

Why attend the ASEAN Law and Policy Academy?

“I have witnessed how the interests and concerns of Member States are amplified internationally when ASEAN speaks with one voice. ASEAN is also capable of summoning a spirit of unity which is unparalleled. Even when faced with the thorniest of issues, leaders and officials work tirelessly to find common ground, and achieve agreement by consensus. This is not a trivial undertaking, given the diversity of the region we sit in.”

- Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore



“Unlike the protectionist trend elsewhere, ASEAN remains committed to free trade, regional integration and open economies...RCEP (The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership of ASEAN and six other economies) will be one of the biggest free trade areas in the world.”

- Ambassador Tommy Koh, Chairman of the CIL International Advisory Panel, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Singapore

Feedback from participants of the ASEAN Law and Policy Academy

“I've acquired understanding about our region and international public law which I'd not been familiar with before the program. From the perspective of a practitioner, I found the program very interesting, I learned a lot not only from the professors of NUS but also my colleagues, the participants.”

“As I venture forth into a career which deals with the ASEAN region, I can guarantee that the scholarship slot given to me will not go to waste. Please extend my thanks to everyone in NUS who has been instrumental in holding this informative and inspiring endeavour.”



“The Academy provided me not only precious knowledge on ASEAN Law but also networking of ASEAN scholars in this field. I am revising my teaching curriculum on International Trade Law with a focus on ASEAN perspective based on what I have learned from the Academy.”

“Excellent and very engaging. I learnt a lot about research, especially the things that ought to be prioritised. These are things you don't learn in school but from experienced heads like Prof. Weiler.”

“I appreciated the programme’s practical focus and the opportunity to engage directly with experienced practitioners. The interactive discussions and real world case studies were particularly valuable in deepening my understanding of ASEAN legal issues.”

“I learned so many new things in the AEC Specialization and that's great, because I will surely take back the lessons for my government.”



“The Academy allowed me to get to know and interact with other fellow participants from ASEAN Countries and ASEAN dialogue partners with various work experience. All guest speakers including Prof. Tommy Koh were full of knowledge and experience which they shared with us. I enjoyed the learning environment, and I was served very well for the snack, lunch and drinks for the whole week!”

“I was able to test my work with scholars working in similar areas and received the benefit not only of their insights but also of the insights of the more experienced scholars chairing the panels.”

“Given the growing importance of the ASEAN organization both globally and regionally, and its active efforts in adopting new agreements and cooperation measures, I must highlight the significance of this Academy for practitioners and researchers in understanding these ongoing processes. The ASEAN and Foreign Relations module was particularly informative, offering valuable insights from both practical and theoretical perspectives. I would like to express my gratitude to all the teachers of this module! Some issues, such as ASEAN Maritime law, were new to me, while others, like Digital Trade, are highly relevant in the current context. Thank you once again for this enriching experience.”