

ASEAN Region – Press Review June 2023

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ASEAN and Geopolitics

Why ASEAN is key to building order in the Indo-Pacific region – Kei Koga | The Japan Times Indonesia to host high-level ASEAN Indo-Pacific Forum | Thai PBS

ASEAN planning first joint military drill amid 'regional tensions with China' | India Times Indonesia moves site of ASEAN military drills away from South China Sea | Reuters

ASEAN seeks to demonstrate 'unity' in South China Sea drills - Nana Shibata | Nikkei Asia

QUAD and ASEAN - Gurjit Singh | ORF

The Quad and ASEAN — where to next? - Sarah Teo | East Asia Forum

ASEAN in 2023: What to Expect – Audrey Tey | Foreign Policy Research Institute

ASEAN and Myanmar

ASEAN must hold Myanmar junta accountable, UN expert says - Stanley Widianto | Reuters Escalating violence in Myanmar displaces 1.5 million: Urgent action needed – Khalid Malik | Malaysia Sun Myanmar Military Has No Plan to End Conflict, Experts Say – Tommy Walker | VOA Heyzer's Exit Marks a Low Point for the UN's Envoys to Myanmar - Mark Cogan | The Diplomat Thailand seeking to re-engage Myanmar junta with ASEAN meeting – Wongcha-um, Mcpherson, and Teresia | Reuters

Thailand Under Fire For Brokering 'Informal' Meeting on Myanmar - Sebastian Strangio | The Diplomat Asean centrality in spotlight as Thailand's Myanmar talks expose divisions in regional bloc – Joseph Sipalan | **SCMP**



Politics

His Majesty concludes state visit to Australia | Borneo Bulletin

The leaders of Australia and Brunei met in Canberra to discuss their cooperation on maritime security and other issues | ABC News

Brunei, Australia ink comprehensive partnership as Canberra courts Southeast Asia – Ain Bandial | The Scoop Brunei in lockstep with ASEAN digital transformation – Azlan Othman | Borneo Bulletin



Cambodia

Politics & July 2023 Election

Hun Sen orders election law change six weeks ahead of national vote | RFA

Ahead of election, Cambodia amends law to bar non-voters from contesting in future | Reuters

Cambodia threatens fines, prison for those urging election boycott | RFA

Cambodia's elections won't be free or fair. Here's how to respond. | The Washington Post

Cambodia Continues Toward Complete Authoritarianism as Southeast Asia Shrugs – Joshua Kurlantzick | **CFR**

Hun Sen's Eldest Son Emerges as Likely Successor in Cambodia - Ten, Kann, & Thida | VOA

Win-Win Policy unites Cambodians, says Gen Hun Manet - Van Roeun | Khmer Times

Smooth flow: Gen Hun Manet outlines strategies for CPP power transitions – Ben Sokhean | Khmer Times

Media acts as society's mirror and democracy's pillar: Cambodia politician - Sok Raksa | The Phnom Penh Post/ANN



Indonesia

Politics & Elections 2024

Indonesia election: court rejects challenge to change electoral system that could be 'setback to democracy' – Aisyah Llewellyn | SCMP

<u>Indonesia election: a rift appears between Jokowi and Megawati in the battle of the kingmakers</u> – Burhanuddin Muhtadi | SCMP

<u>Jokowi leaning towards endorsing populist party chairman for Indonesia president: Analysts</u> | The Straits Times

Why Prabowo Subianto is winning over young Indonesian voters in a three-way race – Erin Cook | The Interpreter

<u>Prabowo's Shifting Strategy on Indonesian Muslim Voters</u> – Syafiq Hasyim | Fulcrum

Megawati making moves to tilt Indonesia's election – John McBeth | Asia Times

Race to succeed Jokowi will lie in who presidential candidates pick as number two – Samir Puri | CNA Jokowi flexes political muscle to seal legacy as Indonesia's election race heats up – Arlina Arshad | The Straits Times



Laos

Politics & Economy

Lao government pledges to solve economic difficulties | VNA

Laos' tourism-driven economic recovery hinges on China – Kenya Akama | Nikkei Asia

Laos promotes digital economy development | VNA

Anti-graft training in Vientiane is latest effort to counter Laos corruption | RFA

<u>Vanished, shot, murdered: Laos activists spooked by spate of incidents</u> – Rose Troup Buchanan | The Japan Times



Malaysia

Politics

<u>Commentary: Gloves come off in spat between Malaysia PM Anwar and Mahathir Mohamad</u> – Leslie Lopez | CNA

<u>Malaysian government will 'defend' royals against insults, PM Anwar says ahead of state polls</u> – Joseph Sipalan | SCMP

Malaysia gears up for state polls in first real test for Anwar Ibrahim's unity government – Joseph Sipalan | SCMP

<u>Former Malaysian PM Mahathir claims he is 'too old' and 'senile' to contest in upcoming state polls</u> | The Straits Times

Malaysia will 'not survive' if it does not change: Anwar Ibrahim – Aun Qi Koh & Chan Tau Chou | Al Jazeera In Malaysia, Umno's calls to free Najib risk fracturing Anwar's unity government as first election test looms – Joseph Sipalan | SCMP

Malaysia's Democracy in the Shadow of Hegemonic Rule - Kai Ostwald | Fulcrum

Malaysian ringgit wobbles in face of political uncertainty, China woes - Amy Chew | Nikkei Asia

Malaysia cannot pretend anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination does not exist – Benjamin Loh & Lyana Khairuddin |

