

# **ASEAN Region – Press Review February 2023**

Contact: info@th.boell.org



# **ASEAN**

# **ASEAN and Geopolitics**

What ASEAN can do amid geopolitical, trade tensions – Willard Cheng | ABS-CBN

Asia's Third Way: How ASEAN Survives—and Thrives—Amid Great-Power Competition – Kishore Mahbubani | Foreign Affairs

China, ASEAN to intensify negotiations on South China Sea code - Stanley Widianto & Ananda Teresia I Reuters

Code of Conduct, at least | The Jakarta Post

As US military 'encircles' China, does Asean 'quietly welcome' it? - Dewey Sim | SCMP

Indonesia warns of 'open conflict' in Indo-Pacific - Yvette Tanamal | ANN/The Jakarta Post

Is ASEAN Centrality on Life Support? - Zack Cooper | Fulcrum

Asean must seize the moment for regional security and prosperity – Alex Lo | SCMP

The critical role Asean and EU play in restoring biodiversity – Shawn Lum and Vinayagan Dharmarajah | The Straits Times

# **ASEAN and Myanmar**

Asean and Myanmar: The next moves – Kavi Chongkittavorn | Bangkok Post

ASEAN Urges Myanmar Junta to Implement Peace Plan | The Irrawaddy/AFP

Indonesia Takes the Lead on Myanmar: The Clock is Ticking - Sharon Seah & Moe Thuzar | Fulcrum

ASEAN in talks with junta, factions over solutions to Myanmar crisis – Christine Tjandraningsih & Puy Kea | Kyodo News

Reflections on ASEAN's Special Envoys' Efforts in Myanmar – Kasit Piromya | Fulcrum

On Myanmar, the World Needs to Save ASEAN From Itself - David Hutt | The Diplomat

ASEAN urged to end 'security cooperation' with Myanmar junta - Riyaz ul Khaliq | AA



#### **Politics**

Nations need to prepare for known and unknown challenges – Azlan Othman I Borneo Bulletin Brunei's 2022 inflation rate surges to 3.7 per cent; only 1.7 per cent in 2021 | The Star/Borneo Bulletin Brunei Sultan seeks truth amid alleged corruption, favouritism at telecoms, internet service provider | The Star/Borneo Bulletin

Brunei sultan calls for development of human resources | The Star/Borneo Bulletin



# Cambodia

#### **Politics**

Cambodia's Hun Sen shuts down independent media outlet Voice of Democracy | BBC

Cambodia's Leader Shuts Independent News Outlet Ahead of Election - Seth Mydans | The New York Times

Cambodia placed on watchlist of 'repressive' states: CIVICUS | Al Jazeera

Avoid repeating mistakes of the past: Hun Sen to foreign powers - Ry Sochan | The Phnom Penh Post

Hun Manet: Cambodia's rising son – Charles Dunst | East Asia Forum

Kem Sokha: Rights groups condemn Cambodia opposition leader's 27-year sentence | BBC

In Cambodia, a Battered Mekong Defies Doomsday Predictions – Stefan Lovgren | Yale Environment 360



# Indonesia

## Politics & Elections 2024

Political dynasties in Indonesia: Familiar last name may hold sway in upcoming elections – Kiki Siregar | CNA Indonesian Judicial Body to Review Controversial Election Ruling - Sebastian Strangio | The Diplomat

With hard work, Gerindra could win 2024 election: Jokowi | The Jakarta Post

Former Jakarta governor a potential presidential favourite | Bangkok Post/Bloomberg & Reuters

Prabowo respects NasDem's decision to nominate Anies | The Jakarta Post

Indonesia pre-election jostling threatens Jokowi's economic agenda – Erwida Maulia | Nikkei Asia

Identity politics is us. Ummah Party leader says | The Jakarta Post

Indonesia Confronts the Past, While Sidestepping the Present - Rory James | The Diplomat

Former Indonesian police general gets death for killing subordinate - Erwida Maulia | Nikkei Asia

Jokowi seeks support from China for Indonesia's new capital - Nana Shibata & Ismi Damayanti | Nikkei Asia



#### **Politics**

Challenging times ahead for Laos's new prime minister – Toshiro Nishizawa | East Asia Forum

Tourists crowd onto Laos-China high speed railway | RFA

Laos actively preparing for return of Chinese tourists | China Daily/Xinhua

Inflation tops 40% in Laos, squeezing state employees | RFA

Inflation in Laos Continues to Rise, Reaches 23-Year High - Sebastian Strangio I The Diplomat

Laos govt taking measures to stabilise currency exchange rates and inflation in order to revive struggling economy | The Star/Xinhua

Southeast Asia's largest wind power plant to be built in Laos | Xinhua



# Malaysia

## **Politics**

Malaysia's Anwar Unveils First Budget, Aiming to Aid Poor – Sebastian Strangio | The Diplomat Anwar Ibrahim's first 100 days in office - Tricia Yeoh | Friedrich Naumann Foundation For Freedom Anwar Ibrahim's first 100 days: the hits, misses and roadblocks ahead for Malaysia's PM – Joseph Sipalan | **SCMP** 

Malaysia's corruption perception rating stagnates in 2022 with many accused politicians still in power – Amy Sood | SCMP

