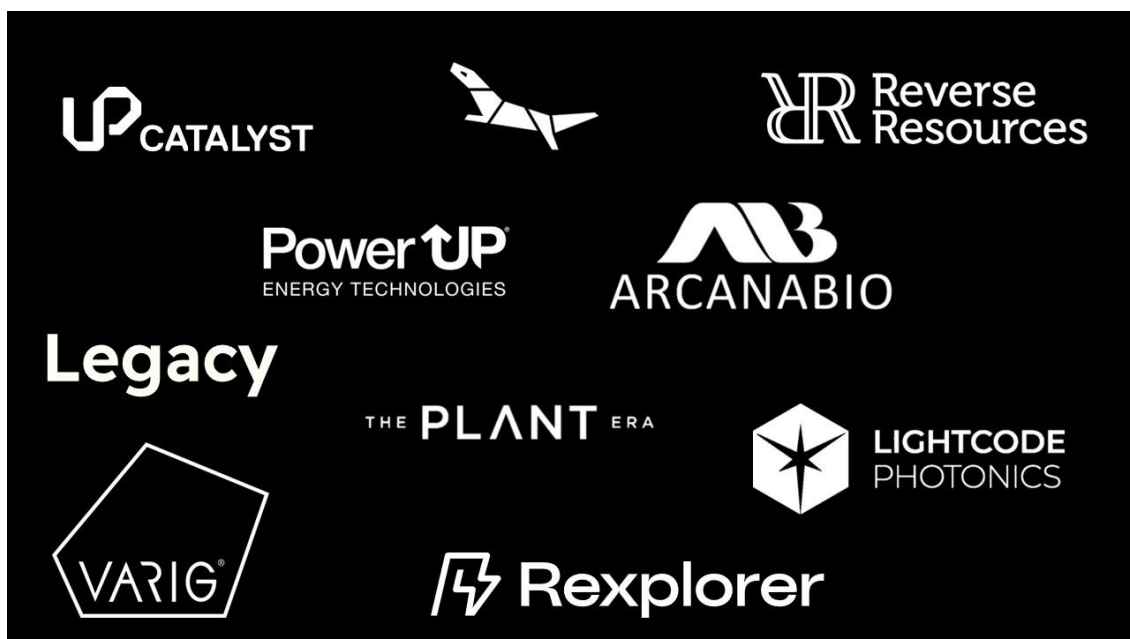


NORDIC ΔSIΔN  
VENTURE ΔLLIΔNCE

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### 110 cool new Nordic startups ready for Asia

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#### Batch 11 is now live !

The Nordic Asian Venture Alliance is delighted to welcome another ten great New Nordic tech startups onboard: 5 Estonian, 2 Danish, 1 Icelandic, 1 Latvian and 1 Norwegian.

Welcome to UP Catalyst, Legacy, PowerUp, The Plant Era, ArcanaBio, Rexplorer, LightCode Photonics, Reverse Resources, BeTRITON, and VARIG Teknikk & Miljø AS. [See the company profiles here.](#)

Half of these companies will be joining our upcoming startup delegations to Japan. Stay tuned for more info on this by following [\*\*Nordic Asian Venture Alliance\*\*](#) on LinkedIn, and

[sign up here if you want to be part of this growing network](#) of tech startups, VCs and community partners looking to East Asia.



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## DASN Establishes Advisory Board

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### MØD DASN ADVISORY BOARD



Birthe Ravn Greisen  
DK



Carsten Thorsen  
DK



Henrik Friis  
TH



Jesper Holmgaard  
DK



Jesper Svenningsen  
PH



Mads Skrubbeltrang  
VN



Niels Bjerring  
ID



Preben Hjortlund  
VN

### INAUGURATION 2022

DASN ended 2022 on a high note: the inauguration of our Advisory Board! It consists of eight experienced members based both in Southeast Asia and Denmark. Over the next week, DASN members will be introduced to them and their experiences through the DASN website and LinkedIn.

### FIRST ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The newly appointed Advisory Board had its first virtual meeting at the end of December. These eight Southeast Asia experts will provide input for DASN's future work, its activities and development. To all the members, many thanks for your commitment - [Birthe Ravn Greisen](#) (DK), [Carsten Thorsen](#) (DK), [Henrik Friis](#) (TH), [Jesper Holmgaard](#) (DK), [Jesper Svenningsen](#) (PH), [Mads Skrubbeltrang](#) (VN), [Niels Bjerring](#) (ID), og [Preben Hjortlund](#) (VN).

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# DASN: Network Meeting in Manila

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The Danish-Asian SME Network hosted a peer to peer networking meeting in Manila yesterday with 25 participants. In close cooperation with NordCham Philippines and DASN Advisory Board member Jesper Svenningsen, Danish business people based in the Philippines engaged in productive dialogues, debates and discussions. Among the participants were business people from Denmark and Thailand, and Gert Grønkjær and Lars Siggaard Andersen reported an enthusiastic group, where DASN and its networking methods were well received.

