The East-West Center in Washington invites you to an Asia Pacific Security Seminar:

**Why ASEAN Matters for America**

Featuring keynote speaker:

**Ambassador Scot Marciel**
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Southeast Asia and Ambassador for ASEAN Affairs,
U.S. Department of State

And panelists:

**Mr. Keith Luse**
Senior Professional Staff Member, U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee

**Mr. Bronson Percival**
Senior Advisor, Center for Strategic Studies, Center for Naval Analyses

**Mr. Robert Scher**
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia,
U.S. Department of Defense

**Ms. Barbara Weisel**
Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific,
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

In July 2009, the United States signed the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), signaling the commitment of both parties to work together to achieve peaceful cooperation on a variety of issues. The signing of this treaty is only one facet of the increasing engagement between the United States and the region, including high-level visits and cooperation on human rights, economic, and security issues. To highlight this growing relationship, the East-West Center in Washington and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) are pleased to announce a new initiative, **ASEAN Matters for America/America Matters for ASEAN**, which explores the important connections between the United States and the ten countries of ASEAN. In this special event, Ambassador Scot Marciel, Mr. Keith Luse, Mr. Bronson Percival, Mr. Robert Scher, and Ms. Barbara Weisel will discuss the United States' growing relationship with ASEAN, and the **ASEAN Matters for America/America Matters for ASEAN** brochure will be released.

**Friday, April 2**
12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Lunch will be served.

**Cosmos Club, Powell Room**
2121 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
This event is free and open to the public.
Please note that the Cosmos Club requires jackets and ties for men and comparable formality for women.

**Please RSVP** to Loren Hoekstra by email (**RSVPDC@EastWestCenter.org**), or telephone (202) 327-9751.

Please include your name, title, organization, address, phone number, email, and country of citizenship. All personal information is for East-West Center use ONLY and is not circulated. Please note that seating for this event is limited.
Keith Luse is Senator Lugar’s senior professional staff member for East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In addition, he is the Committee liaison to the ranking member of the East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, and the ranking member of the International Economic Policy Subcommittee. Mr. Luse also assists with Senator Lugar’s ongoing oversight of the multilateral development banks, on anti-corruption and transparency issues. Mr. Luse joined Senator Lugar at the Foreign Relations Committee in 2003. Previously, he served as Senator Lugar’s staff director at the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. Beginning in 1978, Mr. Luse worked in Senator Lugar’s Indiana Office, where he served as state director beginning in 1982. During Senator Lugar’s first term as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Luse assisted the chairman on ASEAN matters and coordinated visits of Asian officials to Indiana. Upon departing Senator Lugar’s Indiana Office in 1989, Mr. Luse served as chairman of the Indiana Republican Party. From 1991 through 1998, he traveled throughout East Asia while in the private sector, conducting a range of research for U.S. businesses.

Scot Marciel currently serves as deputy assistant secretary, East Asia and Pacific Bureau, responsible for relations with Southeast Asia, and as ambassador for ASEAN Affairs. Ambassador Marciel, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, joined the State Department in 1985. His most recent assignments were as director of the Department’s Office of Maritime Southeast Asia, director of the Office of Mainland Southeast Asia, and director of the Office of Southeastern Europe. Ambassador Marciel also has served in Vietnam, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Brazil, and Turkey, as well as in the Economic Bureau’s Office of Monetary Affairs.

Bronson Percival, currently a senior advisor with the Center for Strategic Studies at CNA, is a respected specialist on Southeast Asia, terrorism, and maritime security. During his career as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer, he reported on political and security issues from Lebanon to Indonesia. After teaching at the U.S. Naval War College, he returned to the State Department to lead the Southeast Asia Division in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research and then coordinate counter-terrorism programs and policies in the East Asia Bureau. Mr. Percival’s most recent book, The Dragon Looks South: China and Southeast Asia in the New Century (Westport, Conn: Praeger Security International, 2007), analyses China’s goals and objectives in Southeast Asia, the region’s response to China’s initiatives, and the implications for U.S. interests.

Robert Scher is the deputy assistant secretary of defense for South and Southeast Asia within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs. Mr. Scher’s area of responsibility includes bilateral security relations with India and all other South Asian countries, excepting Afghanistan and Pakistan, the nations of Southeast Asia, plus Australia, East Timor, New Zealand, and the Pacific Island States. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Scher was an associate at Booz Allen Hamilton where he led efforts to provide assistance to Asian nations improving their defense and national security decision-making processes. Earlier, Mr. Scher worked for 15 years in the Departments of Defense and State, and held numerous posts covering Asian security and defense policy issues. Specifically, he served as chief-of-staff to the deputy under secretary of defense for Asian and Pacific Affairs, overseeing the operations of the OSD office responsible for bilateral and multilateral security relations in Asia. While at State, he served on the Secretary’s Policy Planning Staff providing advice on Asia, counterterrorism and political-military affairs issues.

Barbara Weisel joined the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in 1994 and was appointed to the position of assistant U.S. trade representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific in 2004. In this position, she is responsible for developing and implementing U.S. trade policy relating to countries in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. She is the lead negotiator for the Trans-Pacific Partnership initiative and led the U.S. Free Trade Agreement negotiations with Malaysia and Thailand. Prior to this, Ms. Weisel served as deputy assistant U.S. trade representative for bilateral Asian affairs, where she was the deputy lead negotiator on the U.S.-Australia FTA and worked on the Singapore FTA as well as other Southeast Asian and Korean issues. She previously served as director for Japan affairs. Before joining USTR, Ms. Weisel worked at the State Department from 1984-1994. During this time, she served in a variety of positions, including as international economist on Japan, the Persian Gulf, and North Africa.