REV. FRANCIS WADE, S.J. PUBLIC LECTURE

Looking Back for a Better Future: Reflections on the United States-Indonesian Relations

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022 | 4 P.M. Beaumier Suites BC, Raynor Library

Reception immediately following

As the largest nation in Southeast Asia in terms of population and territory, while strategically located between mainland Asia and Australia, Indonesia had a special place in the history of United States foreign policy. At the height of the Cold War, the U.S. competed with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China for spheres of influence. The competition culminated in the anti-communist purge that claimed hundreds of thousands of lives, followed by the opening of Indonesia's doors to Western interests. For the next three decades, Washington greatly supported Indonesia, marked by close political, economic and military ties. Today, with the rise of China's global prominence and the regional conflict of interests in the South China Sea, the U.S. is very eager to seek closer collaboration (if not an alliance) with Indonesia. However, now Indonesia has an increasing sense of national confidence and international standing, while enjoying more choices in international collaboration. How the U.S. will and should respond to these new developments is open for discussion.



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For questions or special needs, contact Julie Bach at 414.288.7511.