

QUARTERLY REPORT

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2021

ASEAN Studies Center, Universitas Gadjah Mada

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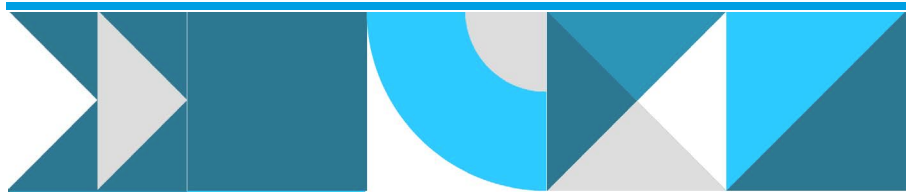
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Institutional Overview



Cooperation Agreement between the ASEAN Studies Center and the Policy Analysis and Development Agency (BPPK), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

Thursday, 8 April 2021



A Cooperation Agreement was signed between the ASEAN Studies Center (ASC) and the Policy Analysis and Development Agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Agreement laid path for a research project on ***“Indonesia ASEAN Chairmanship 2023: Optimizing the Strength of the ASEAN e-Commerce Sector in the Context of Accelerating Economic Recovery”***. This research is prepared not only to serve the purpose of preparing for Indonesia’s Chairmanship in 2023, is also a mapping of the strength of Indonesia’s e-commerce sector in light of the pandemic which significantly affected the economic industry. The research commenced in April and will produce a final report before the end of 2021.

Prior to the signing of the agreement, a brief discussion took place on the background and significance of the research

for the preparation of the Indonesia ASEAN Chairmanship as well as possible policy changes it hopes to make for a more vibrant e-commerce in Indonesia. Discussions also touched upon possible ways to advance the findings from this research to reach a strategic and sustainable outcome.

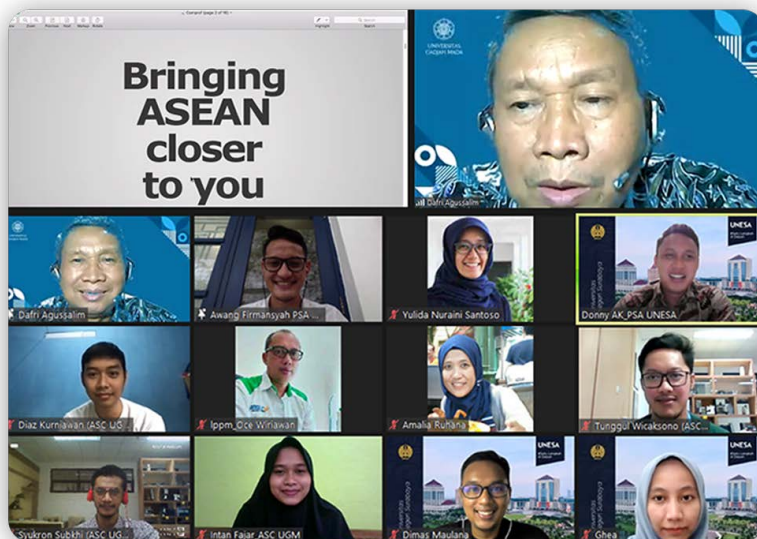
The ceremony was held in hybrid (online and offline) with the signing of the Agreement in Yogyakarta by Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agussalim, taking place at the Grhatama Pustaka Building whereas the signing of the Agreement in Jakarta took place online. The ceremony was attended by Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agussalim, Managing Director, Yulida Nuraini Santoso, Lead Researcher, Pulung Setiosuci Perbawani, Research Analyst, Ayu Kartikasari, and Media Officer, Syukron Subkhi.

Virtual Benchmarking Visit by the ASEAN Studies Center of Universitas Negeri Surabaya (UNESA)

Wednesday, 14 April 2021

The ASEAN Studies Center of Universitas Negeri Surabaya paid a benchmarking visit online to learn of the work of the **ASEAN Studies Center, Universitas Gadjah Mada**. UNESA was represented by its Head, Donny Ardy Kusuma, and Secretary, Awang Firmansyah. The visit took place at 10am and ended at 1pm with discussion on the management of the Center, current outreach and research projects, the structure of the Center, and values of our work.

