



Session Five



Mr. Jeffrey Payne Manager of Academic Affairs Near East South Asia

Jeffrey Payne currently serves as the Manager of Academic Affairs at the Near East South Asia (NESA) Center for Strategic Studies. As part of the Center's senior staff, he helps to manage over 50 strategic engagements a year. He joined the NESA Center in 2012, after serving for five years as an Instructor of Political Science at Butler University. While at Butler, he served as an expert on Asian politics, political economy, and contentious politics. Mr. Payne has also served as a consultant for the World Bank and as a faculty member for DePauw University.

As a long time Asia Hand, Mr. Payne conducts analysis on Chinese foreign policy, Eurasian security, maritime security, and international political economy. He is particularly interested in the intersection of maritime security and illicit trade in the Indian Ocean and the security dimensions of growing East Asia-Middle East relations. Presently, he serves as the NESA Center's lead for engagements in the People's Republic of China, including programs focused on China's role in Afghanistan and the One Belt, One Road initiative. He also serves as the director of the Next Generation Seminar, an ongoing U.S. government program devoted to the rising generation of leaders in the Middle East employing unique methods to internally counter violent extremism, and leads NESA's Strategic Forum series on Indian Ocean threats.

Mr. Payne's writings have appeared in *China File*, *The National Interest*, *The Diplomat*, *War on the Rocks*, and the *Middle East Institute's MAP Project*, among others. He has presented at defense colleges, universities, and research centers throughout Asia and Europe.