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Niklas L.P. Swanström is the Director at Institute for Security and Development Policy (www.isdp.eu). The Institute is an independent nonprofit organization that has offices in Washington, D.C., and Uppsala, Sweden. The Institute is affiliated with the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University. His main areas of expertise are conflict prevention, conflict management and regional cooperation; Chinese foreign policy and security in Northeast Asia; narcotics trafficking and its effect on regional and national security as well as negotiations. His focus is mainly on Northeast Asia, Central Asia and Southeast Asia. He is the editor of "China and Eurasia Quarterly."

Dr. Swanström is the author of four books: Conflict Prevention and Conflict Management in Northeast Asia, Transnationell brottslighet: ett säkerhetshot? (Transnational Crime: A Security Threat), Regional Cooperation and Conflict Management: Lessons from the Pacific Rim and Foreign Devils, Dictatorship or Institutional Control: China's foreign policy towards Southeast Asia. His articles have appeared in the Korean Journal of International Studies, Journal of Contemporary China, Peace Review, Central Asian Survey and the Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst. His commentaries have appeared in Svenska Dagbladet, Uppsala Nya Tidning, Baltimore Sun, Asia Times and Asia Online. He is a frequent traveler in the regions of research and participates in numerous conferences on Asian affairs and is a frequent guest at various events dealing with security and conflict management in Northeast Asia.

Dr. Swanström holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Conflict Studies from Uppsala University. His dissertation dealt with regional cooperation and conflict management in the Pacific Rim. He also holds a Licentiate degree from the Department of Peace and Conflict research that examined the Chinese foreign policy towards Southeast Asia. He holds MA degrees from Uppsala University and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He has also been a student at Beijing Languages Institute, Beijing University and Dalian Languages University.