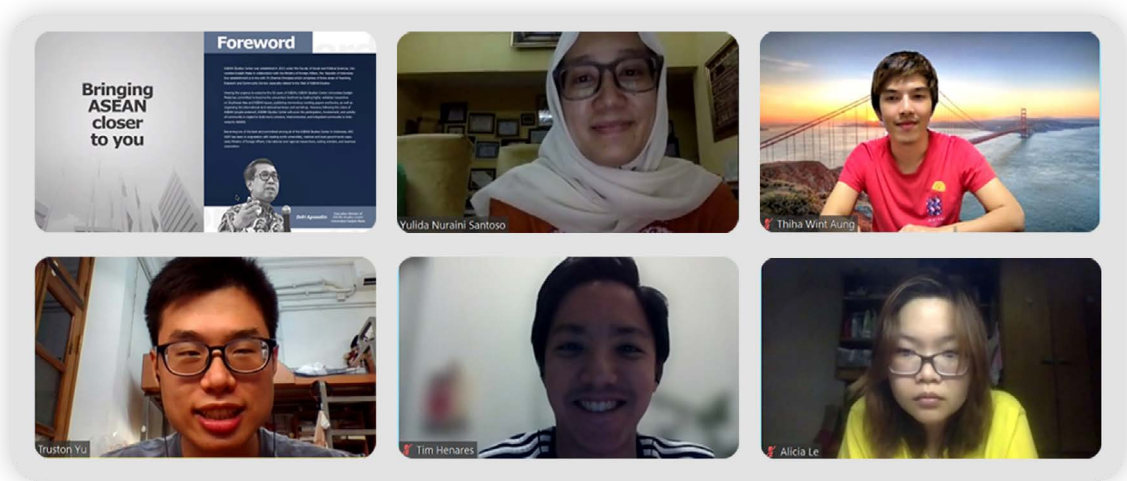
The ASEAN Studies Center UGM was established in 2013 and is hosted by the Faculty of Social and Political Science. The Center is managed by a management team who are also researchers and coordinate with ASC's pool of researchers to publish articles and pieces, but also collaborate on thematic projects on pertinent ASEAN issues. This year, the Center is working on a number of research and outreach projects on the themes of e-commerce, the role of think tanks and CSOs to strengthen the ASEAN Commission of Women and Children (ACWC), maritime security and education.



The discussion also touched on best practices of the Center and workable suggestions to excel in staff management and also in the development of research and projects. The Center itself is run by a compact team and has adopted this form of management from the beginning of its establishments. The meeting also discussed the advantages and challenges of working in a pandemic setting and the adjustments which were adopted to ensure that project targets were still met. The presentation was led by Executive Director, Dr. Dafri Agussalim and Managing Director, Yulida Nuraini Santoso with the support of the media, programme and research division.

One Southeast Asia Civilization (1SEAC) Talk with the ASEAN Studies Center

Friday, 23 April 2021



The Managing Director, Yulida Nuraini Santoso, attended a talk with the One Southeast Asia Civilization (1SEAC). THE 1SEAC comprises of a cohort of fellows from ten countries of ASEAN and Timor Leste. The 1SEAC is headed by Convenor Truston Jianheng Yu, and regularly holds talks on issues surrounding ASEAN inviting relevant guest speakers. The talk discussed the work of the ASEAN Studies Center, in light of the pandemic.

Additionally, the discussion also looked into the recent developments of the unrest in Myanmar and the responses of ASEAN member states through the ASEAN Secretariat. A 1SEAC fellow from Myanmar explained that the general sentiment of the society in Myanmar were fiercely in opposition with the ruling junta, but optimistic that Myanmar would be able to recover and establish a legitimate government in the foreseeable future. The discussion also covered the situation of Myanmar on the ground and what lay ahead for the country. The meeting agreed that the pressure is now in the hands of the ASEAN Leaders to ensure that a peaceful dialogue will take place and the number of fatalities come to an absolute end.

Aside from Myanmar, the discussion was attended by 1SEAC fellows from Singapore and the Philippines. The forum agreed to continue collaborating on events with the theme of the ASEAN youth.

