

Title: Defense of Taiwan: Viewpoint from Tokyo and the Role of the U.S.-Japan Alliance

Speaker: Ayumi Teraoka, Ph.D.

Date: 17 October 2022

Time: 1200-1315

Where: Conolly Conference Room, C-138

POC: Kristin Mulready-Stone, Ph.D.

SYNOPSIS:

Intensifying U.S.-China rivalry and the heightened tensions over the Taiwan Strait over the recent years have captured much attention in Japan, a key U.S. ally and Taiwan's closest neighbor. The Japanese discourse has increasingly focused on their country's possible involvement in a contingency in the Taiwan Strait and potential implications for Japan should a conflict break out. Japan's potential role in a Taiwan contingency has deep historical roots in the 62-year-old U.S.-Japan Mutual Security Treaty and the so-called "Taiwan Clause"—Japan's first public and official assurance in the 1969 Nixon-Sato Joint Communiqué about the United States' ability to use its bases in Japan for a Taiwan contingency. How have Tokyo's views toward Taiwan's defense evolved since the 1960s? What is new and distinct about the current Japanese discourse on Taiwan? In this talk, Dr. Ayumi Teraoka will provide an overview of the evolution of debates surrounding Japan's role in the defense of Taiwan, illuminate the current discussions in Japan, and explore the direction they might be headed.

BIO:

Ayumi Teraoka is an America in the World Consortium Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research focuses on coercive diplomacy, alliance politics in the Indo-Pacific, and Japanese foreign policy and national security. In her dissertation, which is now a book manuscript project, Ayumi examines the interactive effects of U.S. alliance management efforts and China's attempts to weaken U.S. alliances from both historical and contemporary perspectives. Previously, she worked at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, DC from 2013 to 2017. Her writing has appeared in *The Japan Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Diplomat*, and the *Georgetown Journal of Asian Affairs* among others. Ayumi holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. in Public Affairs from Princeton University, an M.A. in Asian Studies from Georgetown University, and a B.A. in Law from Keio University.