

## Horizon 2020

### Call: H2020-MSCA-IF-2017 (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships)

#### Topic: MSCA-IF-2017

#### Type of action: MSCA-IF-EF-ST (Standard EF)

#### Proposal number: 793262

#### Proposal acronym: SeReNa-SEA

Deadline Id: H2020-MSCA-IF-2017

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#### How to fill in the forms?

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**DOCUMENT 1**

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**MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS**

**Individual Fellowships (IF)**  
**Call: H2020-MSCA-IF-2017**

**PART B**

**“SeReNa-SEA”**

**“The Divine Tragedy of Securing the Sacred:  
Religion, Security and Nationalism in Southeast Asia”**

**This proposal is to be evaluated as:**

**EF**

# DIVINE TRAGEDY - EF

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Participants	Legal Entity Short Name	Academic (tick)	Non-academic (tick)	Country	Dept./ Division / Laboratory	Supervisor	Role of Partner Organisation
<u>Beneficiary</u>							
NAME	Queen Mary, University of London (QMUL)	X		UK	School of Politics and International Relations (SPIR)	Dr. Lee Jones	
<u>Partner Organisation</u>							
NAME	Institute for Security and Development Policy (ISDP)		X	Sweden	Institute for Security and Development Policy	Dr. Bernt Berger	Host of three-month secondment

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## 1. EXCELLENCE

### 1.1 Quality and credibility of the research/innovation action (level of novelty, appropriate consideration of inter/multidisciplinary and gender aspects)

#### Introduction

The rise of religiously inspired extremism and violence, particularly since 9/11, has underscored the crucial and abiding three-way linkages between security, religion, and nationalism (hereafter, SRN). While much emphasis has been placed on Islam and the Middle East, the research proposed here pioneers the study of security policies and strategies, dominant and marginalised religions, and conceptions of national identities in Southeast Asia, by comparing the predominantly Catholic Philippines, Islamic Indonesia, and Buddhist Myanmar. Using a qualitative, comparative approach, the ER will theorize and produce new empirical knowledge about: (a) why and how states utilize religion when formulating and implementing their national security policies and strategies; (b) how security considerations influence the utility and status of religions, particularly the (often negative) impact on religious minorities; and (c) how nationalism is used to institutionalize and legitimize religiously-infused national security rhetoric and agenda. In answering these questions, emphasis will be placed on how (a) the gender hierarchy inherently present in these three major religions; (b) the gendered complexion of violence in security operations; and (c) gendered conceptions of nationalism influence the nature and outcomes of SRN linkages. Before extensive fieldwork, the ER will undertake training in research methods and management, pedagogy, and knowledge transfer. Planned activities will disseminate knowledge to academic communities, while a 3-month placement with an international think tank will enable the ER to directly inform policy debate. Combined, the programme of training, research and dissemination will enable the ER to secure permanent employment at a leading university.

#### State-of the-art

Today most observers agree that religion is closely linked with national and global security. Examples include: Islamist violence and the 'war on terror'; the Middle East's Sunni/Shi'ite rift and Saudi-Iranian rivalry and interventionism; Hindu-Muslim clashes on the Indian subcontinent; Buddhist-Muslim communal violence in Myanmar, leading to the mass exodus of Rohingya 'boat people'; and the violent persecution of Christians from North Korea to Iraq. Yet research on this apparently obvious relationship remains in its infancy. The apparent triumph of liberal, secular governance after the Cold War largely distracted scholars from considering the link. A few recognised that religion was a factor in some international conflicts.<sup>1</sup> However, the most widely debated thesis on the role of religion in international security was Huntington's notorious *Clash of Civilizations*, which argued that new international conflicts would primarily occur along the boundaries between different cultural blocs, defined mainly in terms of religion.<sup>2</sup> Much subsequent scholarship focused on debunking this text by, e.g., showing how conflicts were as likely to arise between co-religionists as those of different faiths.<sup>3</sup> With alternative frameworks still under-developed, 9/11 revived Huntington's thesis, particularly in popular discussions. However, it also revived scholarly interest in religion's role in security affairs. A first strand of research has examined what different world religions say about security by examining religious texts.<sup>4</sup> A second, relatively small and under-developed strand has tried to develop theoretical knowledge of religion-security linkages.<sup>5</sup> A third, much larger strand has investigated the religion-security nexus empirically, through discrete case studies of international or subnational conflicts.<sup>6</sup>

The proposed research is highly original, advancing the emerging research agenda on the security-religion nexus in four ways. First, it will examine how states use religious ideas to develop and implement their security policies, and vice-versa. This departs from mere exegesis of holy texts (strand 1), focusing instead on how religions are appropriated and used in practice. Second, it will build theoretical knowledge of how and why this occurs by focusing on nationalism, which is currently rather neglected (in strand 2). Preliminary research suggests religion is mobilised into security policy as part of attempts to bolster religiously-connected national identities and mobilise popular support. Third, rather than isolated, single-country case studies (strand 3), this research involves systematic, comparative analysis of three countries, and in a region generally neglected by the existing scholarship's overwhelming focus on the Middle East and Africa.<sup>7</sup> Fourth, the project examines the recursive impact of states' use of religion in security policy on the nature and status of religion in their societies. Religiously-associated security policies may potentially make those from dominant/officially sponsored religions feel more secure, but they may also emphasise the 'otherness' and even 'threatening' nature of religious minorities.

