

# Annual Report







## Message from The Executive Director

**Dr. Dafri Agussalim**  
*Executive Director*

[dafri@ugm.ac.id](mailto:dafri@ugm.ac.id)

The ASEAN Studies Center was established in 2012 under the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Gadjah Mada in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Our establishment is in line with the Tri Dharma Principles which comprises of three areas, namely teaching, research, and community services related to field of ASEAN studies.

The Center is committed to researching, scrutinising, and examining issues under the three communities of ASEAN, namely the political-security community, economic community, and socio-cultural community. In welcoming the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, the Center is also committed to become the University's forefront for ASEAN issues through its publications, outreach efforts, research collaboration with international partners and government.

In effort of heightening a sense of belonging among ASEAN citizens, starting from Indonesia, the Center champions the theme of ***Bringing ASEAN Closer to You***. This theme is greatly relevant to the effort of ASEAN Member States in uniting the rich culture and diversity of its people into a single ASEAN identity without replacing inherited national identities. In doing so, our aim is to bring ASEAN closer to our audience while at the same time critically studying contemporary issues of ASEAN.

As one of the oldest and leading ASEAN Studies Centers in Indonesia, the Center will continue to support collaboration and cooperation in the field of ASEAN among the various ASEAN research institutes, think tanks and academia.

## Bringing **ASEAN** Closer to You

The current going agenda of ASEAN member countries is the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 which has been unveiled since 2015. To extent of several years ahead, each member country should gradually enhance its society for a more cohesive, integrative, and unitive regime in Southeast Asia. Regarding this constructive agenda, it is necessarily important to understand what has happened, happening, and will happen next along the path of the ASEAN community.

On the other hand, approaching the diversity between people of the ASEAN countries should be followed by the high implementation of the ASEAN way as the common path. We, the people of ASEAN communities, are being given the responsibility to adhere to the sense of common tenure. Therefore, the tagline **#BringingASEANCloserToYou** can be the first stepping stone in envisioning the future of the ASEAN community.

Our vision is generating critical scientific research and enhance the position and contribution of Indonesia in the ASEAN. Besides, we tend to develop institutional capacity that are able to enhance institutional development as well as the local capacity to meet ASEAN regionalization process.

## Our **Team**



## Our Adjunct Researchers



## Our Fellow Researchers

**Agustina Kustulasari, M.A**

*Department of Public Policy and Management*

**Atin Prabandari, M.A, Ph.D.**

*Department of International Relations*

**Desintha Dewi Asriani, M.A.**

*Department of Sociology*

**Dian Fatmawati, M.A**

*Department of Social Development and Welfare*

**Dr. Bevaola Kusumasari**

*Department of Public Policy and Management*

**Dr. Gabriel Lele, S.IP, M.Si**

*Department of Public Policy and Management*

**Dr. Muhammad Rum**

*Department of International Relations*

**Dr. Randy Wirasta Nandyatama**

*Department of International Relations*

**I Made Krisnajaya, M.Pol. Admin**

*Department of Public Policy and Management*

**Longgina Novadona Bayo, M.A**

*Department of Politics and Government*

**Matahari Faransahat, S.E, M.HEP**

*Department of Social Development and Welfare*

**Novi Paramita Dewi, S.IP, M.DP**

*Department of Public Policy and Management*

**Prof. Dr. Suharko, S.Sos, M.Si**

*Department of Sociology*

**Pulung Setiosuci Perbawani, S.IP, M.M**

*Department of Communication Sciences*

**Siti Daulah Khoiriati, M.A**

*Department of International Relations*

**Yunizar Adiputera, M.A**

*Department of International Relations*

# Table of Contents

## A. Institutional Overview

National Chengchi University (NCCU).....	6
Prince of Songkla University (PSU).....	6
Institutional Visit from the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Law, and Security.....	7
ASEAN Studies Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre Collaboration on Essay Competition.....	8
Diplomatic Briefing on “Strengthening Indonesia’s Leadership for the Promotion and Protection of Women and Children in ASEAN”.....	9
Joint Online Meeting on Gender Studies with UNESCO Bangkok.....	11
Partnership Meeting Australia National University and the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, UGM.....	12
Academic Seminar Commemorating 50th Anniversary of ASEAN- Republic of Korea (ROK) Relations, in Jakarta.....	13
Visit from the Japan Foundation.....	14
Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs and ASEAN Studies Centre Discussion on the Indonesia’s Strategic Interest Nexus in the South China Sea and Mekong Sub-regional Cooperation.....	15

