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Dr Charles Chao Rong PHUA is the CEO and Strategist-General at Solaris Strategies Singapore (with MENA and APAC presence). Renowned as a global 100 professor-author grade management consultant (CMC-AF, Certified Management Consultant Academic Fellow conferred by International Council of Management Consulting Institutes, ICMCI), he leads the Solaris Consortium of Management Consultancies offering full-functional customisable advisory and coaching (breadth of top consulting as McKinsey-BCG-Bain without the hefty tag).

Charles has briefed a head of state 4 times in 7 days on national strategy, supported Five Year Plan for 916B tech MNC, amongst others. He sits on corporate (as non-executive director) and nonprofit boards in UK, Swiss, Australia, South and Southeast Asia, including on stars Asia Advisory Panel<sup>1</sup> alongside prominent business leaders. He edited the Routledge-Solaris series for strategy, wisdom and skills<sup>2</sup> which was later right-sized into two Routledge-Solaris series: (1) Global Policy, Governance, Strategy and Wisdom; (2) Business Management and Board Governance, and has authored 6 books covering strategy (geopolitical, military, policy and corporate).<sup>3</sup>

Charles did his first doctorate in public policy before venturing into corporate and security strategy and is now finishing his education doctorate focusing on teaching strategy. A lifelong learner, Charles led the functional best from 11 top B schools: Harvard strategy, leadership and management, entrepreneurship and innovation, MIT systems thinking, Stanford design, Wharton strategy and entrepreneurship, INSEAD advanced strategy for directors, Babson entrepreneurship, Kellogg marketing, Berkeley open innovation, LBS and Cambridge sustainability, Oxford strategy and scenarios; Charles also did postgraduate/degree qualifications (including in progress): Strategy and Innovation; Corporate Governance, Systems Thinking; Organisational Psychology; HRM and Training; Operations Management; Supply Chain Management; Digital Business/Transformation/Leadership; Marketing; Industrial Project Management; Accounting; Finance/Economics; International Relations; Law; Education; Security Management; Construction Engineering Management; Sustainable Development and Real Estate. These skills allow Charles to diagnose, strategise, innovate and implement almost most non-technical problems for governments, corporate and nonprofits in trainer-consultant-coach role.

Charles has taught at 5 universities in Singapore and Switzerland and Civil Service College Singapore. Today he focuses on executive education as program leader/success coach for Chief Strategy Officer, Chief Technology Officer, Chief Data and AI Officer programs for National University of Singapore business and computing schools with Emeritus (for senior executives above 40 APAC MENA) and runs live applied problem solving (organisations bring real problems to class) for open enrolment and customised programs for National University of Singapore School for Continuing Education (NUS SCALE) and Computing. A Junior Chamber International Ten Outstanding Young Persons for academic leadership and achievement, he received Singapore Skillsfuture fellowship for lifelong learning in strategy-innovation-entrepreneurship.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.the-stars.ch/about/asia-advisory-panel/#toggle-id-3>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.routledge.com/Routledge-Solaris-Focus-on-Strategy-Wisdom-and-Skill/book-series/RSOL>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.routledge.com/go/strategy-wisdom-skill-chph>