

Public Talk Series #3:

# The View From The Inside - Can Europe Become a Great Power?

By His Excellency Pierre Buhler, Ambassador of France to Singapore

Seen by some as the only way forward and by others as a dead end, the concept of Europe as a great power has often been categorically rejected only to resurface later with renewed urgency.

What is the credibility of a foreign policy which rejects the power to coerce? Can a construct such as the European Union morph into a conventional power able to care for its own security without destroying its singularity and cohesion? Is Europe pioneering a new kind of power and inventing the forms and norms of post-modern power?

As the French presidency of the Council of the European Union draws to a close, French Ambassador to Singapore Pierre Buhler will provide a fresh perspective on these issues, in the light of the Union's recent actions to address the pressing challenges of our time.

## Details

**Date:** Tuesday, 2 December 2008  
**Time:** 5.30pm - 7:00pm  
**Venue:** Seminar Room 3-1  
Manasseh Meyer Building  
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
NUS Bukit Timah Campus [[map](#)]  
469C Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259772.

## About the Speaker



His Excellency Pierre Buhler has been the French Ambassador to Singapore since September 2006. Previously he was the Diplomatic Advisor of the Minister of Defence in Paris (2001-2002) and Cultural Counsellor at the French Embassy in New York (1996-2001). Between 2002 and 2006, Ambassador Buhler was also Associate Professor at the Paris Institute of Political Studies. Ambassador Buhler began his diplomatic career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris in 1982. He worked at the Directorate of Europe and the Directorate for Strategic Affairs and Disarmament, and between 1983-1996, at the French embassies in Warsaw, Moscow, Washington and New York. He is a Knight of the French National Order of Merit and of the Legion of Honour.

Please email the response form by **Monday, 1 Dec 2008** to [euevents@nus.edu.sg](mailto:euevents@nus.edu.sg) or fax (65) 6774 1445 to register. Thank you.