

ASEAN Region – Press Review April 2023

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ASEAN

ASEAN and Geopolitics

China ready to speed up talks with Asean over South China Sea | The Straits Times

How demilitarisation can ensure peace and stability in the South China Sea - Riaz Khokhar | SCMP

Malaysian premier calls for dialogue to end dispute over South China Sea | Anadolu Agency

South China Sea: Beijing pushes for code of conduct talks, pledges deeper Malaysia, Asean ties - Hayley Wong I SCMP

South China Sea: Asean needs to compromise with China to settle protracted code of conduct dispute -Mark J. Valencia | SCMP

ASEAN-China way forward on energy transition | The Phnom Penh Post

Renewable Energy Investment in ASEAN: Unfolding Trajectories and Challenges - Kaho Yu | Fulcrum

The Geopolitics of Energy Transition in ASEAN – Mirza Huda | Fulcrum

Is ASEAN Prepared for Future Pandemics? - Bony Wiem Lestari, Aly Diana, Adriana Viola Miranda, and Fadilah Fitri Arsy | Fulcrum

ASEAN and Myanmar

The Diminishing Role of ASEAN in the Myanmar Crisis – Gwen Robinson | Fulcrum

ASEAN 'strongly condemns' deadly Myanmar air attack | Al Jazeera

[Video] Little sign of progress as ASEAN marks second anniversary of agreed Myanmar peace plan | CNA

Myanmar tests Indonesia's resolve as ASEAN fissures deepen - Gwen Robinson | Nikkei Asia

Time Is Running out for Indonesia to Turn the Tide on Myanmar - David Hutt | The Diplomat

NUG Warns ASEAN Not to Negotiate with Myanmar Junta – Luke Hunt | The Diplomat

Proposed Inclusive Humanitarian Forum for Myanmar Should Not Include ASEAN - Paul Greening | The

Irrawaddy



Politics

Saudi crown prince receives the Sultan of Brunei | Arab News

Turkiye Won't Forget Brunei's Solidarity During Times Of Hardship – Erdogan | MENAFN

Expressions of Religiosity on Social Media among Muslim Youths in Brunei - Siti Mazidah Mohamad | ISEAS

Yusof Ishak Institute

Awg Tengah: S'wak ready to assist Brunei with move towards renewable energy | The Borneo Post



Cambodia

Politics

Hun Sen's eldest son tops Cambodian ruling party's candidate list ahead of July vote | RFA

Hun Sen's son to stand in July election | Bangkok Post/Kyodo News

Hun Sen Is Tightening His Grip Ahead of Cambodia's Elections - Ben Lawrence | WPR

Cambodia's Deja Vu Politics Reflect the Limits of Western Power - Chhengpor Aun | The Diplomat

Cambodia and the rise of a small power – Kavi Chongkittavorn | Bangkok Post

Top opposition party youth leader switches allegiance to Hun Sen's ruling party | RFA

Cambodian court orders arrest of opposition party officials | RFA

Indonesia

Politics & Elections 2024

Megawati names Ganjar Pranowo from PDI-P as Presidential Candidate | Bernama

PDI-P backs Central Java Governor Ganjar for 2024 presidency | The Jakarta Post

Ganjar: 'I hereby accept the mandate of continuing the struggle' | The Jakarta Post

Hot and heavy politicking in pre-election Indonesia – John McBeth | Asia Times

Prabowo Doesn't Aim for Second Prize, for Now – Yustinus Paat | Jakarta Globe

Fadli Zon: We want Prabowo to be Presidential Candidate – Mahinda Arkyasa | Tempo

Mahfud is favorite running mate for Ganjar, Prabowo and Anies | The Jakarta Post

The race to be Indonesia's new boss - Prabowo visits Jokowi during Aidilfitri, downplays possible pairing with Ganjar | The Star

Indonesia court overturns order to delay 2024 elections – Stanley Widianto | Reuters

Indonesia's 2024 presidential election may boil down to a fight between VP candidates: Analysts – Wahyudi

Soeriaatmadja | The Straits Times



Laos

Politics & Environment

It's not slowing down as Laos records 40.8 per cent inflation rate in first guarter of 2023 | The Star/Laotian Times