#### Research questions

<sup>1</sup> Johnston, D.M. and Sampson, C. (eds.), *Religion: The Missing Dimension of Statecraft* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 1994); Dark, K.R. (ed.), *Religion and International Relations* (New York: Macmillan, 2000).

<sup>2</sup> Huntington, S.P., *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1996).

<sup>3</sup> Rudolph, S. H. and Piscatori, J.P. (eds.), *Transnational Religion and Fading States* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1997).

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g.: Marsden, L. (ed.), *The Ashgate Research Companion to Religion and Conflict Resolution* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2012), Part I; Seiple, C. et al., (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Religion and Security* (Oxford: Routledge, 2013), Part I.

<sup>5</sup> E.g., Seiple et al. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook*, Part II.

<sup>6</sup> E.g., Marsden (ed.) *Ashgate Research Companion*, Parts IV, V; Seiple et al. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook*, Part III.

<sup>7</sup> For instance, neither of the aforementioned handbooks/ research companions contain any case study from Southeast Asia.

1. How and why do Southeast Asian governments (specifically: the Philippines, Indonesia and Myanmar) link their national security rhetoric/agenda with the dominant religious frameworks/traditions in their countries?
2. What role does nationalism play in legitimating and institutionalising these linkages?
3. How do these linkages shape the status of dominant and minority religions, and overall levels of national and human security, particularly with respect to 'othered' religious minorities?

### Overview of the action

The project involves systematic 'training through research' for the ER, Dr Michael Magcamit, enabling him to gain new skills and competencies within the European Research Area. These include: *theoretical and empirical knowledge* of Asian security and the SRN nexus; *research skills* including languages, gender mainstreaming, ethnography, interviewing, field work and documentary analysis; *professional development skills* including: research and financial project management and ethics, networking, academic knowledge exchange, publishing and teaching; and *knowledge transfer skills*.

The proposed Fellowship is divided into three parts. (1) 15 months will be spent at Queen Mary, University of London (QMUL) to: undertake professional training; finalise the research design; develop teaching skills and philosophy; author publications; and organise research seminars and conferences. (2) 6 months will be spent doing field research in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Myanmar. (3) 3 months will be spent at the Institute for Security and Development Policy (ISDP), a Swedish think tank, to facilitate knowledge transfer beyond academia and secure benefits to wider European society.

The academic outputs will be a book manuscript and one journal article, which will be submitted to leading outlets (e.g. Cambridge University Press and *International Security*). The ER will also organise one research workshop and one seminar at QMUL's School of Politics and International Relations (SPIR), and participate in two major international conferences (one in Southeast Asia and one in Europe).

### Research methodology and approach

The research questions demand an interdisciplinary, gender-sensitive, contextual analysis of the processes linking SRN, making a qualitative, multi-methods approach most appropriate. This will involve:

1. *Multiple case studies*: comparative, cross-national study of SRN linkages in three country case studies, involving inductive analysis to identify the motives for, processes involved in, and effects of, the linking of SRN.
2. *Elite interviews*: To understand why and how Southeast Asian governments link dominant religious frameworks to their security agendas, and the impact of this, the ER will interview relevant government officials, and religious and other non-governmental elites. This is the most effective way to gather data on decision-makers' influences and decision-making processes.<sup>8</sup> Equal representation of female/male participants will be ensured to minimise gender bias. Translators will be employed where necessary (e.g. in cases where participants speak regional languages/dialects but not the national lingua franca).
3. *Ethnographic research*: Through sustained, non-participant observation of and interviews within religious communities, the ER will further explore the impact of the use of religion in security policy on the status and security of domestic religious groups. This will involve stints with Catholic and Muslim groups in the Philippines, Muslim and Christian groups in Indonesia; and Buddhist and Muslim groups in Myanmar. Ethnography is extremely useful to gain understanding of ordinary people's experiences.<sup>9</sup> Again, equal gender representation will be sought, and translators will be employed as necessary.
4. *Documentary analysis*: Finally, the ER will analyse primary, secondary and tertiary documents (in translation where necessary), e.g. official national security documents; religious laws and canons of the dominant and minority religions; studies published by government departments, committees, and commissions and non-governmental organisations; press reports on national security debates, doctrines and policies; books, academic journal articles, and theses.

