# ASEAN News Update December 2021

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#### Geopolitics

ASEAN and the new geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific Amitav Acharya, American University East Asia Summit, 29 December 2021

Indonesia Seeking Southeast Asian Coordination on South China Sea Disputes The Diplomat, 29 December 2021

Russia has 'no other option' but to engage Asia The Jakarta Post, 23 December 2021

Singapore's steady pair of hands in Southeast Asia now needed more than ever East Asia Forum Editorial Board East Asia Forum, 20 December 2021

Putin's Indo-Pacific play rattles existing regional alliances Danil Bochkov, Russian International Affairs Council

Nikkei Asian Review, 20 December 2021

<u>Coming soon: US economic framework for the Indo-Pacific</u> The Straits Times, 17 December 2021

The EU in the Indo-Pacific: A New Strategy with Implications for ASEAN ISEAS Perspective, Joanne Lin, 16 December 2021

Great power rivalries in ASEAN digital space

Ruth Latreia and Fitriani, Centre for Strategic and International Studies Indonesia The Jakarta Post, 16 December 2021

Cambodia is China's leverage point on ASEAN

Davis Florick, MIssouri State University East Asia Forum, 15 December 2021

How ASEAN should defend its primacy

Thomas Daniel, Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia New Straits Times, 11 December 2021

Biden must build stronger trade ties with ASEAN

Kevin Rutigliano, Thammasat University East Asia Forum, 8 December 2021

### **External Relations**

Joint Media Statement of Special Session of ASEAN-China Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation ASEAN Secretariat News, 16 December 2021

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the recent Tornadoes in The United States of America ASEAN Secretariat News, 15 December 2021

<u>G-7 concerned about China's 'coercive' economic policies: statement</u> (and meeting with ASEAN) Nikkei Asian Review, 13 December 2021

<u>1st ASEAN-Russia navy drills send messages on AUKUS, China</u> Nikkei Asian Review, 1 December 2021

# RCEP / Trade

<u>RCEP: Ship bound for shared future sets sail</u> The Jakarta Post, 31 December 2021

Lauding RCEP: free trade for (almost) all Kavi Chongkittavorn

Bangkok Post, 21 December 2021

<u>5th RCEP webinar series underlines integration SMEs into regional value chain</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 20 December 2021

RI will benefit from RCEP but has yet to ratify it

Lili Yan Ing, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia The Jakarta Post, 17 December 2021

RCEP Will Drive ASEAN Economic Recovery

Sithanonxay Suvannaphakdy, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies Singapore The Diplomat, 17 December 2021

Digital Commitments in ASEAN's Free Trade Agreements

ISEAS Perspective, Tham Siew Yean, 15 December 2021

<u>4th round of RCEP webinar series reaffirms need for regulatory committments to support region's</u> <u>recovery in post-pandemic window</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 9 December 2021

AANZFTA deliberates advance ruling on origin to facilitate international trade ASEAN Secretariat News, 1 December 2021

# COVID-19

<u>'Wait-and-see' approach in South-east Asia towards Omicron Covid-19 variant</u> The Straits Times, 10 December 2021

Omicron Variant Threatens to Upend Southeast Asia's COVID-19 Recovery The Diplomat, 2 December 2021

#### Myanmar

Is ASEAN progress on Myanmar possible in 2022? Rizal Sukma, Centre for Strategic and International Studies Jakarta The Jakarta Post, 22 December 2021

Cambodian PM Nominates Top Diplomat as ASEAN Envoy on Myanmar

The Diplomat, 16 December 2021

<u>US and Asean will keep up pressure on Myanmar, Blinken says in Malaysia</u> South China Morning Post, 15 December 2021

Myanmar - Asean must hold the line on junta

Tan Sri Syed Hamid Albar, Marzuki Darusman, Kobsak Chutikul, Teddy Baguilat Jr Bangkok Post, 13 December 2021

Will Cambodia lead ASEAN to ending Myanmar crisis?