Laos-Vietnam railway construction could begin by year end: developer | The Star/Vientiane Times Laos welcomes first Chinese tourists arriving on cross-border train | The Star/Vientiane Times

Southeast Asia's 'battery' Laos embraces wind power to sustain energy exports - Inoue & Onishi | Nikkei Asia

Dirty air in Laos, Thailand casts pall over health, tourism - Kosuke Inoue | Nikkei Asia

Culprits behind dense smog in northern Thailand, Laos: corn and wildfires - Subei Bhandari | RFA

Laos government seeks solutions to forest fires, air pollution at top Cabinet meeting | The Star/Laotian Times



Malaysia

Politics

Malaysia's Anwar has to navigate dangerous undercurrents ahead of state polls - Khairy Jamaluddin | SCMP

Anwar Ibrahim, Prisoner of Political Allegiances – Sophie Lemière | The Diplomat

Malaysia's Anwar Feared to be Losing Power to UMNO – John Berthelsen | Asia Sentinel

Umno at the mercy of others in govt, says Tok Mat – Azzman Adul Jamal | Malaysia Now

Stability of Malaysian PM Anwar's unity government at stake amid spat over Najib Razak release - Melissa Goh & Fabian Koh | CNA

China at the heated center of Malaysia's new politics – Richard Heydarian | Asia Times

Umno raises doubt over judiciary in renewed push to seek pardon for ex-Malaysian PM Najib – Shannon Teoh I The Straits Times

Malaysia's jailed ex-leader Najib Razak is seeking a royal pardon. What happens next? - Joseph Sipalan |

Malaysian PM Anwar part of panel to decide Najib's fate as Umno seeks royal pardon | SCMP/The Star



Myanmar

Political Situation/Coup and Election

Myanmar Supreme Court agrees to hear some Aung San Suu Kyi appeals | CNA

Potential Suu Kyi Supreme Court Appeals Just for Show, Analysts Say – Liam Scott | VOA

Myanmar: What's next for Aung San Suu Kyi's NLD party? -Tommy Walker | DW

Screaming people and bodies everywhere: The horrific aftermath of Myanmar junta airstrike that killed 165 –

Regan, Dishu, TZ, and Coren | CNN

'How many more children have to die?' Myanmar airstrike survivors ask what will it take for the world to act Regan, Dishu, TZ, and Su Chay | CNN

Former UN chief says Myanmar army must take first step to end violence | Reuters Myanmar guerillas assassinate top election official and former lieutenant colonel | ABC Around 50 Myanmar Junta Forces Killed in Three Days of Resistance Attacks | The Irrawaddy



Philippines

Politics

<u>From Duterte's "Pivot to China" to Marcos Jr.'s "Rebalance to the U.S."?</u> – Aaron Rabena | Fulcrum <u>Philippines' Marcos may discuss Taiwan in U.S but trade tops agenda – envoy</u> – Poppy Mcpherson & Karen Lema | Reuters

<u>Palace bares new appointees, promotions under Marcos administration</u> – Daphne Galvez | Inquirer Marcos appoints Benjamin Acorda Jr. as new PNP chief | ABS-CBN

Marcos Jr's delicate balancing act between China and the United States – Jenny Balboa | East Asia Forum

<u>President Marcos counting remaining days in his presidency</u> – Alexis Romero | PhilStar Sara Duterte is top-approved, most trusted gov't official – Pulse poll – Bea Cupin | Rappler

Politics, power and private armed groups in the Philippines – Vincent Parada | East Asia Forum

Philippine provincial governor's killing spotlights deadly rivalry among political elite - Raissa Robles | SCMP



Singapore

Politics & Death Penalty

<u>Is Singapore heading to the polls this year, as 'electoral drums start beating'?</u> – Kimberly Lim | SCMP <u>'Is 2023 a GE year?' — Recent speeches by PM Lee & Lawrence Wong give rise to speculation</u> – Anna Romero | The Independent

Opposition has a role to play in Singapore's maturing democracy, DPM Wong says to Pritam Singh – Tang See Kit & Vanessa Lim | CNA