### Originality and innovative aspects of the research programme

First, this is the first major study to comprehensively and comparatively analyse the multiple, dynamic linkages between SRN in Southeast Asia. Drawing together previously isolated observations and analyses in a thematically oriented investigation will significantly improve our understanding of these crucial interrelations. Second, the interdisciplinary nature and scope of the research will help bring debates and insights from Sociology and Anthropology into the study of International Relations,<sup>10</sup> which has unduly neglected religion at a theoretical level.<sup>11</sup> The mixed methods proposed are also innovative in the multidimensional study of SRN, which tends to produce single-country case studies and rarely uses methods like ethnography. The project also has strong potential to influence public and policymaking debates on religion and security in the EU and beyond.

<sup>8</sup> Burnham, P. et al., *Research Methods in Politics* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008).

<sup>9</sup> See e.g. Hammersley, M. and Atkinson, P., *Ethnography: Principles in Practice* (New York: Routledge, 2007); Madison, D.S., *Critical Ethnography: Method, Ethics, and Performance* (London: Sage, 2011).

<sup>10</sup> E.g. Pals, D. L., *Seven Theories of Religion* (New York, NY: Oxford UP, 1996); Kumin, S. D., *Religion: The Modern Theories* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 2003); Christiano, K.J. et al., *Sociology of Religion: Contemporary Developments* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008).

<sup>11</sup> Pioneering texts in post-Cold War security studies make little or no reference to religion, e.g. Buzan, B. et al., *Security: A New Framework for Analysis* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1998); Buzan, B. and Waever, O., *Regions and Powers: The Structure of International Security* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2003); Mabee, B., *The Globalization of Security: State Power, Security Provision and Legitimacy* (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2009).

## 1.2 Quality and appropriateness of the training and of the two way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host

The Fellowship involves a structured plan of training that will significantly broaden Dr. Magcamit's competencies and help him secure an academic career in a leading research-intensive university. Substantive Training Objectives involve further developing his skills in comparative, qualitative research on Asian politics. Technical Training Objectives involve strengthening his competence in Southeast Asian languages; gender and research design; qualitative methodologies; research and financial management and ethics; academic dissemination and networking; public and policymaker engagement; and research-led teaching. These goals will be incorporated into a holistic Career Development Plan at the start of the Fellowship, with progress monitored regularly against key milestones. The ER will simultaneously transfer previously acquired knowledge and skills to colleagues and students at QMUL.

### A. Substantive training objectives (STOs):

1. To develop expertise in the comparative study of the Philippines, Indonesia, and Myanmar's SRN linkages.
2. To improve competence in the politico-economic and socio-cultural analyses of the utility and status of dominant religions in Southeast Asia by developing and implementing an interdisciplinary approach to the topic.
3. To obtain knowledge about the motives, outcomes, and implications of linking security policies/strategies and religious doctrines/agendas in the contemporary security environment.
4. To develop an understanding of how male-dominated religious institutions influence the form and substance of religious-based security policies/agendas, and their implications for the role and experience of women in these societies.

### B. Technical training objectives (TTOs):

1. To develop capacity for integrating gender-related issues in all aspects and stages of the research by undergoing intensive training at LSE's Gender Institute.
2. To further develop ER's existing proficiency in Bahasa and Burmese\*, and skills in conducting comparative case studies, ethnographic research, elite interviews, documentary analysis through training at QMUL's Centre for Academic and Professional Development (CAPD), QMUL's partners in the federal University of London (e.g. Goldsmiths, a centre of excellence for ethnography; SOAS Department of Languages) and other training providers as necessary (e.g. Economic and Social Research Council's (ESRC) National Centre for Research Methods).
3. To develop capacity for working, collaborating, and communicating effectively within an international research network by organising and participating in relevant conferences and colloquiums, both local and international (e.g. British/ European International Studies Associations; International Studies Association; Institute of Southeast Asian Studies).
4. To develop pedagogical and supervisory experience by contributing to teaching courses on Security Studies and Southeast Asian politics, and mentoring undergraduate and postgraduate students at SPIR.
5. To master the skills necessary for scientific writing, research ethics, management, leadership, financial project management, and creative thinking through training at QMUL's CAPD.
6. To gain competence and expertise in developing and implementing innovative knowledge-transfer and public engagement strategies by undergoing training at QMUL's CAPD and Centre for Public Engagement, and by ISDP.

\*The ER been undergoing training in spoken Bahasa and Burmese since January 2017.

### Benefit to the host organisation

The proposed Fellowship would contribute significantly to SPIR and the wider faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS). Dr Magcamit's focus on religion will add an entirely new strand to SPIR's existing research on security, add a security dimension to research on religion in QMUL's School of History, and contribute to work on communal strife in Myanmar within QMUL Law School's State Crime Initiative. Dr Magcamit's knowledge of and teaching skills related to political economy, security studies, and Southeast Asian politics will also bolster SPIR's capacity to train future researchers. Dr Magcamit's knowledge transfer and public engagement plans will also help SPIR ensure that our research has impact beyond the academy.

