

ASEAN Region – Press Review November 2021

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ASEAN and Myanmar

China-ASEAN summit begins without a Myanmar representative - Andrew Nachemson | Al Jazeera In Another Snub, Myanmar Junta Barred From Asia-Europe Meeting | The Irrawaddy Myanmar's junta blocked from attending global climate summit | Radio Free Asia If ASEAN cannot pull Myanmar in line, how can it progress? - Toru Takahashi| Nikkei Asia Myanmar defies international pressure, rejects Suu Kyi visit | Reuters

ASEAN and Geopolitics

Xi says China ready to sign ASEAN's nuclear arms-free zone treaty – Shotaro Tani | Nikkei Asia President Xi: China will not seek dominance over Southeast Asia | Al Jazeera

China to prioritise Southeast Asia with upgraded relations, development aid – Teddy Ng and Laura Zhou | South China Morning Post

South China Sea disputes loom large as ASEAN, China struggle to negotiate code of conduct | Radio Free Asia

South China Sea: Beijing keen to make code of conduct gains for 30th anniversary of China-Asean ties – Kinling Lo | South China Morning Post

US mulls summit with ASEAN leaders in Washington in Jan | Bangkok Post/Kyodo News

ASEAN and COP26

COP26: ASEAN's Commitment In The Energy Sector – Rika Safrina | The ASEAN Post COP26 and the end of coal: ASEAN needs a plan – Han Phoumin | The Manila Times ASEAN risks losing 35% GDP by 2050 from climate change | Open Access Government Keeping climate pact alive – James Kon | Borneo Bulletin

ASEAN and RCEP

<u>World's biggest trade deal RCEP to take effect Jan. 1</u> – Matsumoto, Kaneko and Hadano | Nikkei Asia <u>RCEP trade deal reaches 'milestone' after ratification by Australia and New Zealand, will take effect in January</u> | South China Morning Post/Kyodo News

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Did COVID-19 Strengthen Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia?</u> – David Hutt | The Diplomat <u>COVID-19: ready or not, ASEAN nations must reopen, reconnect and reform</u> – Simon Tay and Sarah Loh | South China Morning Post

Asian nations expand booster shots, with an eye on Europe's surge – Jin Yu Young and John Yoon |The New York Times

<u>Across Southeast Asia, Countries Reopen Borders In Time For Holidays</u> – Alifah Zainuddin | The Diplomat <u>ASEAN's divided response to COVID-19</u> - Shubhankar Kashyap and Anushka Bhattacharya | East Asia Forum



COVID-19 Situation

<u>Brunei bars arrivals from 8 African countries over Omicron variant fears</u> – Shareen Han | The Scoop

<u>Tourism to restart once Brunei hits 80% vaccination coverage</u> – Rasidah Hj Abu Bakar and Ain Bandia I The Scoop

<u>COVID-19: Brunei to delay move towards endemic phase</u> – Shareen Han | The Scoop MoH: Brunei will adopt vaccine passports once economy reopens – Shareen Han | The Scoop

Cambodia

Politics

Cambodia takes to global stage again – Kavi Chongkittavorn | Bangkok Post Will Domestic Politics Upend Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship? - Luke Hunt | The Diplomat Cambodian court orders sale of former opposition leader's property | Radio Free Asia Hun Sen: Dual citizenship ban to last at least a century – Voun Dara | The Phnom Penh Post Cambodian authorities release labor union leader in surprise move I Radio Free Asia

COVID-19 Situation

MoH in no hurry to ban travellers from Omicron-hit countries - Yim Sreylin | Khmer Times Cambodia's reopening is propelled by vaccinations - Richard C. Paddock | The New York Times Possibility of transmission of both new COVID-19 viruses in Cambodia if care is not taken | Khmer Times Cambodia Bolts Into Its New Normal - Luke Hunt | The Diplomat COVID-19 Country Tracker: Cambodia | WHO

Indonesia

Indonesia court orders government to revise controversial labour law - Stanley Widianto | Reuters Jokowi Told to Revise Job Creation Law by Indonesia Court – Arys Aditya | Bloomberg Prabowo, Megawati cozy up ahead of election, but political obstacles remain – Yerica Lai | The Jakarta Post South China Sea: Indonesia pledges to develop resource-rich Natuna Islands to secure maritime borders. boost unity - Resty Woro Yuniar | South China Morning Post Andika Perkasa Gets House Approval to Become Military Chief | The Jakarta Globe Son-in-law of Jokowi loyalist becomes Indonesia's military chief | The Star/Bloomberg

