

ASEAN Region – Press Review July 2021

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On ASEAN and Myanmar

ASEAN, stop wasting time on Myanmar – Marzuki Darusman | The Jakarta Post

ASEAN and the Problem of Legitimacy – Sharon Seah | Fulcrum

ASEAN hopes to reach decision on Myanmar envoy next week: Brunei FM - Ain Bandial | The Scoop

Brunei's chairmanship is truly Asean - Kavi Chongkittavorn | Bangkok Post

Some Sobering Truths About ASEAN and Myanmar – Bertil Lintner | The Irrawaddy

ASEAN and China Have Entered the 'Zero Gravity Zone' in Myanmar – Phar Kim Beng and Nik Luqman | The Diplomat

Blinken urges ASEAN to take 'immediate action' on Myanmar | Al Jazeera

ASEAN Deadlocked on Selection of Special Envoy to Myanmar | The Irrawaddy/Kyodo News

COVID-19 Situation

As Delta Variant Rages in Southeast Asia, Health Workers Warned Not to Speak Out – Alifah Zainuddin | The Diplomat

<u>Is there a way out of Southeast Asia's COVID-19 disaster?</u> – Swee Kheng Khor | East Asia Forum The Regional Absence in Mainland Southeast Asia's COVID-19 Strategy – David Hutt | The Diplomat



Sultan's 75th Birthday and COVID-19 Situation

Sultan's 75th birthday celebrations to proceed with crowd limits – Rasidah Abu Bakar | The Scoop

Video: HM's 75th birthday – Rudolf Portillo | The Scoop

HM: New COVID variants require continued vigilance - Rasidah Abu Bakar | The Scoop

Rapid COVID-19 tests mandatory for cross-border essential travellers | The Scoop

Brunei among the safest countries in the world, says European Union – Rasidah Abu Bakar | The Scoop



COVID-19 Situation

Cambodia Closes Border Crossings as COVID-19 Crisis Strands Migrant Workers in Thailand | Radio Free Asia

Angkor Park closed as Siem Reap goes into lockdown amid Delta concerns | The Phnom Penh Post

Capital to strictly enforce 9pm-3am curfew – So Visal | The Phnom Penh Post

Cambodia nears 7 million vaccinated figures out of original 10 million target but fully vaccinated still lags |

Khmer Times

US' Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccines arrive | The Phnom Penh Post



Indonesia

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Indonesia is a new COVID-19 epicenter. The peak has yet to come</u> – Sydney Combs and Muhammad Fadli | National Geographic

Indonesia is now the epicenter of Asia's Covid-19 crisis. Here's what you need to know | CNN

<u>'It cannot be contained': Indonesia COVID deaths go unreported</u> – Jessica Washington and Syarina Hasibuan| Al Jazeera

<u>Heartbreaking farewells at Indonesian cemetery as nation sees worst wave of Covid-19 cases, deaths</u> – Caroline Kwok | South China Morning Post

Making coffins, giving shelter: volunteers step in as Covid overwhelms Indonesia – Gemma Holliani Cahya | The Guardian

Indonesia to receive 45 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine in August | Reuters

Indigenous groups face COVID vaccine barriers | Deutsche Welle

Indonesia reports record number of doctor deaths from COVID-19 in July | Reuters

Vaccines are global public goods: President Jokowi | Antara News

'Lack of global solidarity', slow vaccination rates put Indonesia in COVID glare | UN News

<u>Jakarta tightens security amid calls for protest in 'Jokowi Endgame' march</u> – Yerica Lai | The Jakarta Post

The Religious Challenges Behind Enforcing Emergency Covid-19 Restrictions - Syafiq Hasyim | Fulcrum



Laos

COVID-19 Situation

Laos extends lockdown amid surge in COVID-19 cases | VietnamPlus/Xinhua

<u>Large numbers of returning migrant workers test positive for Covid-19</u> – Latsamy Phonevilay | The Laotian Times

Lao Workers Return From Thailand, Bringing COVID-19 With Them | Radio Free Asia

UNICEF commits vaccination support, Laos' vaccination target likely 'achievable' | Vientiane Times

United States Hands Over More than One Million Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines Donated Through the COVAX Facility to Lao PDR | UNICEF

Luang Prabang Dam

In Laos, a Dubious Dam Threatens Luang Prabang - Nathan Thompson | Foreign Policy

Why Thailand should step in to halt the Luang Prabang dam project – Tom Fawthrop | South China Morning Post



Malaysia

COVID-19 Situation

Malaysia's total coronavirus infections rise above 1 million | Reuters

Anger as Covid-ravaged Malaysia lifts pandemic measures | BBC

Malaysians stage anti-government protest despite COVID-19 curbs | CNA/AFP

Malaysia doctors strike, parliament meets as COVID strain shows - | Al Jazeera

Malaysia's coffers run dry as COVID-19 pandemic worsens – Shankaran Nambiar | CNA

As Malaysia grapples with record COVID-19 cases, authorities ramp up mass vaccination to stem the tide – Vincent Tan | CAN