## 1.3 Quality of the supervision and of the integration in the team/institution

### Qualifications of the Supervisor

Dr Lee Jones (DPhil, Oxford, 2009) has 13 years of research experience in Southeast Asian security, this project's empirical focus. He has published three books (including with Cambridge and Oxford University Presses) and over 30 scholarly articles and book chapters, including in leading disciplinary journals. His work has been cited over 560 times (h-index 13). Dr Jones's record of research excellence, coupled with his experience in managing research assistants (7 to date, including one Postdoctoral RA at present, based in China) and supervising PhD students to completion (two to date, with another submitting Sept 2017), strongly qualifies him to supervise the attainment of the project's Substantive Objectives. He is also an ideal supervisor for the Technical Objectives. He has deep experience of the qualitative research methods proposed, especially fieldwork and elite interviews, having conducted over 300 such interviews, and documentary analysis, having used archival material extensively. Dr Jones is well networked internationally, having been a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the National University of Singapore and Stanford University and being an honorary Research Associate at the Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia. His Southeast Asian networks will aid Dr Magcamit's

work significantly. His experience in organising and presenting at seminars, workshops, panels and conferences will assist Dr Magcamit to develop his networking and communication skills. Dr Jones is also well placed to help Dr Magcamit develop experience of research-led teaching. He is an accomplished lecturer, being awarded Fellowship of the UK's Higher Education Academy in 2008; teaching broadly within Politics and International Relations; supervising PhD students and Teaching Assistants; and managing large teams of academic staff to deliver innovative courses. The Fellow would also benefit from Dr Jones's extensive experience in securing external research funding (£666000 since 2009) and generating top-quality deliverables. This experience will be crucial in assisting Dr Magcamit to deliver on his ambitious objectives and to learn how to secure further research funding. Finally, Dr Jones is a recognised leader in knowledge exchange, public engagement and research impact. He is a principal advisor to the UK government on Southeast Asia and has also advised government agencies in France, the Netherlands, Myanmar, Timor-Leste and Palestine. He has also engaged with the public and civil society groups from the UK, Australia, and Myanmar, and appears frequently in international media. His supervision will assist Dr Magcamit to develop his own profile in public and policymaker engagement and enable the proposed research to have real-world benefits in Europe and beyond. SPIR and QMUL also have extensive experience in supporting postdoctoral fellows, including MCSFs (see Section 6).

### **Hosting Arrangements**

Dr Magcamit will be hosted in QMUL's SPIR, where research expertise in developing societies and security offers an excellent basis for the achievement of his Substantive Objectives. QMUL is among the world's top 100 universities (QS WUR, 2014). SPIR is part of the Faculty of HSS, whose disciplines all have an international reputation for excellence. SPIR is among Britain's top 20 politics departments for research intensity, with three-quarters of its research, and its non-academic impact, being assessed as "world leading" or "internationally excellent" (REF 2015). SPIR has a strong research and teaching focus on non-Western politics, providing a solid base for Dr Magcamit's work. SPIR also has strong links with the School of History, which houses leading experts on religion (e.g. Thomas Homer-Dixon and Gareth Stedman-Jones), providing solid support for Dr Magcamit's empirical focus.

For the proposal's Technical Objectives, SPIR, the HSS Faculty, QMUL and the wider federal University of London (UoL) can meet all of Dr Magcamit's training needs. QMUL's CAPD has a dedicated Researcher Development Programme, covering: knowledge and intellectual abilities; personal effectiveness; research governance and organisation (including financial management and ethics); and engagement, influence and impact. The CAPD also offers modules on teaching development, leading to the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice. The CAPD complies with the European Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and received an HR Excellence in Research award from the European Commission in 2012. Goldsmiths College can assist in training Dr Magcamit in ethnographic research methods, while SOAS is a centre of excellence in Southeast Asian language training, and LSE can provide training on gender sensitivity in research.

SPIR/QMUL also offers excellent support for Dr Magcamit's ambitions to lead in research networking and the public dissemination of his findings. QMUL hosts the Centre for Public Engagement (CPE), one of 12, RCUK-funded centres of excellence, and the first to receive the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement's gold Engage Watermark. SPIR itself has extensive experience in hosting research and public engagement events, employing a dedicated administrator to help organise and publicise them. With the School of History, SPIR also co-hosts the Mile End Institute (MEI), an academic research centre and think tank with close links to British policymakers, and the cross-faculty Centre for European Research (CER), which is building strong ties with European policy circles. These are excellent channels for Dr Magcamit to disseminate his research to policymakers.

