

#### **ASEAN Region – Press Review June 2020**

Contact: info@th.boell.org

### 🔁 Myanmar

**Internet ban in Myanmar's Rakhine and Chin States will continue, Military says** (Radio Free Asia, Reuters, Deutsche Welle)

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Myanmar 2020 Election set in November, UEC official says (Myanmar Times, The Irrawaddy) https://www.mmtimes.com/news/myanmar-2020-election-set-november-uec-official-says.html https://www.mmtimes.com/news/parties-myanmar-sign-election-code-conduct.html https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/daw-aung-suu-kyi-run-myanmars-general-election.html

### 🔼 Cambodia

Cambodia PM says ruling party to dominate for up to 100 years, confirms eldest son Hun Manet being groomed for leadership (Bangkok Post, Radio Free Asia, South China Morning Post)

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https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/southeast-asia/article/3090090/cambodias-hun-sen-tells-opposition-wait-next-life-says

**Cambodia launches stimulus package for poor hit by Coronavirus outbreak** (Radio Free Asia, Asia Times)

https://www.rfa.org/english/news/cambodia/stimulus-06242020171200.html https://asiatimes.com/2020/06/pandemic-math-not-adding-up-in-cambodia/

## 祛 Brunei

How Brunei beat COVID-19 (The Diplomat, The Scoop) https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/how-brunei-beat-covid-19/ https://thescoop.co/covid19/

## Indonesia

Indonesia is reopening for business even with record high COVID-19 infections (Channel News Asia, Tempo, The Jakarta Post)

https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/commentary/indonesia-reopening-economy-record-high-covid-19-cases-12873668

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https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/06/11/covid-19-jokowi-warns-of-second-wave-but-first-one-may-not-be-over.html

#### Indonesian villagers defy Covid-19 warnings to rescue Rohingya refugees (The Guardian, Radio Free Asia, Al Jazeera, The Jakarta Post)

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Laos

Laos praised for quick virus response (Bangkok Post) https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/1937164/laos-praised-for-quick-virus-response

An uncertain future for Laos (The Diplomat) https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/an-uncertain-future-for-laos/

Thousands of jobless Lao workers return home from Thailand in last two months (Radio Free Asia)

https://www.rfa.org/english/news/laos/return-06242020151026.html

## Malaysia

Mahathir has served twice as PM, it is time to move on: Anwar (Channel News Asia, Nikkei Asian Review. South China Morning Post)

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https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Malaysia-in-transition/Mahathir-ups-ante-on-Muhyiddin-with-substitute-pick-for-Malaysia-PM

https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/explained/article/3090802/how-mahathir-anwar-relationship-shaped-malaysiaspolitics

Growing calls for Malaysia PM Muhyiddin to call snap polls (Channel News Asia, The Straits Times, Malay Mail)

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https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2020/06/26/who-would-win-in-a-snap-election-dr-mahathir-saysneither-he-nor-muhyiddin/1879055

**COVID-19:** Malaysia not out of the woods yet (New Straits Times, The Straits Times) https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/06/600305/covid-19-malaysia-not-out-woods-yet https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/malaysia-to-reopen-theme-parks-and-easing-up-on-temperaturechecks-at-every-shop-in-a

# **The Philippines**

Fears for Philippines press freedom as court finds Maria Ressa guilty of libel (Reuters, The New York Times, Southeast Asia Globe, BBC)

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippines-media/fears-for-philippines-press-freedom-as-court-finds-mariaressa-quilty-of-libel-idUSKBN23M03B

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Duterte presidency unravels as coronavirus ravages Philippines (Al-Jazeera, Rappler) https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/06/duterte-presidency-unravels-coronavirus-ravages-philippines-200629054402601.html

https://www.rappler.com/business/263865-coronavirus-drives-philippines-toward-recession-duterte-4th-year-ends

'What about us?': Filipino cruise crews struggle to get home (AI Jazeera, ABS-CBN) https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/06/filipino-cruise-crews-struggle-home-200605070623815.html https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/06/08/20/seafarers-comprise-majority-of-ofws-seeking-repatriation-dfa

# Singapore

**Singapore calls for Elections despite pandemic** (The New York Times, Bloomberg, The Economist, South China Morning Post, New Naratif)

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#### Singapore hands out coronavirus tracing devices (BBC, The Straits Times)

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https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/contact-tracing-device-will-not-track-location-and-people-can-use-tracetogether-if-they

# Thailand

**Exiled Thai activist abducted in Cambodia, rights group says** (Reuters, Khaosod English, Bangkok Post, The New York Times)

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-cambodia-thailand-disappearance/thai-exiled-activist-abducted-in-cambodia-rights-group-says-idUSKBN23C010

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Thais call for change on anniversary of bloodless revolution (Bangkok Post, Khaosod English) https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/thais-call-for-change-on-anniversary-of-bloodless-revolution

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**Thailand seeks to extend COVID emergency despite no new cases** (Nikkei Asian Review, Chiang Rai Times)

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#### Vietnam

**COVID-19:** For Vietnam, information is a public-health weapon (Reporting ASEAN) https://www.reportingasean.net/covid-19-vietnam-iinformation-public-health-weapon

To beat the heat, Vietnam rice farmers resort to planting at night (Reuters) https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-climate-change-vietnam-farmers-idUKKBN23W1B5

Vietnam speeds up big projects to heal economy from pandemic (Nikkei Asian Review) https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Vietnam-speeds-up-big-projects-to-heal-economy-from-pandemic

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ASEAN unity in the age of coronavirus (Bangkok Post, The Jakarta Post)

https://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/1943180/asean-unity-in-the-age-of-coronavirus https://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2020/06/02/asean-solidarity-and-response-in-the-face-of-covid-19.html

**ASEAN takes position vs China's vast historical sea claims** (Associated Press, The Guardian, Asia Times)

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AICHR ready to become stronger human rights mechanism (The Jakarta Post) https://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2020/06/13/aichr-ready-to-become-stronger-human-rightsmechanism.html



#### **Timor-Leste**

Timor-Leste's COVID-19 Response (The Diplomat) https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/timor-lestes-covid-19-response

Out of turmoil, a new majority in Timor-Leste's parliament (Inside Story) https://insidestory.org.au/out-of-turmoil-a-new-majority-in-timor-lestes-parliament

Will Timor-Leste be the region's latest press freedom casualty? (The Interpreter) https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/will-timor-leste-be-region-s-latest-press-freedom-casualty