

Editorial:
The South China Sea, Indo-Pacific Cooperation and Indonesian Perspective

The Journal of ASEAN Studies is pleased to present our new edition: Volume 3, Number 1, published in the first half of 2015. This is the fifth publication of our bi-annual peer-reviewed scholarly international journal that discusses an invigorating debate on current milieu of Southeast Asian affairs. In this issue, Journal of ASEAN Studies introduces a series of discussions that are mainly focused on the dynamics of Indo-Pacific relations and the power struggle in the highly highlighted South China Sea disputes. Besides, this issue also comes up with an inquiry on the spatial analysis of the impact of remittance in Indonesian households.

In this volume, Derry Aplianta, whose article is entitled *Indonesia's Response in the South China Sea Disputes: A Comparative Analysis of the Soeharto and the Post-Soeharto Era*, contends that different response and reaction are evident from both regimes. The former characterizes Indonesian response with a strong push from the normalcy of Sino-Indonesia relations during the gradual opening of China. It was also evident that Indonesia's policy was decisively conflated with a determining Soeharto figure at the foreground. In the latter era, it is argued that democratic transition has brought a change in Indonesia's foreign policy direction that in turn affects Indonesia's response to the dispute in the South China Sea. Indonesia's international exposure was part of dominant foreign policy aspiration at the time. Aplianta took a historical analysis in order to collect the data, as well as interviews to policy makers in the Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This July 2015 issue also attempts to discuss the prospect of Indo-Pacific cooperation. Two articles in this volume offer different angles. One attempts to view whether Indo-Pacific scheme will boost cooperation in the region, while the other looks for the possible implementation. Vignesh Ram, whose article is entitled *The Proposal for an Indo-Pacific Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation: A Critical Reassessment*, conducted an in-depth literature review and media tracing to complete the possible puzzle to depict how well the Southeast and Northeast Asian states comply with the Indo-Pacific Treaty. Meanwhile, I.G. Bagus Dharma Agastia and A.A. Banyu Perwita are experimenting at finding the connection between the Indonesia's Maritime Fulcrum doctrine and Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) amidst the imminent challenge of maintaining ASEAN's centrality. These two articles offer a new spectrum which sees that ocean can be an impetus in broadening the regional cooperation scheme.

Other than security issues, this issue also offers a discussion that focuses on examining how international remittance may relate to food consumption and deprivation in Indonesia. In her paper, Maria Elfani suggests that the correlation between international remittances and food consumption is prevalent. Drawing a reflection from the level of food consumption, her research shows that poorer households are more likely to receive the remittances. This issue also presents a research note entitled *Media Dissemination "The Threat of Tsunami Unleashed from the Eruption of Mount Anak Krakatau" Through Documentary Movie*, which was written by M. Yudhi Rezaldi and Wahjoe Soeprihantoro. . We choose to include this research note because it gives pundits an extended understanding on how disaster mitigation can be best socialized

among the inhabitants. Based on a case study conducted in the Anyer Coastal area, this research note reveals that the media (tools) available to support the campaign of the tsunami prevention are simply not suitable for the (local?) society. In their effort to solve this problem, the authors have been experimenting with an animated documentary movie that turns out to be significantly acceptable in the society. It is hoped that this research note could provide information to civil society regarding what to conduct when encountering a disaster mitigation mission.

In this publication, we are also glad to announce that the Journal of ASEAN Studies has been indexed by the Social Science Open Access Repository (SSOAR) starting from January 2015. As such, Journal of ASEAN Studies has now been indexed by eight international journal indexing entities. In order to continue this achievement, we are working hard to provide a qualified and most invigorating debate in the area of Southeast Asian studies both domestically and regionally. We hope that this issue will contribute to stimulating a significant intellectual discourse in the area of Southeast Asia.

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