No place for populism, political opportunism in S'pore: DPM Wong – Jean Lau | The Straits Times
Singapore's next leader Lawrence Wong fires fresh salvo at opposition and 'populist ideas' – Kimberly Lim |
SCMP

'Have the courage to change where change is needed': DPM Wong outlines 5 key shifts for Singapore – Goh Yan Han | The Straits Times

<u>Tangaraju Suppiah: Singapore executes man for supplying cannabis</u> – Kelly Ng & Frances Mao | BBC <u>Singapore executes man over plot to smuggle 1kg of cannabis</u> – Rebecca Ratcliffe | The Guardian



Thailand

Politics and Election 2023

The fault line that polarises Thai politics - Thitinan Pongsudhirak | Bangkok Post

<u>Thailand's General Election: Can the Winner Really Take All?</u> – Punchada Sirvunnabood | The Diplomat <u>Thai general election: A look at the candidates vying to be the country's next PM</u> – Pichayada Promchertchoo | CNA

<u>Thai opposition maintains lead in election race, latest polls find</u> – Francesca Regalado | Nikkei Asia <u>Thai Party Chasing Election Landslide Keeps Door Open for Tie-Up With Like-Minded Groups</u> – Patpicha Tanakasempipat | Yahoo/Bloomberg

<u>How Thailand's Deputy PM Could Score the Top Job—and Redefine the Country's Politics</u> – Charlie Campbell | TIME

Thai property tycoon Srettha eyes promotion to prime minister – Francesca Regalado | Nikkei Asia

Facing election rout, Thai ruling party pledges eye-popping cash transfer to farmers | The Straits Times

Can Thailand's Democrat Party survive upcoming election? – Toru Takahashi | Nikkei Asia

Thailand opposition leader says unity needed to beat military – Juarawee Kittisilpa & Devjyot Ghoshal | Reuters

Thailand's largest opposition faces dissolution fears after election – Marwaan Macan-Markar | Nikkei Asia

Who is Paetongtarn Shinawatra? The political scion aiming to become Thailand PM – Rebecca Ratcliffe & Navaon Siradapuvadol I The Guardian

<u>A coup ousted her father. Now she's taking on the military in Thailand's election</u> – Heather Chen & Kocha Olarn | CNN

Bangkok has most people registered for advance voting | Bangkok Post

Air Pollution/Haze

<u>Thailand's air pollution crisis deepens amid seasonal crop burning</u> – Dominic Faulder | Nikkei Asia It's so hazy - Every breath a struggle, as air pollution harms health in Thailand | The Star/AFP

Pollution choking Thailand's north hits tourism, worries public | Reuters

How Chiang Mai became the world's most polluted city - Dominik Sipinski | Al Jazeera

Land of Smiles? Grimaces, more like: how Thailand's air pollution threatens the health of residents and its tourism industry – Mark Footer | SCMP

Pollution chokes Thailand, Myanmar, Laos as leaders meet to boost air quality | EFE



Timor-Leste

Politics/Parliamentary Election and ASEAN Membership

<u>Timor-Leste's once-in-a-generation election</u> – Michael Leach | Inside Story

Rallies, flags and motorbikes: it's election time in Timor-Leste – Parker Novak | The Interpreter

Timor-Leste drives WTO membership bid into final stages | WTO

Comprehending Timor-Leste's Delayed Accession to ASEAN - Mada Sidiq | The Diplomat



Vietnam

Politics

<u>U.S.-Vietnam Relations: Ready for a Strategic Partnership Upgrade?</u> – Nguyen Khac Giang | Fulcrum <u>Is a US-Vietnam Strategic Partnership Likely to Happen Soon?</u> – Huynh Tam Sang & Vo Thi Thuy An | The Diplomat

Vietnam strikes balance between U.S., China via phone diplomacy – Yuji Nitta | Nikkei Asia

Savvy Vietnam in a New Cold War sweet spot – Richard Heydarian | Asia Times

Vietnam's 'bamboo' foreign policy clout – Kavi Chongkittavorn | Bangkok Post

Vietnam: Four Climate Activists Are Political Prisoners, Report Says – Tommy Walker | VOA

Vietnam accused of abducting blogger from Thailand | Bangkok Post/AFP

Vietnamese authorities summon human rights lawyers again | RFA