## B. Research

ASEAN Notes.....	18
Policy Brief.....	20
Focus Group Discussion - Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of Indonesia.....	21
ASC Monograph 2023 Launching.....	22
Research Collaboration: Coordinating Ministry For Political, Legal, And Security Affairs.....	24
NACT Country Coordinators Meeting and Annual Conference.....	25
Research Days.....	26

## C. Programme

The 4th ASEAN Youth Initiatives Empowerment Program.....	29
Internship Program.....	31

# *A. Institutional Overview*

## National Chengchi University (NCCU)

26 January 2023

A visitation to Universitas Gadjah Mada from the National Chengchi University (NCCU) took place on 26 January 2023. Among the Faculties visited by the delegation was the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences (FISIPOL). The meeting with FISIPOL was held at the Dean's Office and was attended by the ASEAN Studies Centre. The Centre was represented by Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agusalm and was accompanied by the Global Engagement Office.

Discussions took place over the many college and faculty commonalities among the two universities, opportunities to collaborate through research in ASEAN studies and faculty staff exchange. The meeting was continued by a Courtesy Meeting of the Rector of Gadjah Mada later on in the afternoon.

## Prince of Songkla University (PSU)

3 March 2023



A visit from the Prince of Songkla University took place on the 3 March 2023 at the Faculty. The meeting was attended by Dean Dr Wawan Mas'udi, Vice Dean for Academic and Student Affairs Prof. Dr. Poppy S. Winanti, and Executive Director of the ASEAN Studies Centre, Dr Dafri Agusalm. The meeting was facilitated by the Global Engagement Office and took place at the Office of the Dean.

The meeting focused on the potential of academic exchange and also research collaboration among the Centres of the University. The academic exchange would officiate a new partnership between PSU and UGM and would provide an opportunity for students to take courses at PSU once the cooperation is officialized. The meeting looked at several research topics that were of particular interest to both universities including border politics and ASEAN policies on environment and climate change.

## Institutional Visit from the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Law, and Security

31 May 2023



A Visit from the Assistant Deputy of the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Law, and Security was received by Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agussalim on Friday, 31 May 2023 at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Gadjah Mada. The meeting discussed the on-going research project, contemporary political-security issues in the ASEAN region, and outcomes of the recent ASEAN Summit in Labuan Bajo.

The meeting agreed to look closer at opportunities to push for a stronger role of Indonesia as the current ASEAN Chair 2023, sectoral issues, developments in Myanmar and the Indo-Pacific. The on-going research project lead by Dr Muhammad Rum would provide meaningful insight into these discussions.

## ASEAN Studies Centre and ASEAN-Korea Centre Collaboration on Essay Competition

The ASEAN Studies Centre (ASC) is currently in collaboration with the ASEAN Korea Centre (AKC) in the holding of an ASEAN-Korea Essay Contest of 2023. Other than ASC, the AKC is also collaborating with the Institute for East Asian Studies at Sogang University (SIEAS). Along with SIEAS, ASC will evaluate the essay submissions and take part in actively promoting the event to its network.



The ASEAN-Korea Academic Essay Contest 2023 is an international-level essay competition aimed at all undergraduate and graduate students of ASEAN and Korean nationalities. AKAEC 2023 carries the theme "Strengthening ASEAN-Korea Strategic Partnership in a Changing Global Landscape". It aims at engaging all undergraduate and graduate students ASEAN member states and Korea to take part in an activity that brings the two thriving communities closer together.

The winners will be announced in September and awarded with the prizes in November 2023.

## Diplomatic Briefing on “Strengthening Indonesia’s Leadership for the Promotion and Protection of Women and Children in ASEAN”

22 August 2023



A series of important events took place in ASEAN Studies Center’s support of the issue of women and children in ASEAN. On Tuesday, 22 August 2023 the Center held a Diplomatic Briefing with titled “Strengthening Indonesia’s Leadership for the Promotion and Protection of Women and Children in ASEAN”. This meeting invited two representatives from each panel of women and children, namely Senior Researcher Dr. Fitriani, Centre of Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and Indonesia Representatative for Children’s Rights Yanti Kusumawardhani, ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Women and Children (ACWC). The meeting was opened by remarks from Ambassador of the Netherlands to Indonesia, H.E. Amb. Lambert Grijns and ASEAN Studies Centre Executive Director, Dr. Dafri Agussalim.