Malaysia to stop using Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine after supply ends: Health minister | CNA/Reuters

Politics

Malaysia PM Under Pressure to Quit After Stern Royal Rebuke - Eileen Ng | The Diplomat

Malaysia parliament battle resumes with Muhyiddin in hot seat – P Prem Kumar | Nikkei Asia

Malaysia's PM Muhyiddin defiant after king rebukes government for misleading parliament – Bhavan Jainragae J South China Marsing Poet

Jaipragas | South China Morning Post

<u>Malaysia's King says he did not consent to revoking of emergency laws, regrets govt conduct</u> – Ram Anand | The Straits Times

Revisit Two-Coalition System in Malaysia - Khoo Boo Teik | Fulcrum

In Malaysia, what lies beneath the divorce of Umno and Muhyiddin's Bersatu? – Joseph Chinyong Liow and Ariel Tan | South China Morning Post

Politics and plague make a noxious mix in Malaysia - Nile Bowie | Asia Times

Muhyiddin reshuffles Malaysian Cabinet, promoting Ismail Sabri to deputy prime minister – Tho Xin Yi | CAN Perikatan govt still intact with support of 110 MPs, says Ismail Sabri – Tan, Rahim, Carvalho, Chung | The Star



Political Situation/Coup

Protests ahead of 6-month anniversary of Myanmar coup | Bangkok Post/Reuters

Myanmar coup: A look back at six months of turmoil | The Straits Times

Myanmar coup wipes away 10 years of economic progress - Emma Connors | Australia Financial Review

Myanmar junta hits Suu Kyi with more corruption charges | France24/AFP

Myanmar democracy movement moves out of jailed Aung San Suu Kyi's shadow | CNA/AFP

Myanmar Junta Weaponizing Aid – Igor Blazevic | The Irrawaddy

COVID-19 Situation

COVID and a coup: The double crisis pushing Myanmar to the brink - Grace Tsoi and Moe Myint | BBC

Residents: Myanmar leaders use pandemic as political weapon – David Rising | Associated Press

Myanmar's Devastating 3rd COVID Wave | Bloomberg

'Everyone is dying': Myanmar on the brink of decimation – Mary P. Callahan | Asia Times

With Myanmar's healthcare system decimated, COVID-19 patients die alone in their homes | Myanmar Now

Junta-Run Public Hospitals Rejecting Even Myanmar's Sickest COVID-19 Patients | Radio Free Asia

Military in 'complete chaos' as COVID-19 infections rise within its ranks | Myanmar Now

Protest erupts at Myanmar's Insein prison amid COVID outbreak | Al Jazeera

UN warned of 'dire' COVID situation in Myanmar | Al Jazeera

Desperate COVID Families Hoist Flags For Donations in Myanmar's Cities | Radio Free Asia



Philippines

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Duterte says vaccine refusers in the Philippines should be detained at home</u> – Jason Gutierrez | The New York Times

Philippines to place Manila area in lockdown to curb Delta variant – Neil Morales | Reuters

Vaccinate anyone who wants a COVID shot, says Philippines' Duterte – Karen Lema | Reuters

COVID overshadows Duterte's plans for final year in office - Ted Regencia | Al Jazeera

Philippines extends travel ban to Malaysia, Thailand; imposes curbs amid Delta-fuelled Covid-19 surge -

Raul Dancel | The Straits Times

First-ever Olympic Gold – Hidilyn Diaz

<u>Hidilyn Diaz is the Philippines' Olympic hero, two years after being accused of plotting against Duterte</u> – Raissa Robles | South China Morning Post

<u>Hidilyn Diaz's Tokyo triumph lifts Philippines out of COVID blues</u> – Francesca Regalado and Cliff Venzon | Nikkei Asia

First-ever Olympic gold lifts COVID-weary Philippines | Al Jazeera

How being tagged in 'Oust Duterte' plot made Hidilyn Diaz stronger, more forgiving – Trishia Bilones | ABSCBN

Once cast as Duterte enemy, Filipino weightlifter raises spirit of a nation – Chris Barret | The Sydney Morning Herald

Olympic Champion Hidilyn Diaz Deserves an Apology From the Philippine Government – Mong Palatino | The Diplomat

Philippine Election 2022

Why is Duterte still riding high despite recession, COVID? - Ted Regencia | Al Jazeera

Philippines' Pacquiao ousted as president of ruling party after row | Reuters

Thrilla in Manila: Duterte vs Pacquiao – Carlos Santamaria | GZero Media

Rodrigo Duterte tops poll to be next Philippine vice president – Cliff Venzon | Nikkei Asia

Duterte-Duterte a winning ticket in poll on Philippines election – Neil Jerome Morales | Reuters

Manila mayor turns heads in Philippine presidential race – Jun Endo | Nikkei Asia

