

ASEAN Region – Press Review September 2023

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ASEAN

ASEAN and Geopolitics

Indonesia's ASEAN Summit 2023: Some Key Takeaways - Noto Suoneto | The Geopolitics

Asean summit forges fresh strategies - Kavi Chongkittayorn | Bangkok Post

ASEAN Summit 2023: Shaping Southeast Asia's Future and Beyond – Khansa Dalilah | Modern Diplomacy

Southeast Asia nations hold first joint navy drills near disputed South China Sea | AP

Commentary: Will ASEAN's first joint military exercise prepare it for future crises? - Rahman Yaacob | CNA

ASEAN Remains Divided Over China's Assertiveness in South China Sea - Chetra Chap | VOA

Chinese Premier Seeks to Calm South China Sea Concerns - Sebastian Strangio | The Diplomat

South China Sea: Asean risks irrelevance from 'damaging' non-response to tensions - Maria Siow | SCMP

'Mapping' recent developments in South China Sea - Rahul Mishra and Neevia Kurup | Asia Times

With ASEAN Paralyzed, Southeast Asia Seeks New Security Ties – Derek Grossman | FP

AUKUS brings more than nuclear submarines to Southeast Asia – Abdul Rahman Yaacob | East Asia Forum Indonesia Passes ASEAN Chairmanship Baton to Laos | Jakarta Globe

ASEAN and Myanmar

ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision on The Implementation of The Five-Point Consensus | ASEAN ASEAN is 'at a loss for ideas' on how to address Myanmar crisis, says Indonesia's ex-foreign minister - Goh Chiew Tong | CNBC

ASEAN leaders meet at summit dominated by Myanmar crisis | The Japan Times

Malaysia calls for 'strong' measures on Myanmar as ASEAN meets | Al Jazeera

Myanmar rejects ASEAN statement condemning violence as 'one-sided' | Al Jazeera

ASEAN to engage Myanmar in 'troika' model to cool political unrest - Royandoyan, Tsubasa, and Damayanti | Nikkei Asia

Myanmar will not be allowed ASEAN leadership in 2026 | Al Jazeera

Conflict-riven Myanmar cedes upcoming ASEAN chair to Philippines – Kate Lamb and Stanley Widianto |

Reuters



🔐 Brunei

Politics

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His Majesty calls for teaching reforms at religious schools | Borneo Bulletin

Brunei calls for increased action against Islamophobia: Minister | Borneo Bulletin

Germany, Brunei foster strong bilateral relations | Borneo Bulletin



Cambodia

Politics

Hun Manet tells UN Cambodia's elections were fair | RFA

Cambodia's Hun Manet shares 'high-income' goal in diplomatic debut – Tsubasa Suruga | Nikkei Asia

Cambodian PM Hun Manet pledges stronger China ties in Beijing visit – Yuji Nitta & Yukio Tajima | Nikkei Asia

How did Hun Sen engineer a seamless succession in Cambodia? - Will Brehm | East Asia Forum

Cambodian opposition leader sentenced to 18 months in bad check case | RFA

Straight to work: Hun Manet and Srettha discuss priorities during first official meeting – Soth Koemsoeun |

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Indonesia

Politics and Elections 2024

Indonesian president's son named youth party chair | Reuters

<u>Jokowi's son Kaesang becomes youth party chief, laying groundwork for Indonesian political dynasty</u> – Arlina Arshad | The Straits Times

What It Means for Indonesia's Democracy That the President's Son Now Leads Another Party – Koh Ewe | TIME

<u>Analysts see Indonesian president's influence in son being named small party's leader</u> – Latif and Idrus | Benar News

<u>Indonesia election 2024: could rise of Jokowi's 'political clan' boost Prabowo Subianto's chances?</u> – Joseph Rachman | SCMP

<u>As Indonesian democracy matures, its politics feels like take your child to work day</u> – M. Taufiqurrahman | ANN/The Jakarta Post

Jokowi flexes political muscle to ensure future of clan | The Jakarta Post

What will Indonesia look like after Jokowi leaves? | The Economist

Prabowo leads race, but all candidates vying for university students: Survey | The Jakarta Post

Purnawirawan politics in Indonesia's 2024 elections – Priamarizki & Haripin | New Mandala



Laos

Economy & Politics

<u>Laos economy under distress as Lao kip drops to record low, breaches 20,000 to US dollar</u> | The Star/Vientiane Times

<u>Senior Lao economist outlines measures to address economic woes</u> | The Star/Vientiane Times
<u>Lao PM Siphandone confident Laos-China relationships will only get better despite mounting foreign debt</u> |
The Star/Laotian Times

<u>Laos debt at 'critical level' with China payments still opaque</u> – Alastair McCready | Nikkei Asia <u>Six Mekong-Lancang countries reach pact on more dam operations data sharing</u> | The Star/Laotian Times

Power agreement hastens timeline for Laos' Pak Beng Dam | RFA

'We are honoured' as Indonesia passes Asean chairmanship baton to Laos | The Star/Antara



Malaysia

Politics

Will Anwar's political dilemma in Malaysia stall reforms? – Tricia Yeoh | East Asia Forum

Malaysian PM Anwar may reshuffle Cabinet as soon as this week: Sources | CNA

<u>Malaysia's state election stalemate belies deeper issues for the Anwar administration</u> – Salihin Subhan | East Asia Forum

Malaysia drops corruption charges against deputy prime minister | Nikkei Asia/Reuters

As Malaysia's Ahmad Zahid walks free, will 1MDB-plagued Najib Razak be next? – Hadi Azmi | SCMP