This Diplomatic Briefing targeted the diplomatic community of ASEAN, and dialogue partners of ASEAN. It presented a coalition roadmap which was developed by the academe and civil society organisations (CSOs) through a series of discussions and consultations with the relevant parties. The meeting launched both roadmaps from the women and children's panel.

The topic of the discussion revolved around the ASEAN Vision Post-2025 and in what way both the academe and CSOs can support the work of the ACWC moving forward. Some highlights included discussions on the collaborative coalition roadmap, what roles all parties can play, which of the four mandates require the most collaborative efforts, and how the international and diplomatic community can lend its support to strengthening the works of the ACWC.

The Briefing was followed Launch of ASC Monograph 2023 "From Vulnerability to Resilience: Enhancing Women and Children's Well-Being". This Monograph is also a product of collaboration among academe and CSOs. It highlights problematic topics in ASEAN and offers insight into potential ways out. The Launch was presented by Research Manager, Tunggul Wicaksono and joined by Asia Head of Public Policy, Dio Herdiawan Tobing, World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA). The discussion highlights a number of issues including the main message of the Monograph, how it supports the efforts of ACWC.

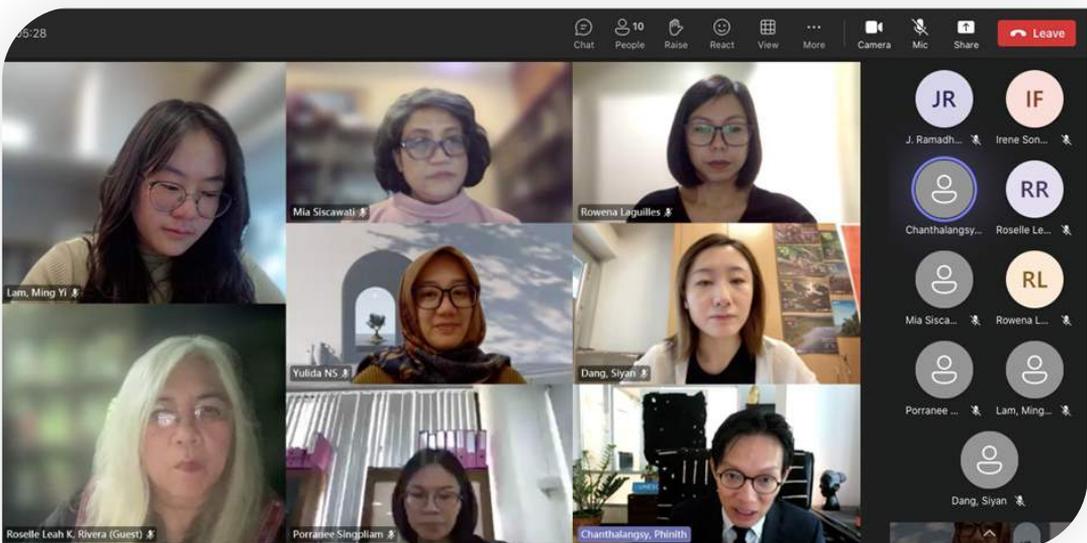
The discussion was attended by various representatives of Missions, Embassies and organisation headquarters in Indonesia.

## Joint Online Meeting on Gender Studies with UNESCO Bangkok

18 October 2023

An online meeting among universities and think tanks took place on Wednesday, 18 October 2023 to understand the dynamics of gender equality and gender-related issues in Southeast Asia. The session shared experiences and practices of teaching or disseminating gender equality studies. It also discussed the challenges, success stories, and ways of joining forces to amplify imminent efforts of gender mainstreaming in the society.

The two-hour discussion was attended by various representatives including Universitas Indonesia, The University of the Philippines, and Chulalongkorn University and would pave the way for more meetings on strengthening efforts in the future. The ASEAN Studies Centre of Universitas Gadjah Mada was represented by Managing Director, Yulida N Santoso.



## Partnership Meeting Australia National University and the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, UGM

27 October 2023



A visit from the College of Asia and the Pacific, Australia National University to the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences took place on Friday, 27 October 2023. The Collaboration discussion invited alumna of ANU across the Faculty and research centres with similar and relevant research interests. The Faculty and ANU have engaged in a long list of collaborations throughout the years. To continue this relationship, the meeting noted a number of the following potential areas of collaboration. In the field of research, the meeting discussed the possibility of research collaboration. In particular, our researchers are eager to find benchmarks and best practices related to carbon trading and just energy transition in Australia.