Meeting of the ASEAN Studies Center with the Embassy of Chile in Indonesia

Tuesday, 4 May 2021



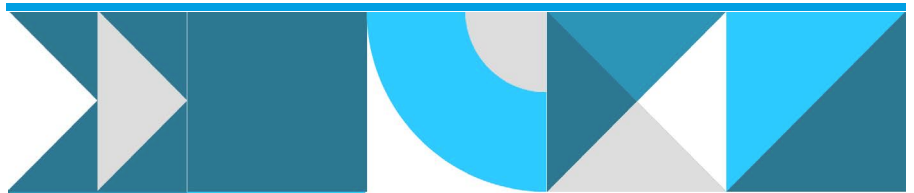
On Tuesday, 4 May 2021 a meeting was held with between the Center and the Embassy of Chile. The meeting discussed possible themes to be discussed for the Public Lecture, organised by the Embassy, which is scheduled to be held in early September 2021. Universitas Gadjah Mada will sit as panel along with the Catholic University of Chile in this Lecture. The final theme is hoped to bring issues pertinent to both ASEAN and Latin America. This meeting was attended by Executive Director, Dr. Dafri Agussalim and Managing Director, Yulida Nuraini Santoso.

Initial Meeting of the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

Thursday, 3 June 2021

The ASEAN Studies Center met with the **Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia** on 3 June 2021 to discuss and establish a research project headed by the Center. The research project is hoped to spearhead constructive policies on Indonesia's maritime security strategy in the near future. Further to this, this research would help guide Indonesia in its preparation for the Indonesia ASEAN Chairmanship in 2023. The meeting was held at Marisini Coffee, Yogyakarta and was attended by Executive Director, Dr Dafri Agussalim, Research Consultant, Dr. Muhammad Rum, Managing Director, Yulida Nuraini Santoso and Research Manager, Tunggul Wicaksono. The research project is envisioned to be completed before the ASEAN Summit and Related Summit held in November 2021.

Program Division



Bincang ASEAN Series

■ *Myanmar Protest and Unrest : Test of ASEAN Diplomacy*

23 April 2021



ASEAN Studies Center Universitas Gadjah Mada held a Webinar Series titled *“Myanmar Protests and Unrest: A Test of ASEAN Diplomacy”* which was led by Managing Director, Yulida Nuraini Santoso. The discussion that streamed through ASC UGM Youtube channel highlighted the campaign of *#FreeSawLin* and diplomatic efforts by ASEAN member states during this crucial

time, especially as the member states were scheduled to gather at the ASEAN Leader’s Meeting on Saturday, 24 April 2021. Nicolas Jude Martinez, a representative of the *#FreeSawLin-campaign* from the Global Campus Coalition for Human Rights (GCCHR) explained that the campaign was launched to bring together people from all regions to fight for equality, restorative justice, and democracy, especially in education. Dr. Rizal Sukma, Central for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Indonesia, and former Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia for UK, Ireland, and IMO explained that if any change were to happen, this would greatly depend on the Leaders Meeting and the negotiation package put forward by ASEAN

■ *Menuju 5 Tahun Dekrit Pengungsi Indonesia : Pencari Suaka dan Pengungsi di Indonesia dan ASEAN*

18 June 2021



In the occasion of world refugee day ASEAN Studies Center held webinar titled *“Towards The Fifth Year of the Indonesian Refugee Decree: Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Indonesia and ASEAN”*. The webinar aims to disseminate the research findings to consolidate and solidify public voice in the advocacy of the Indonesian refugee decree. Partnering up with SUAKA and AICHR Indonesia to further raise the multidimensional aspect of refugee migration in Indonesia and ASEAN region.

CSO Consultation on the Rights of Women and Children in ASEAN

Solidifying the Role of CSOs in the Advocacy to strengthen the ASEAN Commission of Women and Children (ACWC)

