

Mr **Nicholas Fang** graduated from Oxford University with a Masters in Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

He joined Singapore's oldest think tank, the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA), in 2010. He is currently director, security and global affairs, at the institute, which has been ranked top local think tank, and among the best in Asia and the Pacific over the past 10 years. In that capacity, he has represented Singapore in several Track 1.5 fora, including the Japan- Singapore Symposium and the China-Singapore Forum. His key focus areas of research include security and defence, information, influence and interference operations, and the rising threat of misinformation across the globe.

Nicholas started his working life as a journalist, and spent nine years at Singapore's national daily newspaper, The Straits Times. There, he reported on financial and sports news, and wrote lifestyle columns and special reports on a diverse range of topics, rising to the post of Senior Correspondent. He was also one of the pioneers in the organisation's foray into integrated media platforms that brought together print and digital channels, and its fledgling efforts to initiate a broadcast news platform.

Nicholas was appointed Nominated Member of Parliament in February 2012, and served a 2.5-year term where he focused on issues pertaining to international affairs, media, defence and security, and sports. He has previously sat on the board of Singapore humanitarian non-governmental organization Mercy Relief, and was formerly a non-executive independent director of the Singapore Sports Hub. He currently chairs an expert panel for strategic communications at Singapore's Ministry of Defence. Nicholas founded strategic consultancy Black Dot Pte Ltd in 2012, and subsequently founded a market research company – Black Dot Research – to develop capabilities to better understand sentiment across different sectors of society, in 2018.