The meeting also discussed the potential to develop a 1+1 scheme for postgraduate studies. Hence, students will not only receive scholarships in Indonesia but also abroad. However, both universities noted that Australia's policy of requiring 2 years study in the country poses a challenge for this scheme. In addition, FISIPOL UGM are open for collaboration in the form of seminars, with Indonesian politics as a possible topic, following the upcoming elections in 2024. The Centre was represented by Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agussalim.

## Academic Seminar Commemorating 50th Anniversary of ASEAN- Republic of Korea (ROK) Relations, in Jakarta

30 November 2023



An academic seminar was held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK relations. The series of seminars took place on Thursday, 30 November 2023 at the Hotel Mulia, Senayan, Jakarta. The ASEAN Centre hosted the panel on “Strengthening ASEAN Centrality through ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Relations” which invited speakers from the Centre (Dr Dafri Agussalim, Dr Falikul Isbah, Dr Desintha Dwi Asriani), ASEAN Centre of the Korea University and Korea Institute for ASEAN Studies of the Busan University of Foreign Studies (KIAS BUFS). The session was moderated by Research Manager, Tunggul Wicaksono.

The event also invited notable guests of the Embassy including Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, H.E. Airlangga Hartarto, Former Deputy Foreign Minister, H.E. Dino Patti Djalal and celebrities including Luna Maya and Raffi Ahmad.

## Visit from the Japan Foundation

6 December 2023



A visit from Assistant Director Japanese Studies & Global Partnerships Division, Kono Misako and Program Officer Japanese Studies & Global Partnerships Division, Purwoko Adhi Nugroho took place on Wednesday, 6 December 2023 at the Centre.

The meeting discussed potential research collaborations on the topic of climate change mitigation, adaptation planning, natural resource, environmental governance disaster communication, disaster preparedness, among the few. The discussion was led by ED, Dr Dafri Agussalim and MD, Yulida N Santoso.

## Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs and ASEAN Studies Centre Discussion on the Indonesia's Strategic Interest Nexus in the South China Sea and Mekong Sub-regional Cooperation

17 December 2023



A discussion with the topic of Indonesia's Strategic Interest Nexus in the South China Sea and Mekong Sub-regional Cooperation was held at the Faculty which was co-organized by Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs and ASEAN Studies Centre on Sunday, 18 December 2023.

The meeting was held to gather insight from various experts ahead of the commencement the Laos ASEAN Chairmanship in 2024 and develop a strategic plan for Indonesia's foreign policy. The forum invited Indonesia Defence University, Prof. A.A. Banyu Perwita; Cooperation Director of the National Narcotics Board, Aria Wibisono; Head of Department of International Relations of Universitas Riau, Yusnarida Eka Nizmi; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rayyanul Sangadji; National Research and Innovation Agency, Indriana Kartin; and ASC Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agussalim.

The discussion concluded a number of matters including the urgent need to look at solidifying ASEAN intra-member relations in the face of an increasingly dynamic geopolitical setting, the need for a steady ASEAN leadership under Lao PDR to navigate the complex and intricate issues surrounding Mekong, and more strategic mappings to take place to continuously address bottle-neck issues in the region.

# RESEARCH DAYS 2023

COMMITTED TO SCIENCE FOR BETTER SOCIETY

100+

Participants

70+

Talks

OPEN

for Public

ISIPOD UGM | 13 - 17 November 2023

## *B. Research*



### ASEAN Notes

Four articles of ASEAN Notes have been published on the ASC website. The titles are as follows:

**“Embracing ASEAN Economic Community 2025: Unlocking Prospects and Overcoming Obstacles in Indonesia”**, written by **M. Tora Bhanu Pandito**.



In this article, he argued that the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint seeks to create such an environment, where businesses of all sizes can thrive and contribute to inclusive development in the region. Moreover, it presents a plethora of opportunities for business in Indonesia.



**“ASEAN Chairmanship 2023: Indonesia’s Tendency to Solve the South China Sea Territorial Disputes”**, written by **Jefferson Davids Soasa**. In this article, he highlighted some agendas that should be a concern in Indonesia’s chairmanship. In particular, he argued conflicting claims of ASEAN’s countries’ sovereignty have worsened the relationship between China and ASEAN.

### “Redefining Commodities in International Trade: ASEAN Blue Carbon Initiative and Its Role in Navigating Climate Crisis in the Southeast Asia Region”, written by Oktavianus Bima Saputra.