COVID-19 Situation

Indonesia bans arrivals from 8 African countries to curb Omicron variant | Reuters Indonesia Passes 200 Million COVID Vaccine Doses | The Jakarta Globe Can Indonesia sustain its COVID-19 recovery targets? - Gerardus Yosari | East Asia Forum Indonesia Is Reopening, But Bali's Tourists Haven't Returned - Dave Smith | The Diplomat Concerns Rise Over Indonesia's Sputtering Virus Vaccinations - David Rising and Edna Tarigan | The Diplomat COVID-19 Country Tracker: Indonesia | WHO



Infrastructure Development

Laos hopes for economic boost from Chinese-built railway | Bangkok Post/AFP Laos banks on new high-speed railway to draw tourists and investment - Tan Hui Yee | The Straits Times Laos. China to foster development alongside railway | The Phnom Penh Post/Vientiane Times As first Chinese high-speed train reaches Laos, villagers demand overdue compensation | Radio Free Asia

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Laos On Alert for Omicron Covid-19 Variant - Latsamy Phonevilay | The Laotian Times Plans to open Laos draw mixed reactions | Radio Free Asia New COVID cases hit another high at 1,510 in Laos | The Star/Vientiane Times COVID-19 vaccination coverage reaches over 50% in Laos | The Star/Xinhua A New Hope for Children in Laos with the Reopening of Schools | The Laotian Times **COVID-19 Country Tracker: Laos | WHO**



Politics

Malaysia PM's coalition wins crucial state vote ahead of national polls – Rozanna Latiff | Reuters

BN crushes Anwar's coalition for major win in Melaka polls – Nadirah H. Rodzi | The Straits Times

Malaysia: Is Barisan Nasional Growing in Strength? - Alifah Zainuddin | The Diplomat

Anwar plays down calls for his resignation after loss in Melaka polls | The Straits Times

<u>In Malaysia, Najib Razak's comeback hopes gain steam as rivals falter in Malacca state polls</u> – Hadi Azmi | South China Morning Post

What the Melaka state election result augurs for Malaysia's political coalitions - Vincent Tan | CNA

COVID-19 Situation

95.9 per cent of adult population in Malaysia fully vaccinated | New Straits Times/Bernama

COVID-19: Malaysia extends booster shots to those aged 18 and above |Today Online

Malaysia health experts warn of possible fourth COVID-19 wave after Melaka elections | The Straits Times/The Star

Malaysia's Migrant Labour Dilemma – M. Niaz Asadullah | The ASEAN Post

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Myanmar

Political Situation/Coup

Myanmar's junta kills off all economic hope - Bertil Lintner | Asia Times

Chinese envoy visits Myanmar, urges junta officials to implement peace plan | South China Morning Post

Nippon Foundation chairman Sasakawa visits Myanmar | Nikkei Asia

Former US Diplomat Bill Richardson Meets With Myanmar Junta Leader | VOA/AP

Danny Fenster: US journalist freed from Myanmar jail | BBC

<u>In Post-Coup Myanmar, Women Face Systemic Campaigns of Terror and Assault</u> – Maggi Quadrini | The Diplomat

COVID-19 Situation

Myanmar junta claims more than 11 million fully vaccinated against COVID-19 | Mizzima Myanmar says COVID-19 and internal conflict on the wane, looks to reopen borders – Kang Wang Chern | The Straits Times

Myanmar is planning to reopen to tourism in early 2022. But who will go? - Lilit Marcusl CNN

Myanmar's Missing Millions – Anrike Visser | The Diplomat

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Philippines

Philippine Election 2022

Philippines President Duterte to run for Senate in 2022 vote | Al Jazeera

Sara Duterte: Daughter of Philippines leader runs for vice-president | BBC

Marcos Jr's presidential bid stirs painful memories in Philippines – John Reed | Financial Times

Marcos-Duterte 'Uniteam' seals 2022 alliance - Bea Cupin | Rappler

Political clans form coalition to support Bongbong-Sara tandem – Save Gregorio | Phil Star

Could the colour pink swing the Philippine presidential election for Leni Robredo? – Alan Robles | South

China Morning Post

South China Sea

Philippines tells China to 'back off' after South China Sea clash | Al Jazeera

Philippines says China is 'the trespasser' as it refuses to move ship from disputed South China Sea shoal – Raissa Robles | South China Morning Post

Philippines' Duterte condemns South China Sea flare-up – Bangkok Post/AFP

EU sides with Philippines over South China Sea water cannon incident - Kinling Lo | South China Morning Post

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Philippines suspends flights from countries with new Covid-19 variant | The Straits Times/AFP

