# ASEAN News Update March 2021

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#### Informal Foreign Ministers Meeting

<u>Chair's Statement on the Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (IAMM)</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 2 March 2021

#### Commentary

An ASEAN way to resolve the Myanmar crisis East Asia Forum, Kavi Chongkittavorn, 21 March 2021

<u>COVID-19 Economic Recovery: ASEAN's Mixed Pattern</u> ISEAS Perspective, Jayant Menon and Sithanonxay Suvannaphakdy, 10 March 2021

#### Geopolitics

Why is China's Wang Yi hosting four Asean ministers in Fujian but meeting them individually? South China Morning Post, 31 March 2021

Is the EU a trusted strategic partner of Asean? The Straits Times, Yeo Lay Hwee, 20 March 2021

Quad grouping viewed as a means to neutralise China's influence The Straits Times, 20 March 2021

Is the Quad's Revival a Threat to ASEAN? The Diplomat, 18 March 2021

Quad vaccine pledge: Too little, too late? The Jakarta Post, 15 March 2021

The Military Coup in Myanmar: Time to Prioritise ASEAN Centrality and Communal Values ISEAS Perspective, Yongwook Ryu, Bernard Minn, and Myat Myat Mon, 10 March 2021

Will Myanmar's coup help China influence ASEAN? East Asia Forum, 10 March 2021

<u>Myanmar crisis highlights need to revamp ASEAN Charter</u> The Jakarta Post, Andrew W Mantong and Evan A Laksmana, 9 March 2021

The decade of living dangerously: Impact of US-China rivalry on Asia The Straits Times, Kevin Rudd, 8 March 2021

<u>Reconciling Indonesia's view of ASEAN and the Indo-Pacific</u> East Asia Forum, 6 March 2021

<u>Thailand's dilemma in Myanmar crisis</u> Bangkok Times, Kavi Chongkittavorn, 2 March 2021

#### **External Relations**

China's Outbound Investment in ASEAN Economies in Three Periods: Changing Patterns and Trends

The Singapore Economic Review, Yee Siong-Tong, March 2021

ASEAN, Republic of Korea promote closer cooperation on labour and employment ASEAN Secretariat News, 26 March 2021

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ASEAN, Japan reaffirm commitment to advance partnership ASEAN Secretariat News, 23 March 2021

ASEAN, New Zealand forge stronger cooperation under new plan of action ASEAN Secretariat News, 23 March 2021

ASEAN, United States to advance Strategic Partnership ASEAN Secretariat News, 17 March 2021

<u>COVID-19 vaccines open new prospect for China and ASEAN cooperation</u> The Jakarta Post, Deng Xijun, 12 March 2021

<u>'Global Britain' woos ASEAN in fields of former empire</u> Nikkei Asian Review, 9 March 2021

ASEAN, France intensify cooperation to amplify women's roles in environment and climate change action ASEAN Secretariat News, 8 March 2021

ASEAN, China reaffirm commitment to strong partnership ASEAN Secretariat News, 5 March 2021

ASEAN, France formalise Development Partnership ASEAN Secretariat News, 4 March 2021

#### Myanmar

Asean Summit to discuss Karen issue as Thailand watches Myanmar situation The Nation, 31 March 2021

Myanmar violence raises pressure on ASEAN to de-escalate crisis Nikkei Asian Review, 30 March 2021

Singapore Joins Calls for Emergency ASEAN Summit on Myanmar The Diplomat, 26 March 2021

<u>Heads of state meeting: Should ASEAN boycott Myanmar?</u> The Jakarta Post, 23 March 2021

<u>Searching for a moment for third-party intervention</u> The Jakarta Post, 19 March 2021

ASEAN pressured to abandon noninterference in Myanmar The Jakarta Post, 18 March 2021

Myanmar's lawmakers tell ASEAN to pick sides

The Jakarta Post, 12 March 2021

<u>Thailand's three Myanmar strategies</u> Bangkok Post, Kavi Chongkittavorn, 9 March 2021

<u>Commentary: Somebody has to be the good cop in dealing with Myanmar</u> The Jakarta Post, Endy Bayuni, 7 March 2021

Adherence to the ASEAN Charter matters to all The Jakarta Post, 7 March 2021

Divided ASEAN must halt Myanmar's slide toward collapse Nikkei Asian Review, Michael Vatikiotis, 5 March 2021

Hard truths about Myanmar and the military coup The Straits Times, Bilahari Kausikan, 2 March 2021

# COVID-19

<u>Asean finance ministers agree to roll out Covid-19 vaccination widely: DPM Heng</u> The Straits Times, 30 March 2021

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ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community encourages stronger cross-sectoral collaboration towards <u>COVID-19 recovery</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 16 March 2021

<u>Coronavirus - Overcoming the social media infodemic in Asean</u> Bangkok Post, Lydia Ruddy and Erica Paula Sioson, 12 March 2021

<u>ASEAN eyes digital vaccine certificate for post-COVID travel</u> Nikkei Asian Review, 3 March 2021

# Environment

ASEAN Not Doing Enough for its Wildlife The ASEAN Post, 28 March 2021

Covid-19 highlights the urgent need for ASEAN forest protection ASEAN Economist, 26 March 2021

Recharging Asean's approach to climate transition The Straits Times, 15 March 2021

Environment - Transboundary haze control lacks political will Bangkok Post, 13 March 2021

<u>Vietnam's Solar Power Boom: Policy Implications for Other ASEAN Member States</u> ISEAS Perspective, Thang Nam Do and Paul J Burke, 11 March 2021

# Human Rights

Landmark ASEAN Study Sheds New Light on Women, Peace and Security Stature in Southeast Asia ASEAN Secretariat News, 8 March 2021

Violence against women and girls slips through ASEAN legal cracks Nikkei Asian Review, 8 March 2021

Indonesia, the human rights defender in chief The Jakarta Post, Simone Galimberti, 4 March 2021

Supporting disadvantaged women key to achieving SDGs in ASEAN, new data shows ASEAN Secretariat News, 1 March 2021

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Joint Statement of The Twenty-Fifth ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council ASEAN Secretariat News, 31 March 2021

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# **ASEAN Economic Community**

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US firms keen to continue investing in Asean: Poll The Straits Times, 26 March 2021

ASEAN Economic Ministers endorse 13 priority deliverables ASEAN Secretariat News, 3 March 2021

Half-hearted approach to digitalisation risks Asean business recovery The Straits Times, 1 March 2021

# **ASEAN Business**

<u>AirAsia records worst-ever earnings, but sees brighter year ahead</u> Nikkei Asian Review, 29 March 2021

ASEAN moving towards smart production Vietnam Plus, 28 March 2021

South-east Asia retail won't go fully online, so omni-channel strategy is needed: Report Business Times Singapore, 26 March 2021

Foreign interest in Asean set to return after herd immunity: Maybank KE Business Times Singapore, 17 March 2021

Huawei committed to drive investment Bangkok Post, 16 March 2021

<u>Thai businesses matched with Zhejiang hardware suppliers in online fair</u> The Nation, 10 March 2021

<u>AirAsia calls for standardised protocols in crossborder travel</u> New Straits Times, 5 March 2021

<u>South-east Asia's manufacturing malaise</u> Business Times Singapore, William Bratton, 4 March 2021

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