This article argued that the Blue Carbon ecosystem holds massive potential to be the global hub for carbon sequestration and storage. This article aims to explore ASEAN's potential to fulfill its leading role in the blue carbon economy agenda and how it may contribute to our collective struggle to halt the climate crisis. Moreover, states are looking for an answer to strike a balance in economic production, which is pivotal to our daily lives, and the climate crisis is irreversible damage.



### “Religion: Boon or Bane for Democracy?”, written by Kay Conales.

This article highlighted the compelling case for reflection on the nexus and tensions between religion and democracy. Indonesia is considered as the most various ethnolinguistic groups with different cultures and practices. The diversity in the country resulted in years of ethnic conflict and violence. When religion becomes the yardstick for crafting rules and policies, it creates biases, whether intended or not.



Human rights activists and organizations in Indonesia have sounded the alarm on many changes in the criminal code that could stifle individual freedoms and lead to setbacks in the country's democratic progress.

### Policy Brief

ASC UGM, in collaboration with the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences UGM, publishes a policy brief fortnightly as an agenda to support Indonesia's chairmanship in ASEAN. During the course of this program, five periodic articles will be published. These articles aim to distill complex research and analysis into concise, actionable insights for policymakers, stakeholders, and the general public. The policy brief serves as a crucial tool for communicating important policy considerations, proposing effective solutions, and influencing decision-making processes at various levels. These are currently published documents:



**Policy Brief #1 – ASEAN Diterpa Krisis Ganda: KTT ASEAN 2023 Harus Hadirkan Kebijakan Baru!**, written by **Muhammad Rum, Randy W. Nandyatama, Yulida N. Santoso, and Tunggul Wicaksono**. This article mentioned that ASEAN faces legitimacy and institutional performance issues in responding to global issues. Therefore, ASEAN must maintain its rootedness and centrality in establishing regional power.



**Policy Brief #2 – Hadirnya Rivalitas Kekuatan Besar: Masih Relevankah ASEAN?**, written by **Yulida N. Santoso and Tunggul Wicaksono**. This article proposes that a trust-building and non-intrusive approach must be adopted to gain a collaborative strategy among member states. Furthermore, it suggests reassessing internal documents as the lack of policy enforcement may hamper the institution's effectiveness in responding to the great powers' rivalry.



**Policy Brief #3 – Epicentrum of Growth: Percepatan Ekonomi Pascapandemi dan Membangun Resiliensi Ekonomi Kawasan,** written by **Nabilah Nur Abiyanti** and **Poppy S. Winanti**. This article examines the central issues in realizing ASEAN as the epicenter of growth, these are; post-pandemic economic recovery, the advancement of the digital economy, and the sustainability of the

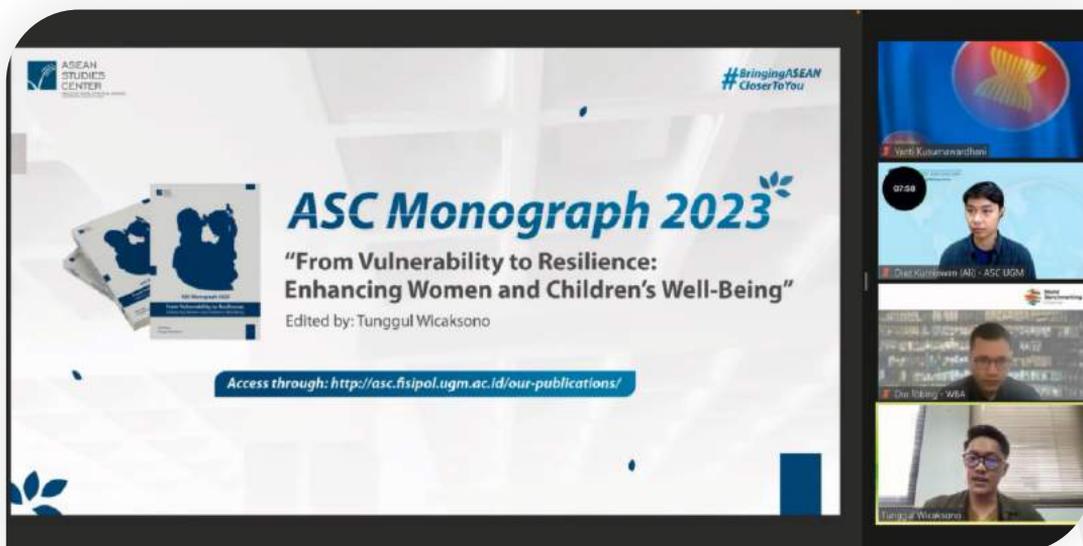
economic environment. Moreover, this article argues that collective capacity is essential in managing the dynamics of geopolitics and the region’s stability.