The main takeaways from the Manila meeting were:

- 1) The need for increased connection to Denmark and recognition of the efforts of Danes based abroad;
- 2) Danes approaching the business market for the first time should prepare thoroughly and make contact with Danes already established in the region;
- 3) The Philippines has an extraordinary amount to offer Denmark market-wise and it is one of the easiest markets to operate in Asia. According to the DASN project leaders, there is no other way to put it: the Philippines should be a part of anyone planning to do business in Asia.

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## FOR STUDENTS

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# The fourth annual EAC BACHELOR PRIZE 2023

For the fourth consecutive year, Asia House and the EAC Foundation are pleased to announce the EAC Bachelor Prize in 2023. The annual prize awards DKK 25,000 to the brightest talents at Copenhagen Business School with a strong interest in Asia, to encourage them to pursue relevant issues and challenges within Asia-Pacific in the areas of trade, business, economics, and entrepreneurship, and to support them in their future endeavours.

The EAC Bachelor Prize is part of the EAC Foundation's Youth Strategy, designed to inspire and create relationships between the next generation of businesspeople in Denmark and Asia, and to communicate awareness of the values for good management, innovation, and entrepreneurship, which the East Asiatic Company (ØK) built on for over 100 years. The EAC Foundation is dedicated to developing, maintaining, and strengthening relations between Denmark and Asia, through projects and activities organized by Asia House.

## **The Award**

One winning thesis will be selected from among four CBS bachelor programmes. The authors of the winning thesis will each receive a cash prize of **25,000 DKK** (max. three authors).

## **Eligibility for the Award**

The Prize competition is open to CBS students writing their bachelor thesis in the spring semester in the programmes of International Business, International Business in Asia, International Shipping and Trade, and HA Almen.

It is expected that the thesis investigate important Asia-Pacific business and economic challenges or opportunities; demonstrate relevance to Asia (by deliberating either Danish business activities in Asia or Danish enterprises seeking to enter an Asian business market); demonstrate relevance for practical application; provide a new angle and insight. Read more on our website at: [www.asia-house.dk](http://www.asia-house.dk)

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## **PAST EVENTS**

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## COLLABORATIONS IN 2022

Our mission at Asia House is to create stronger ties between Asia and Denmark, and the synergy we share with the embassies of the Asian countries is an important part of that. We would like to thank in particular the Asia-Pacific ambassadors and their embassies in Denmark and Sweden for a year of prolific and positive co-operation.

Looking back at 2022, Asia House saw a great number of events: in March, the rainforest was recreated in Asia Hall in cooperation with the Embassy of Indonesia, and the same month the Embassy of Thailand hosted a visit by a leading spiritual guru. In April, the Embassy of Malaysia hosted a MIDA event, and we were delighted to open Asia House to the performers at the Sakura festival in coordination with the Embassy of Japan. Together with the Embassy of Malaysia, we co-hosted a panel debate on peaceful coexistence with the Malaysian Minister of Foreign Affairs in June, and later that month the Royal Thai Embassy hosted an informative talk on ASEAN. In September, Asia House turned vibrant and festive for the national day celebrations of the Philippines and of Nepal, hosted by the embassies. The Embassy of India held inspiring events at Asia House in both September and December, and just recently in January, the Lunar New Year was celebrated at Asia House by the Embassy of Vietnam. And as always it was a pleasure to see so many of you turn out for our annual Ambassadors' luncheons - both in spring and in autumn. We send our thanks for strengthening our Asia-Denmark network and look forward to more collaborations in 2023.

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## COMING EVENTS

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## FROM OUR NETWORK

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### **Nordic Talks Japan: Equality and the Media - Women in the News and Newsroom**

The Embassy of Denmark in Japan will host a talk on equal representation and role models in the media, on 1 February 2023, 17:00-18:30 (JST) on ZOOM.

The talks will address the lack of women's voices, status, and expertise in the news media as a continued challenge and pose such questions as: does gender equality exist inside the newsrooms?

What does the lack of equality in news media mean for journalism and us as consumers of news media? How can the media address this issue in the news agenda, to better inform societies and overcome gender stereotypes?

All interested are welcome to join the talk on 1 February. The event will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation in Japanese. [Click here for more details and registration.](#)

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## NEW FACES AT ASIA HOUSE

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We are pleased to welcome Barbara Scheel Agersnap to the Board of Directors of Asia House and the EAC Foundation. Barbara Scheel Agersnap has broad international experience from the maritime and technology industries, private equity, as a consultant within strategy and innovation, and as a diplomat for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Barbara has lived and worked in a number of Asian and European countries. Today, she is CEO of Copenhagen Malmo Port and a member of the boards of SDG Invest, Sveriges Hamnar, Danske Havne. She earned her MBA from IMD, Lausanne.



At the same time, we say goodbye to Henning Kruse Petersen, thanking him warmly for his many years of valuable contribution to Asia House as Member of the Board of Directors from 2005 to 2022.

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**Book your event at [eventspace.asia-house.dk](https://eventspace.asia-house.dk)**

**EVENTSPACE**



**ASIA HOUSE**



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## ASIA HOUSE - YOUR ACCESS TO ASIA

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