Nikkei Asia



Myanmar

Political Situation/Coup

World must rethink fundamental approach to Myanmar: UN expert | Al Jazeera This Civilian Resistance Needs the West's Help, Not Its Silence - Ruth Pollard | Bloomberg What's next for sanctions on Myanmar? - Susannah Patton | East Asia Forum <u>Myanmar's crisis will 'permanently' scar economy, World Bank warns</u> – Thompson Chau & Gwen Robinson | Nikkei Asia

<u>In Myanmar, Birthday Wishes for Aung San Suu Kyi Lead to a Wave of Arrests</u> – Richard C. Paddock | The New York Times

Myanmar Military-Linked Group Closes Companies Amid Sanctions, Owner's Thailand Arrest | The Irrawaddy Myanmar Junta Outposts Fall to Karenni Resistance in Kayah State | The Irrawaddy

Pro-government ethnic militias in east Myanmar shift loyalty to join fighters against military rule – Grant Peck

In the targets of the junta: life and war inside rebel-held Myanmar – Lorcan Lovett | The Guardian Myanmar Insein: A rare glimpse inside a barbaric prison – Jonathan Head | BBC



Philippines

Politics

Nearly a Year into Office, Marcos Gets Mixed Analyst Reviews - Dave Grunebaum | VOA

A year into Bongbong Marcos' rule: P20/kg rice becomes a conundrum - Kurt Dela Peña | Inquirer

<u>Duterte to Marcos: Keep up good work</u> – Alexis Romero | Phil Star

Marcos: Fake news has no place in modern society - Anna Bajo | GMA

Philippines' Marcos Jnr hails 'progress' on South China Sea fishing ban talks with Beijing | SCMP

Philippines Isn't Shifting Away From China, Marcos Says – Andreo Calonzo | Bloomberg

Bongbong Marcos to sign bill for Maharlika Investment Fund 'soon' - Jean Mangaluz | Inquirer

The billionaires advising Marcos how to run the economy - Ralf Rivas | Rappler

Martin-Sara Duterte rift: House leaders back Romualdez, decry 'political bickering' - Dwight De Leon | Rappler



Singapore

Politics

<u>Tharman to Run for Singapore President, Leave Government Posts</u> – Philip Heijmans | Bloomberg <u>Singaporeans Wanted Him to be Prime Minister. Now He's Running for President: What to Know</u> | TIME <u>President must be above the political fray: Tharman hopes to be unifying figure if elected</u> – Goh Yan Han & Natasha Zachariah | The Straits Times

<u>Singapore holds first LGBTQ rally since gay sex decriminalized</u> | The Japan Times Singapore teeters on edge of recession after industrial output nosedives | Bloomberg



Thailand

Politics and Election 2023

<u>Thailand's military machinations will define post-election political manoeuvring</u> – Paul Chambers I East Asia Forum

Thailand's Pita says he has 'enough support' from Senate to become PM | CNA

<u>Thailand Clears Poll Results, Paving Way for New Government</u> – Suttinee Yuvejwattana & Napat Kongsawad | Bloomberg

First Thai parliament meeting after May election set for July 3 | Reuters

King to open new parliamentary session on July 3 | Thai PBS

Thai Political Impasse Moves Closer to Climax | Asia Sentinel

Thai PM Frontrunner Pita Unfazed by Media Share Controversy – Patpicha Tanakasempipat | Bloomberg

A 'new generation' of women set to shake up politics in Thailand – Andrew Nachemson | Al Jazeera

Snares and Traps: Thai Politics After the May Election – Punchada Sirivunnabood | The Diplomat

<u>'Time of new hope': Optimism is high for Bangkok Pride after Thai elections</u> – Rebecca Ratcliffe & Navaon Siradapuvadol | The Guardian

<u>Thai PM frontrunner attends Pride parade, promising same-sex marriage, gender identity rights</u> – Jiraporn Kuhakan I Reuters

How the Marriage Equality Law will change Thailand | Thai PBS

Timor-Leste

Politics and ASEAN Membership

<u>Timor-Leste's democratic strength belies an uncertain economic future</u> – Damien Kingsbury | East Asia Forum <u>Xanana's road to integrate Timor-Leste into Asean will be bumpy</u> – Kornelius Purba | The Star <u>Timor-Leste given roadmap for Asean</u> – Phusadee Arunmas | Bangkok Post 'Timor Leste unlikely to gain full membership to ASEAN this year' – Ain Bandial | The Scoop

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Vietnam

Politics, Economy, and Human Rights

<u>Vietnam's political infighting has gone quiet but is far from over</u> – Zachary Abuza | Nikkei Asia <u>Vietnam must take 'aggressive' action to meet growth goals, says finance minister</u> – Orla Ryan | FT <u>Vietnam's PM Urges Focus on Growth With Inflation Under Control</u> – Nguyen Xuan Quynh | Bloomberg <u>Vietnam Delivers Another Rates Cut to Spur Faltering Economy</u> – Nguyen Dieu Tu Uyen and Nguyen Kieu Giang | Bloomberg

Vietnam and China agree to play nice over maritime disputes - for now - Alex Lo | SCMP

China offers closer military cooperation with Vietnam | Reuters

US, UN slam arrest of prominent Vietnamese environmental activist | Al Jazeera

<u>Vietnam to get billions for climate change while jailing environmentalists</u> – Rebecca Tan I Washington Post <u>Is Vietnam backtracking on its environmental promises?</u> | Deutsche Welle

<u>Vietnam: outcry after leading climate activist arrested, accused of tax evasion</u> – Chris Humphrey | The Guardian

<u>Vietnam's human rights record is being scrutinized ahead of \$15 billion climate deal</u> | NPR <u>Germany alarmed by detention of Vietnam climate activist, warns on coal phase-out pact with Hanoi</u> – Frank Jordans | AP