Lina Alexandra, Centre for Strategic and International Studies Jakarta The Jakarta Post, 9 December 2021

<u>New ASEAN Chair Cambodia to Push Engagement With Myanmar Junta</u> Sebastian Strangio The Diplomat, 7 December 2021

# Environment

Calculating the Carbon Footprint and Minimum Greenhouse Gas Production of SMEs in Southeast Asia

ISEAS Perspective, Michael T Schaper and Ryan Wong Yee Yang, 24 December 2021

<u>17th Coordinating Conference on ASCC calls for acceleration in climate cooperation</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 20 December 2021

<u>Time to Confront Southeast Asia's Online Wildlife Trafficking</u> Danielle Fallin, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington DC The Diplomat, 13 December 2021

The Tenth Meeting of The Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in The Mekong Sub-Region ASEAN Secretariat News, 8 December 2021

ExxonMobil plans carbon capture network in Southeast Asia Nikkei Asian Review, 4 December 2021

Asean needs to come together on efforts to develop carbon pricing systems Business Times Singapore, 3 December 2021

Nudging through Consensus: ASEAN's Role in Haze Mitigation and Environmental Governance Chin-Hao Huang, Arjun Jayaraman Asian Survey, November-December 2021

# Nuclear/Energy

Natural gas has role in ASEAN transition to low-carbon energy The Jakarta Post, 24 December 2021

Secretary General of ASEAN meets with the Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) ASEAN Secretariat News, 15 December 2021

Solar powering renewable targets in Asean Business Times Singapore, 10 December 2021

AUKUS sub deal triggers debate on nuclear safeguards Nikkei Asian Review, 1 December 2021

#### Disaster Management/Humanitarian

Disaster mitigation under scrutiny in ASEAN hot spots Nikkei Asian Review, 27 December 2021

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on The Floods and Landslides in Malaysia and The Republic of The Philippines ASEAN Secretariat News, 21 December 2021

#### ASEAN, ICRC to enhance cooperation

ASEAN Secretariat News, 7 December 2021

ASEAN, UNICEF hold workshop on financing responses to disasters and shocks ASEAN Secretariat News, 3 December 2021

#### Human Rights

<u>Uneven Refugee Protections Across Southeast Asia Put Migrants at Risk</u> Estey Chen, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington DC The Diplomat, 30 December 2021

<u>AICHR Philippines organises Dialogue on UN Convention on the Rights of The Child</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 17 December 2021

ASEAN to strengthen regional partnerships on social welfare and development (ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development, 17th Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development) ASEAN Secretariat News, 15 December 2021

ASEAN Labour Inspectors join hands for compliance in workplace ASEAN Secretariat News, 15 December 2021

<u>AICHR consults regional stakeholders in pursuit of "Building Back Better Together"</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 9 December 2021

#### Women

ASEAN, FIFA to work together to advance women's role in sports and society ASEAN Secretariat News, 10 December 2021

ASEAN agrees to speed up efforts to stem violence against women ASEAN Secretariat News, 2 December 2021

ASEAN appoints ten sports ambassadors to promote gender equality ASEAN Secretariat News, 2 December 2021

#### **ASEAN Economic Community**

Philippines, Thailand poised for faster growth in 2022: survey Nikkei Asian Review, 20 December 2021

Subdued inflation in ASEAN countries augurs central bank inaction Nikkei Asian Review, 9 December 2021

ASEAN nations have every reason to dread 2022 Nikkei Asian Review, 8 December 2021

ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce officially enters into force ASEAN Secretariat News, 3 December 2021

<u>Safeguarding Competition – A Post-Pandemic Response of ASEAN Competition Authorities</u> ASEAN Secretariat News, 3 December 2021

#### **ASEAN Business**

<u>Asean consumers show growing interest in sustainable investing: UOB</u> Business Times Singapore, 30 December 2021

India used-car unicorn takes on ASEAN's Carro and Carsome Nikkei Asian Review, 14 December 2021

ASEAN countries poised to experience alternative protein boom Nikkei Asian Review, 10 December 2021

Traders Dump Asean Stocks on Fears Omicron Will Hammer Region Bloomberg, 6 December 2021

Asean market to enjoy strong cyclical upturns in 2022: Credit Suisse Business Times Singapore, 2 December 2021

<u>Grab's dismal Nasdaq debut a wake-up call for ASEAN startups</u> Nikkei Asian Review, 3 December 2021

#### **Other News**

ROUND 2021: ASEAN-Korea music festival to take place online for second year ASEAN Secretariat News, 14 December 2021

Student leaders discuss ASEAN's post-COVID-19 strategies ASEAN Secretariat News, 13 December 2021

Presentation of Credentials Ceremony of the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to ASEAN H.E. Amb. M. I. Derry Aman

ASEAN Secretariat News, 3 December 2021