SPIR's academic supervision and development procedures will ensure the Fellowship's success. All new SPIR staff are given thorough inductions. Additional support will be provided by QMUL's EU Unit's Post-Award Fellowship Officer, Human Resources Department, Occupational Health, Estates and Workplace Options which will advise Dr Magcamit on financial management, visas, contracts, accommodation, banking, healthcare, etc. All QMUL academic staff undergo biannual appraisals where targets are mutually agreed and progress assessed. Furthermore, all SPIR staff are assigned senior research mentors to help them set and achieve research plans. Dr Jones's supervision of Dr Magcamit will follow these robust and established procedures. SPIR also hosts weekly research seminars, providing opportunities for QMUL to benefit from Dr Magcamit's research findings.

Finally, the host of the proposed secondment, ISDP, will help disseminate the project's findings to government, industry, and the wider public. ISDP is a Stockholm-based non-profit and non-partisan research and policy organization, specialising in security, conflict, and development. It provides strategic analysis and practical solutions for public and private sector decision-makers. ISDP focuses heavily on security dynamics in Asia and their potential effects on the EU. Its Asia Program, headed by Dr Bernt Berger, is a focal point for academic, policy, and public discussion of Asia. Dr Magcamit will contribute to ISDP's mission by transferring the knowledge gained from his research on SRN linkages, and past research on security-trade linkages in Asia. This will help foreign and security policymakers understand the religion-related causes of communal violence and instability in Asia and their potential repercussions for European security, and develop policy responses. Combined with opportunities at QMUL, the ISDP secondment will ensure that Dr Magcamit's research has real benefits for European society.

## **1.4 Capacity of the researcher to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity/independence**



Dr Magcamit is already an accomplished ER despite only obtaining his PhD in September 2015. In recognition of his strong leadership and academic skills, he was awarded the prestigious New Zealand ASEAN Scholars Award by New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) enabling him to obtain his PhD in Political Science at the University of Canterbury (2012-15). Immediately after his PhD, he was appointed as Assistant Professor of Political Science under the Musashi University-University of London (LSE) Parallel Degree Programme in Tokyo, Japan. He simultaneously serves as Fellow at the Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS), one of Asia's top think tanks, and adjunct lecturer at the Tsukuba University's Graduate School of Social Sciences. In May 2016, Dr Magcamit was selected as one of the next generation policy experts in ASEAN-Korea relations by the Korea Foundation, and represented the Philippines in the 2016 Track-Two ASEAN-China Relations Working Group. Dr Magcamit has already produced seven ISI/Scopus indexed articles in leading Asian politics journals, which were ranked as the journals' "most-read" in their first month of online release. His first book, *Small Powers and Trading Security*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in December 2016. These accomplishments – in just five years – indicate his clear potential to become a leading scholar in Security Studies and Asian politics. He has strong experience in conducting fieldwork in Southeast Asia also provides a solid basis for the proposed project which is, nonetheless, a significant step forward from previous work. This indicates clear capacity to establish an independent, original and compelling research agenda, plus keen awareness of the skills and competencies required to pursue it successfully. On how Dr Magcamit will benefit from working with Dr Jones, see section 1.3.

## 2. IMPACT

### 2.1 Enhancing the potential and future career prospects of the researcher

The proposed Fellowship promises to establish Dr Magcamit as a respected, established expert in Southeast Asian politics, with an emerging profile in public engagement and knowledge transfer. It allows him independently to stake out a novel and ambitious research agenda, and develop existing and new research skills and methods. The planned programme of research conferences and seminars will help Dr Magcamit establish international research networks and lay the groundwork for future collaborations. The publications proposed will target the highest quality journals and presses. This will bolster an already strong CV which, when coupled with the programme of training and professional development, should make him a strong candidate for permanent employment at a leading research-intensive European university. CADP training, and Dr Jones's involvement in recruiting academic staff, will help prepare Dr Magcamit to apply for and secure such positions. The secondment will also bolster the non-academic impact of Dr Magcamit's research on European society and expose him to a different working environment. Coupled with the extensive impact and public engagement infrastructure at QMUL, this will give the project the strongest possible opportunity to influence government, NGOs and others.

### 2.2 Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the action results

#### Dissemination of the research results

1. *Book and journal article*: The ER will produce a monograph analysing the tripartite linking of SRN in Southeast Asia, targeted at Cambridge University Press, and a journal manuscript distilling the project's theoretical insights, targeted at *International Security* (ranked first in Military Studies and International Relations in 2014). These publications will widely disseminate the research findings among scholars and help the ER secure permanent academic employment in a top European university.
2. *Policy briefs*: During the ISDP secondment, the ER will contribute to their "Asia Program Projects". The ER will host a workshop to engage the ISDP's members and advisers, and produce policy briefs for NGOs, private and public research think-tanks, and government agencies. These activities will disseminate the research findings beyond the academy, helping to secure benefits for wider European society; broaden the ER's professional network; and enhance his employability.
3. *Local and international conferences and workshops*: To disseminate findings, build academic networks and explore potential future collaborations, the ER will present at one national conference in the UK (Q2, yr.1) and two international conferences in Southeast Asia and Europe (Q3, yr.2). The ER will also organise one inter-departmental research workshop (Q2, yr. 2) and seminar (Q3, yr. 2) at QMUL on the SRN across the world. Through these activities the ER will establish a global network for the study of SRN.
4. *Teaching and supervision*: The ER will undertake moderate amounts of undergraduate (co)teaching and postgraduate (co)supervision (and associated training) to help build pedagogical philosophy and experience, which will further boost his employability and help transfer skills and knowledge to QMUL students.