### Focus Group Discussion - Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of Indonesia

On 26 June 2023, ASC UGM held an FGD that invited the academic community to gain insights into maritime diplomacy strategy in ASEAN. This FGD is a continuation of joint research activities between the Center and the Ministry. This activity serves as a platform for brainstorming and generating new ideas on the proposed topic. The results of this FGD will later become a reference for the final report and, in turn, serve as an input for the government especially in the context of the Indonesia ASEAN Chairmanship.



## ASC Monograph 2023 Launching



The ASC Monograph 2023 was launched on 22 August 2023 with the title **“From Vulnerability to Resilience: Enhancing Women and Children’s Well-Being”**, edited by Tunggal Wicaksono. The monograph was published with the support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands. ASC Monograph 2023 has six chapters as follows;

- **Chapter 1**  
**Empowering Futures and Bridging the Gap in the Protection of Women and Children**  
*Tunggal Wicaksono*
- **Chapter 2**  
**Challenges of Women’s Rights Promotion and Protection in ASEAN**  
*Dr. Fitriani*
- **Chapter 3**  
**Breaking the ‘Glass Ceiling’ of Women Leadership in ASEAN**  
*Yulida Nuraini Santoso*
- **Chapter 4**  
**Exploring Women Empowerment and Child Protection through the Discourse and Policy Addressing Unpaid Care Work and Migration in ASEAN**  
*Dr. Desintha Dwi Asriani and Nitia Agustini Kala Ayu*

**• Chapter 5****Safeguarding Children's Rights Online in ASEAN: A Shared Responsibility***Dio Herdiawan Tobing***• Chapter 6****Women Empowerment Through Digital Media***Pulung Setiosuci Perbawani*

The monograph addresses the need to enhance women's and children's resilience, identify their vulnerability's root causes, and empower them with the tools and resources necessary to overcome adversity. Women and children are the cornerstones of the communities, and their holistic development is essential for the prosperity of the nations.

Yet, they continue to face numerous challenges that hinder their full participation in economic, social, and political spheres. From gender-based discrimination and violence to lack of access to quality education and healthcare, we recognize that much work must be done to ensure that the rights and potential of women and children are fully realized. The book's release aims to enhance the awareness and resilience of women and children as it requires a multifaceted approach to promote empowerment and equality.

## Research Collaboration: Coordinating Ministry For Political, Legal, And Security Affairs



On 27 September 2023, ASC UGM held an FGD that invited the academic community and experts to gain insights into maritime diplomacy strategy in ASEAN. This FGD is a continuation of joint research activities between the ASEAN Studies Center UGM and the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of Indonesia. This activity serves as a platform for brainstorming and generating new ideas on the topic of **“Indonesia’s Maritime Diplomacy towards South China Sea Dispute”**.

The FGD discussed about the urgency of raising the awareness about the territorial conflict and what can Indonesia do to bridge the gap between power rivalries and norm-making role in the region. The FGD aims to disseminate the final report of the research to the related ministries and stakeholders. The event also highlighted the strategies used, the target audience, dissemination channels, and the impact of the dissemination efforts.

## NACT Country Coordinators Meeting and Annual Conference



The Network of ASEAN-China Think Tanks (NACT) Country Coordinators Meeting and Annual Conference, which commenced on 10-11 October 2023, was co-organized by NACT Indonesia with the support of the China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU). Under the main topic of “High-Quality Belt dan Road Initiative (BRI) Cooperation and the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)”. In the intricate landscape of international relations, few regions hold as much promise, complexity, and strategic significance as the intersection of the BRI and the AOIP. This convergence encapsulates not just the aspirations of nations but also the delicate interplay of economic development, geopolitical dynamics, and regional cooperation. The convergence of BRI and AOIP embodies the intersection of these two formidable forces. It offers a unique opportunity to explore how high-quality BRI cooperation can align with the principles and goals of the AOIP. It prompts us to examine how nations can collaborate to ensure that infrastructure development is sustainable, economically viable, and inclusive, thereby contributing to the peace and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific region.