Lacson-Sotto tandem confirmed for 2022 polls | CNN Philippines



Singapore

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Singapore holds out hope for coexisting with COVID as cases rise</u> – Dylan Loh | Nikkei Asia <u>Singapore braces for a leap of faith in its COVID strategy</u> – Michelle Fay Cortez and Faris Mokhtar | Yahoo/Bloomberg

Lack of info on COVID-19 cases can cause unnecessary anxiety – Vivian Teo | CNA

<u>Vaccinated people make up 75% of recent COVID-19 cases in Singapore, but few fall ill</u> – Aradhana Aravindan and Chen Lin | Reuters

<u>COVID-19 vaccination rates 'very high' among migrant workers, Govt looking at easing safety measures</u> – Hariz Baharudin | The Straits Times

PM Lee urges seniors not to put off Covid-19 vaccination – Osmond Chia | The Straits Times Singapore aims to start guarantine-free travel by September Aradhana Aravindan and Chen Lin | Reuters

Thailand

COVID-19 Situation

Hospitals in Thailand short of beds as COVID cases soar: Ministry | Al Jazeera

Gov't sends COVID-19 patients to hometowns by train | Khaosod English/Associated Press

Thailand's vaccine director apologises for 'slow, inadequate' vaccine rollout, promises to join COVAX | Thailand's vaccine director apologises for 'slow, inadequate' vaccine rollout, promises to join COVAX | Thailand's vaccine director apologises for 'slow, inadequate' vaccine rollout, promises to join COVAX | Thailand's vaccine director apologises for 'slow, inadequate' vaccine rollout, promises to join COVAX | Thailand's vaccine director apologises for 'slow, inadequate' vaccine rollout, promises to join COVAX | Thailand's vaccine rollout, promises to jo

<u>Thailand to join COVAX, acknowledging low vaccine supply</u> – Chalida Ekvittayavechnukul | The Washington Post/Associated Press

<u>Hundreds of Thais inoculated with Sinovac are infected as cases spike in Southeast Asia</u> – Bryan Petsch | The Washington Post

All health workers to get Pfizer shots | Bangkok Post

In first, Thailand to mix Sinovac, AstraZeneca vaccine doses - Panarat Thepgumpanat and Panu Wongcha-um | Reuters

Correcting the pandemic policy tack – Thitinan Pongsudhirak | Bangkok Post

Tourism to hit all-time low in 2021 - Narumon Kasemsuk | Bangkok Post

Politics

<u>Thailand's street protests return, taking aim at Prayuth's handling of Covid-19 pandemic</u> – Jitsiree Thongnoi | South China Morning Post

Thai anti-government protesters clash with police | Al Jazeera

<u>Thai police fire rubber bullets, tear gas at crowds protesting government's virus response</u> | South China Morning Post

Anti-Government Protests Persist in Thailand Despite Record COVID-19 Cases – Tommy Walker | VOA

13 German Embassy protesters indicted on lèse majesté charges | Prachatai

Thai media restrictions raise freedom of expression concerns – David Rising | Associated Press

Fake News, Real News, Fake Deaths - and a Panicky Thai Gov't - Pravit Rojanaphruk | Khaosod English



Timor-Leste

COVID-19 Situation

Spike in new Covid-19 cases in Timor-Leste – Ryan Dagur | UCA News

COVID-19: the view from a Timorese village – Akito Ximenes and Michael Rose | Dev Policy

Hundreds of unused AstraZeneca doses in NT could be used in Timor-Leste, WHO doctor says – Kate Ashton I ABC News

Violence against women

<u>The unseen strands: Looking at the state of violence and gender in Timor-Leste</u> – Sunita Caminha and Teresa Verdial | UN WOMEN

ASEAN Membership

Timor-Leste's ASEAN membership application discussed | Bernama



Vietnam

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City faces medical collapse as COVID surges</u> – Tomoya Onishi | Nikkei Asia <u>What Explains Vietnam's Current COVID-19 Struggles?</u> – Zachary Abuza | The Diplomat <u>Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City turns into ghost town under Covid-19 lockdown</u> – Joanik Bellalou | The Straits Times

Hanoi tightens restrictions as COVID clusters spread in Vietnam | Reuters

<u>Vietnam PM gains vast powers to contain Ho Chi Minh City outbreak</u> – Tomoya Onishi | Nikkei Asia <u>As Vietnam's coronavirus surge continues, lockdowns take their toll on factory output, small businesses</u> – Sen Nguyen | South China Morning Post

<u>Vietnam in talks with U.S. for local production of COVID-19 mRNA vaccine</u> | Reuters <u>President demands early approval for Vietnam's homegrown Covid vaccine</u> – Trung Son | VN Express

Freedom of Speech

In Vietnam, the Party's Rolling Crackdown on Dissent Continues – Stewart Rees | The Diplomat Jailed Vietnamese Land Activist Held in Solitary Confinement: Daughter | Radio Free Asia Vietnam jails former radio journalist, arrests freelancers over 'distorted information' | The Straits Times/AFP Vietnamese Rights Activist Arrested in Hanoi, Charged Under Article 117 | Radio Free Asia