#### Exploitation of results and intellectual property

All research produced in SPIR is made Open Access. Work accepted for publication is uploaded to the institutional repository, Queen Mary Research Online (QMRO), where metadata is immediately accessible and full text is freely downloadable, subject to any embargo period in respect of copyright. QMRO is indexed by search engines like Google Scholar.

### 2.3. Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the action activities to different target audiences

QMUL's renowned CPE, MEI and CER will assist the ER in structuring innovative and novel knowledge-transfer schemes and public engagement platforms. The following activities will establish the ER as an active public intellectual:

1. *Presenting in multimedia platforms*: exploiting links between Dr Jones/SPIR/QMUL and media organisations, the ER proposes to contribute to programmes on Al Jazeera (Asia/UK) and/or BBC (Asia/UK) across different platforms (TV, Radio, online) in order to transfer knowledge on SRN issues to other experts and the general public.
2. *Conducting public lectures*: the ER will deliver public lectures at QMUL (Q3, yr.2) and Stockholm University (Q4, yr. 2) in collaboration with ISDP, communicating research findings to scholars, policy makers, industry, think-tanks and the wider public.
3. *Launching the project's website*: With the help of SPIR's Communications Officer, the ER will develop and maintain a website to inform the public about the research-in-progress. The site will be publicised via social media platforms.
4. *Developing a database of contacts*: everyone engaging with the project will (with their consent) be added to a database, providing a ready-made network and audience for future non-academic engagements.

### 3. QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

#### 3.1 Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan

The initial phase of the project will take place at QMUL for 21 months. The second phase will take place at ISDP in Stockholm for three months. The project involves extensive, mixed-method research combining case studies, elite interviews, ethnography, and documentary analyses in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Myanmar. While QMUL/UoL provides the necessary training, development, mentoring, and networking opportunities, the ISDP offers policy linkages crucial for non-academic dissemination of findings. In August and September 2017, the ER conducted a pilot study to test the project's overall feasibility and identify potential risks and mitigation strategies. Preliminary ethnographic observations and semi-structured interviews in the Philippines, Indonesia and Myanmar yielded substantial evidential confirmation of the SRN. The two most serious risks identified were the unavailability of some informants for interviews and the unanticipated inaccessibility of some religious sites (e.g. road closures due to bad weather, and security concerns arising from communal tensions). To mitigate these risks, the ER will: arrange fieldwork flexibly, using contacts established on the ground, enabling research to be reorganized around individuals' availability and security considerations; and develop fall-back options (lists of alternative informants and religious sites). There is also the minor risk of communications difficulties due to the ER's current level of fluency in Bahasa and Burmese languages. To mitigate this, the ER has undergone language training since January 2017, and will undertake further training as part of this Fellowship.

#### Work Packages (WP) description

- WP1. Development of approach and methodology (months 1-3)*: (a) undertake training to mainstream gender throughout research design; (b) in-depth and systematic literature review of three-way SRN nexus; (c) finalise research design, conceptual framework and methods; (e) draft Chapters 1 and 2 of the book manuscript.
- WP2. Training (months 4-6)*: (a) undertake intensive training in spoken Bahasa and Burmese languages, research methods and management, teaching, knowledge transfer and public engagement; (b) prepare and complete journal article; (c) present in a national conference; and (d) launch project web-blog.
- WP3. Examination of SRN linkages in the Philippines (months 7-9)*: (a) conduct elite interviews with Filipino public officials, policymakers, and key non-state leaders; (b) ethnographic observations and interviews in Catholic (majority) churches in Manila and Cebu and the Muslim (minority) mosques in Cotabato City and Zamboanga City; (c) documentary analysis at the University and National Library of the Philippines; and (d) draft Philippines chapter of the book manuscript.
- WP4. Examination of SRN linkages in Indonesia (months 10-12)*: (a) conduct elite interviews with Indonesian public officials, policymakers, and key non-state leaders; (b) ethnographic observations and interviews in Muslim (majority) mosques in Jakarta and Central Java and the Christian (minority) churches in Central Sulawesi and Kalimantan; (c) documentary analysis at the University and National Library of Indonesia; and (d) draft Indonesia chapter of the book manuscript.
- WP5. Examination of SRN linkages in Myanmar (months 13-15)*: (a) conduct elite interviews with Myanmar public officials, policymakers, and key non-state leaders; (b) ethnographic observations and interviews in Buddhist (majority) temples in Yangon and Bagan and Muslim (minority) mosques in Mandalay and Kala; (c) documentary analysis at the University of Yangon and National Library of Myanmar; (d) draft Myanmar chapter of the book manuscript.
- WP6. Research dissemination: (months 16-24)*: (a) consolidate interdisciplinary and comparative skills; (b) synthesise review of literature; (c) conduct complementary archival work if necessary; (c) prepare and complete book manuscript and journal article; (d) organisation of departmental research workshop and seminar; (e) organisation and participation in international conferences and colloquia; (f) prepare and complete the policy briefs in collaboration with ISDP; and (g) public engagement activities.

