

Book Launch

“Asia's Latent Nuclear Powers: Japan, South Korea and Taiwan”

By Mark Fitzpatrick

Friday, February 12, 2016

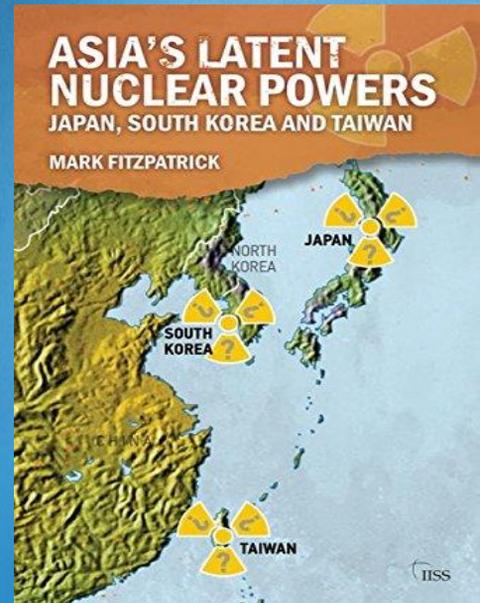
3:00 - 4:00 pm

LANGUAGE: English

VENUE : Japan Institute for International Affairs,
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Under what conditions would the democracies in Northeast Asia seek to join the nuclear weapons club? Japan, South Korea and Taiwan are threshold nuclear powers by virtue of their robust civilian nuclear energy programs. All three once pursued nuclear weapons and all face growing security threats from nuclear-armed adversaries. Fitzpatrick's latest book analyses these past nuclear pursuits and current proliferation drivers. It considers how long it would take each to build a nuclear weapon if such a fateful decision were made but does not predict such a scenario. Unlike when each previously went down a nuclear path, democracy and a free press now prevail as barriers to building bombs in the basement. Reliance on US defense commitments is a better security alternative -- as long as such guarantees remain credible. But extended deterrence is not a barrier to proliferation of sensitive nuclear technologies. Nuclear hedging by its Northeast Asian partners will challenge Washington's nuclear diplomacy.



About the Author

A former US diplomat, *Mark Fitzpatrick* has headed the non-proliferation and nuclear policy program at the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies for the past decade, writing and editing books about nuclear dangers around the world, including North Korea, Iran and Pakistan. In late 2015 he became Executive Director of the Americas office of IISS in Washington.

This title will be released in early February. For more information about the author *Mark Fitzpatrick*, the IISS Adelphi Series and to purchase the book online, visit <https://www.iiss.org/>.

To register, Please send an email to: Ms. Yoko Koyama at CPDNP:
disarmament@cpdnp.jp by 10:00 am, Thursday, February 11, 2016.