

### **ASEAN Region – Press Review April 2021**

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### **ASEAN**

**Is ASEAN's Myanmar five-point consensus workable, and what is next?** (South China Morning Post, Associated Press, Bangkok Post, The Diplomat, Nikkei Asia, CNA, ASEAN Secretariat)

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**Vaccination in Southeast Asia: It's Complicated** (Reporting ASEAN, The Diplomat, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Nikkei Asia)

https://www.reportingasean.net/vaccination-in-southeast-asia-its-complicated

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## 🔐 Brunei

Brunei to appoint special ASEAN envoy to visit Myanmar, facilitate dialogue (The Scoop)

https://thescoop.co/2021/04/25/brunei-to-appoint-special-asean-envoy-to-visit-myanmar-facilitate-dialogue/

Brunei faces a tough year as ASEAN Chair (East Asia Forum)

https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2021/04/20/brunei-faces-a-tough-year-as-asean-chair/



### Cambodia

Cambodia closes markets to curb COVID-19, thousands plead for food (Reuters, Southeast Asia Globe, South China Morning Post, Radio Free Asia)

https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/cambodia-closes-markets-curb-covid-19-thousands-plead-food-2021-04-24/

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Hun Sen threatens to jail Covid rule-breakers (Bangkok Post, Phnom Penh Post)

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https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/hun-sen-vaccinate-all-three-million-people-capital-kandal



### Indonesia

#### Indonesia's Jokowi announces second Cabinet reshuffle in 4 months (CNA, Jakarta Globe)

https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/indonesia-jokowi-cabinet-reshuffle-investment-ministry-nadiem-14626016

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# Exorcisms and 'corrective' rape: inside Indonesia's controversial LGBT 'conversion' therapies (South China Morning Post, The Jakarta Post)

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# **53 sailors presumed dead after sunken Indonesia submarine found** (Al Jazeera, South China Morning Post, South China Morning Post)

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#### Laos

# Laos introduces two-week lockdown to contain rare COVID-19 outbreak (The Diplomat, The Laotian Times, CNA, RFA)

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Japan, Thailand, Vietnam vie with China for influence in impoverished, landlocked Laos (VOA News) <a href="https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/japan-thailand-vietnam-vie-china-influence-impoverished-landlocked-laos">https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/japan-thailand-vietnam-vie-china-influence-impoverished-landlocked-laos</a>



## Malaysia

# Malaysia's Mahathir urges King to lift Covid-19 emergency (The Straits Times, South China Morning Post)

https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/malaysias-mahathir-urges-king-to-lift-virus-emergency https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/3130345/mahathir-warns-king-covid-19-emergency-order-turning-malays

# Pakatan Harapan names Anwar as prime minister candidate, says open to working with other parties (CNA. The Straits Times, South China Morning Post)

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## Myanmar

Myanmar plays ASEAN as step to global legitimacy (Asia Times, Bangkok Post)

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https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/2106459/myanmars-junta-rebuffs-asean-plan-to-end-months-of-violence

**Failed state: Myanmar collapses into chaos** (Nikkei Asia, The Washington Post, ABC. Financial Times, International Crisis Group, CNA)

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https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/myanmar-half-population-poverty-2022-united-nations-development-14718852

### Thousands of Myanmar villagers poised to flee violence to Thailand, group says (VOA

News/Reuters, Associated Press, Nikkei Asia)

https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/thousands-myanmar-villagers-poised-flee-violence-thailand-group-says https://apnews.com/article/bangkok-global-trade-myanmar-civil-disobedience-asia-

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https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Myanmar-Coup/Fighting-erupts-in-Myanmar-near-Thai-border



# **Philippines**

**Community pantries offer reprieve from covid-19 hardships in the Philippines** (The Washington Post, Rappler, South China Morning Post, Al Jazeera )

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\_pacific/philippines-pantries-covid-pandemic/2021/04/21/30ad8a5c-a1ac-11eb-b314-2e993bd83e31\_story.html

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#### **Duterte lifts 9-year ban on new mining deals** (Inquirer, Mongabay, Phil Star, Reuters)

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# Sara Duterte insists she won't run for Philippines presidency but that hasn't dimmed her support (South China Morning Post, The Japan Times, Inquirer, ABS-CBN, East Asia Forum )

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## **Singapore**

# Singapore's finance minister steps aside as PM-designate in major shake-up to leadership transition (South China Morning Post, East Asia Forum, Reuters, Asia Times)

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Coronavirus: Singapore's migrant workers remain segregated, weeks after new cases among them dropped to near zero (South China Morning Post, Reuters, Asia Times)

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### **Thailand**

**New COVID-19 restrictions in Thailand as cases rise** (CNA, The Diplomat, Reuters, Nikkei Asia, Bangkok Post)

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**Thai students in deteriorating health after hunger strike, say lawyers** (The Guardian, Financial Times, Bangkok Post, The Sydney Morning Herald)

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Thailand NGOs: Transparency bill could 'shut down' civil society (Deutsche Welle, Thai PBS)

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### **Timor-Leste**

Timor-Leste: Natural disasters and COVID-19 take their toll (the Diplomat, ABC, The Guardian)

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#### Vietnam

**Vietnam restores regional balance to top leadership** (Nikkei Asia, Bangkok Post, Al Jazeera, Fulcrum, Reuters)

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https://fulcrum.sg/vietnams-state-reshuffles-subtle-appointments/

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-vietnam-politics-factbox-idUSKBN2BS0QO

### Vietnam reports first local COVID-19 cases in 35 days (CNA, VN Express, Nikkei Asia)

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