#### List of major deliverables (DV)

- DV-WP1 (mo. 3)*: Chapter 1 (Introduction) and Chapter 2 (Frameworks and Methods) of the book manuscript (8000 words each).
- DV-WP2 (mo. 6)*: Journal manuscript, 'Securitizing Religion in Southeast Asia', for *International Security* (10000 words).
- DV-WP3 (mo. 9)*: Chapter 3 (SRN Linkages in the Philippines) of the book manuscript (8000 words).
- DV-WP4 (mo. 12)*: Chapter 4 (SRN Linkages in Indonesia) of the book manuscript (8000 words).
- DV-WP5 (mo. 15)*: Chapter 5 (SRN in Myanmar) of the book manuscript (8000 words).

DV-WP6 (mo.24): Book manuscript: (80000 words); and policy briefs.

### Major milestones

Mo. 3	Initial literature review and refinement of research plan completed; Chapters 1 and 2 of book completed	Mo. 18	First leg of outreach activities completed
Mo. 6	Journal manuscript completed; national conference completed; project web-blog launched	Mo. 20	Departmental seminar completed; first public lecture completed
Mo. 9	Research in the Philippines completed; Chapter 3 of the book completed	Mo. 21	Second leg of outreach activities completed
Mo. 12	Research in Indonesia completed; Chapter 4 of the book completed	Mo. 22	Second international conference completed
Mo. 15	Research in Myanmar completed; Chapter 5 of the book completed	Mo. 23	Second public lecture completed
Mo. 17	Departmental workshop completed; first international conference completed	Mo. 24	Secondment, book manuscript, and policy briefs completed

### Secondment

The non-academic secondment at ISDP will enable the ER to present and disseminate his research findings to representatives from government, NGOs, industry, and public interest groups. The ISDP's Asia Programme seeks to contribute to the EU's strategy towards this increasingly important region. The ER will participate in the ISDP's events designed to enhance the EU's analytical capacity, understanding of Asian security, and development of appropriate policy responses. ISDP's activities – ranging from small forums to medium-sized seminars and large-scale conferences – bring together EU officials, national experts, academics, decision-makers, media and civil society representatives from EU member states and beyond. The secondment will facilitate the ER to transfer knowledge on the security-religion and security-trade nexuses in Asia. It has high potential to inform public and policymaker debates and change behaviours, policies, and practices, creating wider benefit to European society.

### Project GANTT Chart

Project Summary Chart																									
Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Work package	1		2			3			4			5			6										
Deliverable			1			2			3			4			5										6
Milestone			1			2			3			4			5		6	7		8	9	10	11	12	
Secondment																						1			
Conference					1												1					2			
Workshop																	1								
Seminar																				1					
Public lecture																				1			2		
Non-Scholarly Dissemination																		1			2				
Training*	1		2			3			4			5			6										
Progress monitoring**	1			2	3							4					5		6		7			8	

\*Aside from the formal trainings that will be undertaken at QMUL and other UoL colleges, the ER will also continue to undergo self-training/study (e.g. in Bahasa and Burmese languages, methodologies, knowledge transfer and public engagement) throughout the Fellowship. \*\*Monthly progress reviews will also be conducted.

### 3.2. Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources

The proposed Fellowship requires a 24-month time frame, divided into three phases. In Phase 1 (15 months), the ER will: fine-tune the research design; undertake professional training; develop teaching skills and pedagogy; author publications; and organise research seminars and conferences. This phase constitutes backbone of the project, and thus, requires the most time and resources to complete all the technical and substantive objectives identified in Section 1.2. In Phase 2 (6 months) the ER will carry out field research in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Myanmar, spending 2 months in each country to conduct ethnographic research and elite interviews. This is a very component of the research since much of the first-hand and secondary data that will be processed and analysed are collected during this phase. The pilot study suggested 2 months per country is needed to deliver the work packages enumerated in Section 3.1. Finally, in Phase 3 (3 months) the ER will undertake a secondment at ISDP to contribute and secure benefits to wider European society by facilitating knowledge transfer activities with non-academic stakeholders. This is vital to disseminate the research results, as explained in Section 2.2.