PH administers 76.5M doses; 33.8M fully vaxxed - Lade Jean Kabagani | Philippine News Agency

Philippines reopens to vaccinated tourists next week | France24/AFP

Face shield use now optional in public transpo in low-risk areas | CNN Philippines

Face shield farce – Editorial | Inquirer

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Singapore

Politics

4G team needs a 'little longer' to decide who should be next Prime Minister, says PM Lee - Chew Hui Min | CNA

<u>Each PM frontrunner has been handling matters outside their portfolios, as if preparing for the top job</u> – Sulaiman Daud | Mothership

How to deal with differences in identity politics – Chua Mui Hoong | The Straits Times

Lawrence Wong outlines five strategies to prevent tribalism, identity politics taking root in Singapore -

Linette Lai | The Straits Times

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Singapore tracking Omicron COVID-19 variant closely, may be forced to take steps back: PM Lee</u> – Hariz Baharudin | The Straits Times

<u>Singapore health minister says return to strict COVID-19 curbs a last resort</u> – Aradhana Aravindan | Reuters <u>People 'unvaccinated by choice' no longer can receive free COVID-19 treatment</u> – Miriam Berger | The Washington Post

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Thailand

Politics

Thailand's two-ballot electoral system comes into force | Thai PBS

Thai politics needs a middle pathway - Chairith Yonpiam | Bangkok Post

Protests loom in Thailand after court ruling fuels anger - Caleb Quinley | Al Jazeera

House 'won't be dissolved' - Mongkol Bangprapa and Aekarach Sattaburuth | Bangkok Post

Prayut 'not about to quit' - Wassana Nanuam | Bangkok Post

PM orders Amnesty law breach probe | Bangkok Post

Royalists seek to expel Amnesty Thailand | Bangkok Post

Frenchman faces deportation for Facebook posts - Wassayos Ngamkham Bangkok Post

Pheu Thai 'not against \$112' - Aekarach Sattaburuth | Bangkok Post

UN condemns Thailand for deporting third Cambodian refugee - Bangkok Post/AFP

UN review shows human rights flaws – Vitit Muntarbhorn | Bangkok Post

Thailand defends its strict royal insults law at U.N. rights review – Patpicha Tanakasempipat

Thailand can't have it both ways abroad - Thitinan Pongsudhirak | Bangkok Post

APEC 2022: Time and Momentum Are Not On Thailand's Side – Tita Sanglee | The Diplomat

COVID-19 Situation

Thailand bans entry from 8 African countries over COVID Omicron variant | Reuters

Thailand ends quarantine for vaccinated visitors from China, US, Singapore, others | South China Morning Post

In Thailand, tourism recovers at snail's pace | Al Jazeera

PM backs new vaccine drive | Bangkok Post

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Timor-Leste

Oil and Gas Revenues

<u>Timor-Leste Is Facing a Make-or-Break Moment</u> – Avelino Dos Santos Da Costa | The Diplomat <u>Is Santos and Eni's CCS plan in the Timor Sea 'carbon colonialism'?</u> – Damon Evans | Energy Voice

COVID-19 Situation

Socio-Economic Impact Assessment to contribute to the COVID-19 response and recovery |UN and Government of Timor-Leste

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Vietnam

Human Rights and Human Trafficking

<u>Vietnam PM vows to improve human rights to attract investors</u> – Akane Okutsu | Nikkei Asia <u>Wife of detained Vietnam journalist appeals for international help</u> – Truong Son | Radio Free Asia <u>Jailed Vietnamese blogger tells family he's in danger before call is cut off</u> | Radio Free Asia <u>CPJ condemns harsh prison sentences handed to 5 journalists in Vietnam</u> | CPJ <u>'Cheated, sold and bought': UN urges Vietnam, Saudis to stop trafficking of workers</u> – Gwen Ha | Radio Free Asia

Modern-day slavery: Vietnamese women domestic workers in Saudi Arabia - Angie Ngoc Tran | New Mandala

COVID-19 Situation

<u>Vietnam must produce own COVID vaccines, drugs: PM</u> – Viet Tuan | VN Express

<u>Vietnam to have enough COVID-19 vaccines for population by end-Nov – minister</u> | Reuters

<u>Vietnam expects to fully vaccinate all adults by year's end</u> – Bangkok Post/Bloomberg

<u>Vietnam to resume flights from China, Hong Kong, Singapore and 13 other places from December</u> | South China Morning Post

Foreign tourists return to Vietnam | Bangkok Post COVID-19 Country Tracker: Vietnam | WHO