Malaysia's 4-year political turmoil could have been avoided if politicians set aside differences: King – Amir Yusof I CNA

The state of ethnic democracy in Malaysia – M. Mahalingam | The Hindu

Malaysia follows Indonesia on the road from authoritarian hegemony – Dan Slater | East Asia Forum



# Myanmar

## Political Situation/Coup

Myanmar Supreme Court rejects Aung San Suu Kyi's appeal on corruption charges | RFA

Myanmar's junta denies ousted leaders access to legal representation | RFA

Myanmar's iron-fisted ruler Min Aung Hlaing fights to stay on his throne - Dominic Faulder | Nikkei Asia

It's Time for the Leadership of Myanmar's NUG to Step Up - Luke Hunt | The Diplomat

How Myanmar's Military Hangs On to Power Despite Sanctions | Bloomberg

The civil war in Myanmar: No end in sight – Yun Sun | Brookings

From Hope to Despair in Myanmar – Zachary Abusa | The Diplomat

UN: Myanmar junta 'at war with country's own people' | Bangkok Post/AFP

# **Myanmar Election**

Will the Myanmar Junta Hold National Elections in the Near Future? – Kawsar Mahmud | The Geopolitics

Myanmar junta makes plans for elections | Mizzima

Myanmar election ploy threatens to split ASEAN and West - David Hutt | Asia Times

Four Myanmar Parties Register for Junta Election | The Irrawaddy

13 Crony Parties Keen to Contest Myanmar Junta's Proposed Election | The Irrawaddy



# **Philippines**

#### **Politics**

President Marcos says Philippines 'will not lose an inch' of territory | Reuters

Australia, Philippines discuss joint patrols in South China Sea | Nikkei Asia/Reuters

Philippines ratifies RCEP trade deal after shift by Marcos - Cliff Venzon | Nikkei Asia

Philippines Marks People Power Revolt For First Time Under Marcos Jr. – Sebastian Strangio | The Diplomat

Philippines People Power: Who survives Bongbong Marcos' rewrite of history? - Joel Guinto | BBC

Philippine inflation hit 14-year high of 8.7% in January – Cliff Venzon | Nikkei Asia

Lessons from Maria Ressa on how to stand up to a dictator | ABC



# **Singapore**

## **Politics**

Singapore PM Lee's Estranged Brother Weighs Presidential Run | Bloomberg

Singapore PM's brother says govt persecuting his family – David Rising | AP

Prospects for Expanded Democracy in a Post-Lee Singapore – Hisasue Ryoichi | Nippon

<u>Vivian outlines S'pore's 2023 foreign policy priorities amid 'perfect storm' of multiple crises</u> – Ng Wei Kai | the Straits Times

<u>Singaporeans pay much less in taxes compared to citizens elsewhere: Lawrence Wong</u> – Ang Hwee Min | CNA



# Thailand

## Politics and Election 2023

<u>Thailand's Prayut Says Parliament Will Be Dissolved in Early March</u> – Sebastian Strangio | The Diplomat <u>Party Policies, Factional Politics, and the 2023 Election in Thailand</u> – Punchada Sirvunnabood | The Diplomat <u>Political prospects may get harder to read | Thailand</u>

Daughter of Thaksin banking on nostalgia to win Thailand election – Juarawee Kittisilpa | Reuters

In Thailand, Shinawatra legacy endures in family-linked party as election looms – Tan Tam Mei | The Straits

Gen Prayut, Comeback Man? – Nattaya Chetchotiros | Bangkok Post

MFP 'ready to work with Pheu Thai' - Chakrapan Natanri | Bangkok Post

Thai Hunger Strikers Are at Risk of Dying | The New York Times

Hunger strikers back in hospital | Bangkok Post



# Timor-Leste

## **Politics**

<u>Gusmão, Alkatiri and Greater Sunrise: Timor-Leste calls parliamentary election</u> – Parker Novak | The Interpreter

Jokowi welcomes Timor-Leste's membership of ASEAN | The Jakarta Post

Why is Timor-Leste Important for ASEAN? – João da Cruz Cardoso | Fulcrum

Timor Leste Makes its ASEAN Meeting Debut – Jayanty Shofa | Jakarta Globe

Timor-Leste's Digital Generation: Waiting for a Signal – Heidi Arbuckle | The Asia Foundation

<u>Making sure disaster responses meet women's rights in Timor-Leste</u> – Kanami Chiba | UN Women Indonesia, Timor Leste to Speed Up Land Border Settlement – Jayanty Shofa | Jakarta Globe



# **Vietnam**

## **Politics**

Vietnam parliament elects new president Vo Van Thuong | Al Jazeera
Vietnam names new president as corruption crackdown shakes up top leadership | CNN/Reuters
Vietnamese Skeptical of Government's Crackdown on Scandals | VOA
Former president's speech vanishes from Vietnam news sites | RFA
Vietnam's energy plan delayed for 2 years, risking blackouts - Tomoya Onishi | Nikkei Asia
As Vietnam exports slow, survey shows consumer gloom on the rise - Lien Hoang | Nikkei Asia

Civil societies call on European Parliament to pressure Vietnam on human rights | RFA