### 3.3 Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including risk management

Dr Magcamit will be supervised at QMUL by Dr Jones, who will monitor his progress against the milestones described above at monthly mentoring meetings, and provide input and guidance as required. At the first meeting, a Training Needs Analysis will be undertaken. This will generate a Career Development Plan – compliant with the European Charter for Researchers – to map out the

programme of training and skills development required during the Fellowship, including agreed milestones and possible risks and steps to mitigate these. Progress against milestones will be regularly reviewed. Dr Jones will also advise on: the development of Dr Magcamit's research skills, notably elite interviewing and documentary analysis; the quality of the research design; the ER's publications strategy, including providing regular feedback on draft manuscripts; the organisation of and participation in research events and networks; and the proposed programme of public and policymaker engagement. The supervisor and fellow will regularly review substantive risks to the completion of the research and plan accordingly (see Section 3.1 above). This careful planning and monitoring will minimise the risk of any objectives not being met, and maximise the quality of the research outputs.

More broadly, QMUL has a strong track record of EU researcher development and mobility actions, having hosted 76 Marie Curie Individual Fellowships, 27 FP7 Co Fund fellowships, and been involved in 145+ FP7 projects, and 56 H2020 projects, including 9 H2020 Innovative (doctoral) Training Networks. QMUL Joint Research Management Office's (JRMO) EU Unit supports the financial management of all EU funded research projects. The dedicated EU Finance Officer–Fellowships will support the fellow, supervisor and department, including set up on the financial system, providing advice to fellow with monitoring of project spend and EC financial reporting to ensure eligibility of costs and effective spend. An initial meeting is held with the fellow to establish budgets and support is provided on financial performance via monthly expenditure reports. The fellow is assisted locally with requisitioning, purchase orders, invoices and use of training costs, etc. The fellow also receives a JRMO MSCA toolkit and guidance to support their pre start and induction needs and to ensure compliance with EC regulations/reporting requirements. The officer will also liaise with the fellow on HR, payroll, national insurance, tax, welfare and professional development enquiries and signpost accordingly to specialist internal/ external support.

QMUL secured a European Commission "HR excellence in research" award in 2012 for its Concordat Action Plan and Researcher Development Programme (which is also aligned to the Vitae Researcher Development Framework). QMUL has a Doctoral College to provide effective management and leadership for all early stage researchers, including the ER.

#### **Progress monitoring**

Monthly	Review of progress against stated milestones and deliverables	Mo. 17	Review of quality of research on the Philippines
Mo. 1	Completion of Training Needs Analysis & Career Development Plan	Mo. 19	Review of quality of research on Indonesia
Mo. 4	Quality review of research design	Mo. 21	Review of quality of research on Myanmar
Mo. 5	Review of draft article prior to submission	Mo. 22	Final review of project and internal peer-review of book manuscript
Mo. 12	Formal review of Career Development Plan	Mo. 24	Final formal review of Career Development Plan

### **3.4 Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)**

For more information see Section 1.3. SPIR will: provide Dr Magcamit with an office, a computer and relevant specialist software (e.g. for qualitative data analysis), and the administrative support needed to secure his objectives, including dedicated departmental staff who help organise and promote research, knowledge transfer and public engagement events; achieve open access for all research outputs; assist with financial administration; and provide administrative support for teaching activities. Dr Magcamit will have access to QMUL's Library, where SPIR spends €85000 annually on new print and electronic resources, and which provides extensive access to online-subscription journals and databases. Via QMUL, he can also access the vast holdings of the University of London's Senate House Library and other UoL libraries, notably the large Southeast Asian collections at LSE and SOAS. More broadly, QMUL is one of the UK's leading research-intensive universities, and a member of the Russell Group of elite, research-led institutions. QMUL has extensive experience in managing research projects, external funding and international fellowships and research networks (see above). It is a full signatory of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and one of only 10 UK HEIs that has retained the European Commission's HR Excellence in Research Award at two-year review. QMUL's Doctoral College and CAPD offer excellent support and training for early-career researchers, including a dedicated Researcher Development Programme, Faculty-level postdoctoral fellow networks, and bespoke 'masterclasses' led by QMUL professors. QMUL's annual 'fellowship day' connects fellows to future funding opportunities to help them establish lasting careers. Several other QMUL units also provides dedicated support to staff arriving from overseas, including HR (as a member of EURAXESS-UK); Advice and Counselling; Accommodation Support; and the Language Centre.

**END PAGE**

## MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

**Individual Fellowships (IF)**  
**Call: H2020-MSCA-IF-2017**

### **PART B**

**“SeReNa-SEA”**

**“The Divine Tragedy of Securing the Sacred:  
Religion, Security and Nationalism in Southeast Asia”**

**This proposal is to be evaluated as:**

**EF**



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