The conference was held at The Phoenix Hotel, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and invited all NACT members. Researchers and country coordinators from ten NACT members participated and presented their initial findings relevant to the topic's discussion. The meeting was conducted in three consecutive sessions — aimed at sharing each country's experience and formulating possible recommendations for the future. The NACT Working Group meeting was set as a platform for both representatives from China and ASEAN member countries to share their country perspectives and experiences, as well as to identify best practices from responsive policy formulation for the parties involved.

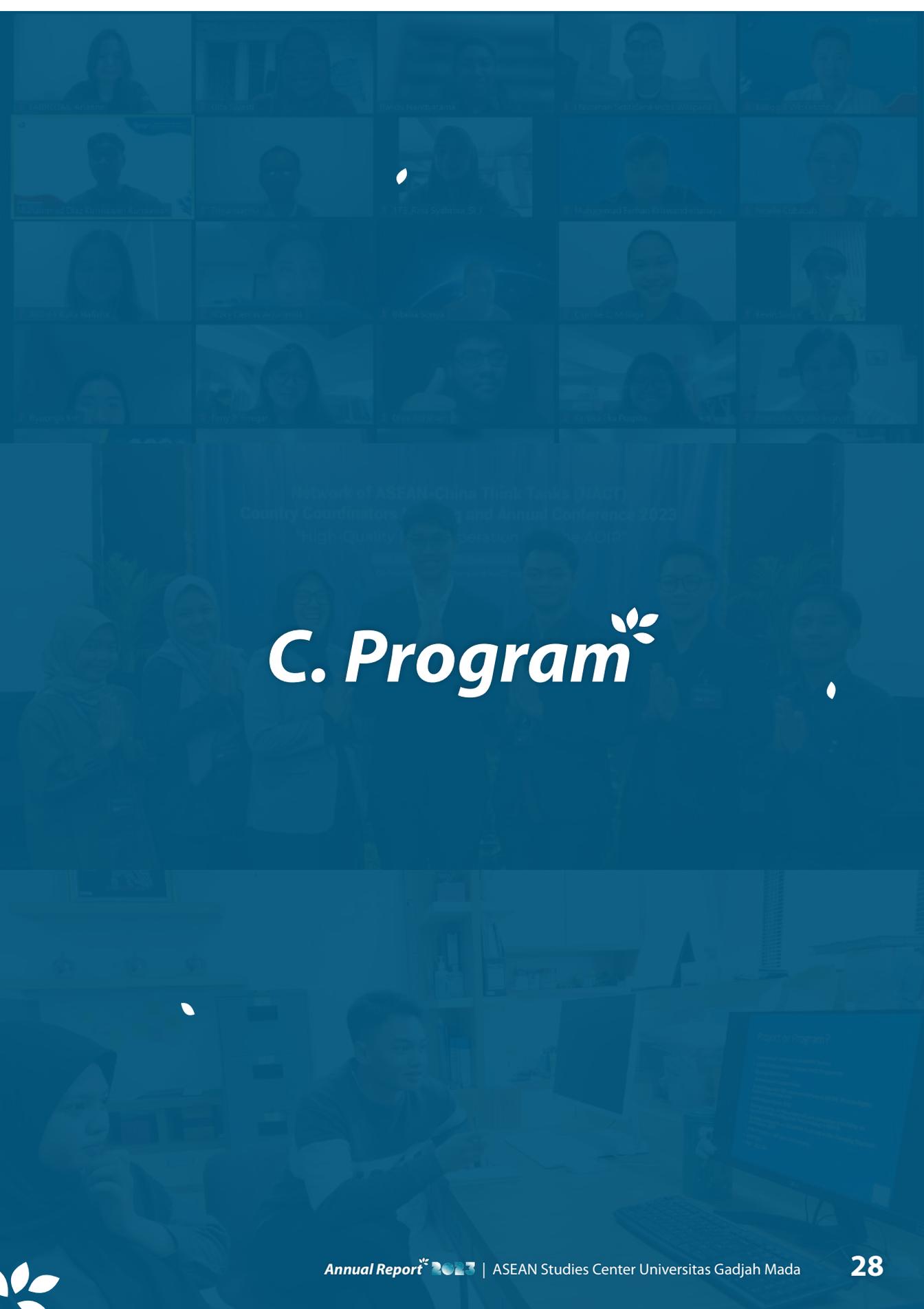
## Research Days 2023



Tunggul Wicaksono, Research Manager of ASC UGM, attended the book dissemination as a keynote speaker in the Research Days on 15 November 2023. This event was held by the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Gadjah Mada. ASC UGM presented the Monograph titled "From Vulnerability to Resilience: Enhancing Women and Children's Well-Being".