<u>Commentary: Malaysia's Borneo states flex their muscles in the changing national political landscape</u> – Leslie Lopez I CNA

Malaysia at 60: One country, three visions – James Chin | The Interpreter

Sultan of Johor says he's ready for national duties | The Edge/Bernama

<u>Sultan of Johor, next in line to be M'sia's Agong, touts S'pore-Johor Special Economic Zone</u> – Tan Min-Wei | Mothership

Malaysia's Johor sultan backs plans for economic zone, solar energy sales between state and Singapore | SCMP

💢 Myanmar

Political Situation/Coup

Aung San Suu Kyi ill but denied urgent care, says son | BBC

Myanmar's new reality without Aung San Suu Kyi - Tommy Walker | DW

Nearly 2,000 NLD party members jailed under Myanmar junta | RFA

Myanmar garment workers struggle to survive - and keep up with global orders | The Straits Times

Myanmar slaps tax on migrant workers' earnings | Bangkok Post

<u>UN Human Rights Chief Demands Urgent Action to End 'Unspeakable Tragedy' in Myanmar</u> – Benedict Rogers | The Diplomat

Myanmar Junta Ramped Up Mass Killings, Air Strikes in Past Year: UN | The Irrawaddy

Central Myanmar sees 324 Percent Increase in Air Strikes: UN - Hein Htoo Zan | The Irrawaddy

Myanmar's Civilian Government Calls on International Community to Help Unseat Junta | The Irrawaddy

'Still my people': Myanmar diaspora supports democracy struggle back home - Emily Fishbein | Al Jazeera



Philippines

Politics

Marcos rejects tariff reduction on rice - Cecille Felipe and Alexis Romero | Philstar

Marcos signs law establishing national employment master plan | CNN Philippines

<u>Philippines 'open for business' as Marcos Jnr says sovereign wealth fund will be run by professionals</u> – Su-Lin Tan | SCMP

Marcos Jr's presidency an exercise in redemption – Julio Teehanke | East Asia Forum

State of the Philippine Nation under Marcos 2.0 - Antonio La Vina and Philip Tuano | East Asia Forum

Nobel laureate Maria Ressa acquitted in Philippine tax case | Nikkei Asia/Reuters

Trust for Marcos, Duterte wavered but remained high - Octa | Rappler

Philippines dismantles Chinese floating barrier at Scarborough Shoal | Nikkei Asia/Reuters

South China Sea: Philippine lawmakers back proposal to boost funding for security forces | SCMP



Singapore

Politics & Economy

Singapore: Tharman Shanmugaratnam elected as president | DW

Singapore's Tharman Wins Presidential Election by a Landslide in Boost to Ruling Party | TIME

What Tharman's massive election win could mean for politics in Singapore – Eugene KB Tan | The Straits

<u>Singapore President-elect Tharman shifts PM Lee's succession into gear</u> – Dylan Loh and Tsubasa Suruga | Nikkei Asia

Singapore to raise water prices by 18% over two phases in 2024 and 2025 - Koh Wan Ting | CNA

Singapore is 'world's freest economy' for first time | Bangkok Post/Bloomberg

Singapore energy appetite fuels ASEAN's renewable power grid - Yuji Nitta | Nikkei Asia



Thailand

Politics & Economy

Thailand's Srettha focuses on economic gains in foreign policy – Regalado and Robinson | Nikkei Asia

PM returns with pledges | Bangkok Post

Thaksin could be out 'in February' | Bangkok Post

Srettha: Thaksin could have role after release | Bangkok Post/Bloomberg

Govt wants fuss-free charter rewrite – Aekarach Sattaburuth | Bangkok Post

Torsak appointed new police chief - Wassayos Ngamkham | Bangkok Post

Thailand PM Srettha Thavisin orders probe on 'Betflix' raid at No 2 police officer's house | SCMP

Activist who called for royal reform jailed for four years in Thailand | Al Jazeera

Thailand's Pro-Democracy Party Regroups in Opposition – Vijitra Duangdee | VOA

Worst May Be Over for Thai Baht as Srettha Prioritizes Economy | Bloomberg Thailand central bank surprises by raising key rate to 2.5% - Apornrath Phoonphongphiphat | Nikkei Asia Chinese tourists get VIP welcome as Thai visa waiver programme begins | CNA DPM Somsak wants more gambling legalised, especially football – Aekarach Sattaburuth | Bangkok Post



Timor-Leste

Politics

Q&A: East Timor's ASEAN membership and the Myanmar conflict | Al Jazeera Why Timor-Leste Decided to Take a Stand on Myanmar – Li-Li Chen | The Diplomat Indonesia will always support Timor Leste's ASEAN membership: Widodo | Antara Cambodia supports Timor-Leste's request over its full membership in ASEAN in 2025 | Khmer Times China and Timor Leste form strategic partnership, upgrading their bilateral ties - Jenny Cai | ABC China bolsters ties with gas-rich Timor-Leste | AFR 'Playing the China card' or a serious regional threat? Timor Leste's new deal with Beijing – Helen Davidson |

The Guardian



Vietnam

Politics and Human Rights

Vietnam needs more than an upgraded U.S. partnership – Alexander Vuving | Nikkei Asia Hanoi Faces Balancing Act With China as Vietnam-US Ties Tighten – Le Nguyen and Khanh An | VOA Vietnam wants it all in balancing its ties with the US and China – Zachary Abuza | RFA Vietnam, US Upgrade Partnership; Activists Critique Silence on Human Rights | VOA Vietnam is betraying its 'Just Energy Transition Partnership' - Tran Phuong Thao | Nikkei Asia Vietnamese NGOs shy from UN engagement fearing government reprisal | RFA