The Monograph that was published with the support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands, addresses the need to enhance women's and children's resilience, identify their vulnerability's root causes, and empower them with the tools and resources necessary to overcome adversity. The Research Days functions as a platform to spread recently published research, books, and community outreach. The dissemination amplifies the impact by reaching more people and potentially affecting more policy-making process.



Network of ASEAN-China Think Tanks (ACTT)  
Country Coordinators' Meeting and Annual Conference 2020  
High Quality Growth and Sustainable Development (HQP)  
C. Program

## The 4th ASEAN Youth Initiatives Empowerment Program (AYIEP) – Human Rights Research in ASEAN



The 4th ASEAN Youth Initiatives Empowerment Program (AYIEP) on Human Rights Research in ASEAN, organized by ASEAN Studies Center UGM and SHAPE-SEA, is currently in progress. This exceptional program has seen an overwhelming response, with more than 200 enthusiastic applicants participating. The program is designed to equip young academics and researchers with practical and theoretical knowledge regarding human rights research in the ASEAN region. The participants, ranging from ages 18 to 39, represent a diverse group of higher education students, both from ASEAN and non-ASEAN countries.

The program's curriculum, delivered both synchronously and asynchronously, encompasses essential aspects of human rights research, from understanding the concept and practices of human rights to exploring methodologies and interpreting legal and political documents.

The 4th ASEAN Youth Initiatives Empowerment Program (AYIEP) on Human Rights Research in ASEAN, organized by ASEAN Studies Center UGM and SHAPE-SEA, is currently in progress. This exceptional program has seen an overwhelming response, with more than 200 enthusiastic applicants participating. The program is designed to equip young academics and researchers with practical and theoretical knowledge regarding human rights research in the ASEAN region. The participants, ranging from ages 18 to 39, represent a diverse group of higher education students, both from ASEAN and non-ASEAN countries.

The program's curriculum, delivered both synchronously and asynchronously, encompasses essential aspects of human rights research, from understanding the concept and practices of human rights to exploring methodologies and interpreting legal and political documents. Participants are engaging in interactive sessions facilitated by experts in the field, delving into critical issues such as cultural relativism, environmentalism, democracy, and more. The participants are also focusing on completing all synchronous and asynchronous classes, culminating in the submission of a Policy Brief as their final assignment.

The learning path showcases a diverse array of topics, ensuring a well-rounded understanding of human rights in the ASEAN context. The dedication and enthusiasm demonstrated by the participants bode well for the successful completion of this transformative program. As the AYIEP program progresses, the organizers are keen on enabling a conducive learning environment and providing necessary guidance to assist all participants in completing the course with excellence.

## Internship Program

In the final quarter of 2023, the ASEAN Studies Center (ASC) at Universitas Gadjah Mada proudly wrapped up its internship program, marking significant milestones in the professional journey of two dedicated interns, Bima and Asa. Beginning in October 2023, their internship journey was a blend of learning, participation, and contribution, specifically focused on two key conference projects.



Throughout their tenure, Bima and Asa were deeply involved in the planning and execution of two major conferences. Their roles extended beyond mere participation; they were pivotal in coordinating various aspects of these events. This involved intricate planning, liaising with different stakeholders, and ensuring the smooth operation of these conferences. Their efforts were instrumental in bringing these events to fruition, demonstrating their capabilities in project coordination and event management within the context of ASEAN studies.

As the ASEAN Studies Center UGM reflects on the successful conclusion of this internship program, we reaffirm our commitment to fostering opportunities for youth development. Recognizing the invaluable role of practical experience in shaping future leaders, we are dedicated to continuing and expanding our internship programs. Our goal is to offer more young enthusiasts like Bima and Asa the chance to immerse themselves in the dynamic field of ASEAN studies, empowering them with the skills and experiences necessary to contribute meaningfully to the ASEAN community and beyond. The success of our interns in these conference projects serves as a beacon for our ongoing efforts to nurture talent and promote active participation in regional studies and affairs.





# Annual Report<sup>❁</sup>



## **ASEAN Studies Center**

Faculty of Social and Political Sciences  
Universitas Gadjah Mada

BC Building 2nd Floor Suite No. 208-209,  
Jl. Socio Justicia No. 1, Yogyakarta, Indonesia 55281

Tel. +62 274 563362 ext. 151  
Fax. +62 274 563362 ext. 222