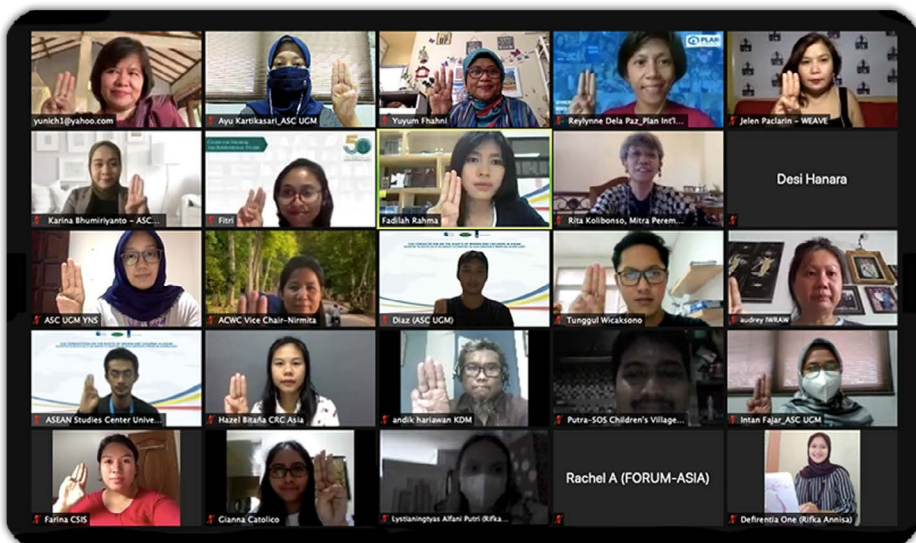
Friday, 30 April 2021

A roundtable discussion was held in collaboration with the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) and supported by *The Netherland Embassy in Jakarta* held a Round Table Discussion (RTD) between the **ASEAN Commission of Women and Children (ACWC)** and CSOs across ASEAN member states. Opening remarks were delivered by Executive Director, Dr. Dafri Agussalim, Executive Director of FORUM-ASIA, Shamini Darshni Kaliemuthu and Head of Political Affairs of the Embassy of the Netherlands, Prof, Roel van der Veen.

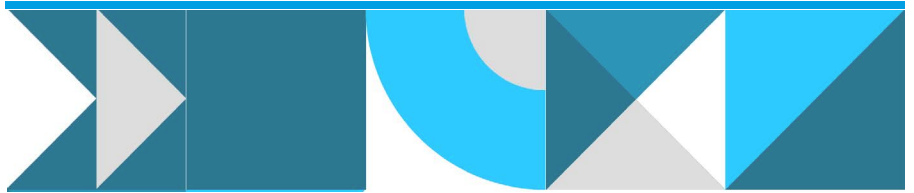
of the roundtable discussion were divided into three groups discussing different topics, namely (a) ACWC Work-plan and its alignment with the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (particularly on mainstreaming gender in pandemic responses and in the context of women, peace, and security), (b) Reporting Mechanism of Cases and an ASEAN Live Database of Violations against Women and Children, and (c) ACWC – CSOs Engagement Mechanism. Prior to the discussions, a brief introductory presentation on the work of the ACWC was delivered by H.E. Yuyum Fahni Paryani.

The roundtable discussion was held with the objective of (a) facilitating discussions among the civil society organizations to discuss the ASEAN Commission on the Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), work priority, particularly in the context of pandemic, (b) activating collective political actions to strengthen the ACWC’s protection mandate and (c) supply input for ACWC work-plan and TOR from ASEAN CSOs. Participants

Having discussed the various topics in separate groups, the forum gathered again for a Townhall Session. Discussions under the session themed “Towards a Better Engagement between ACWC and Non-Government Entities in Order Promote and Protect Woman and Children” were lively and resulted in various constructive suggestions for possible collaborations. A roundtable discussion among think tanks will be held in August 2021.



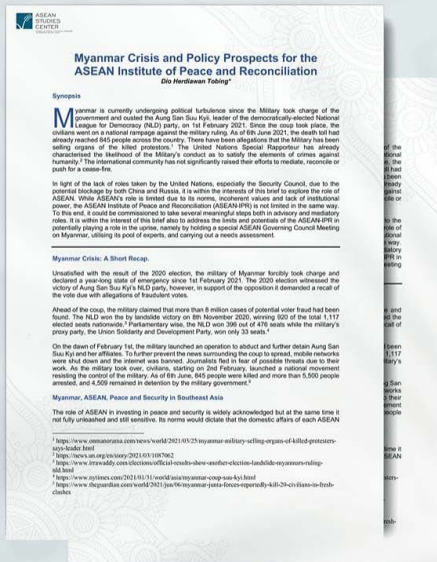
Research Division



ASC Policy Brief 2021

Myanmar Crisis and Policy Prospects for the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation

17 June 2021



The ASEAN Studies Center released a publication with the title **“Myanmar Crisis and Policy Prospects for the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation”**. The policy brief was written by Dio Herdiawan Tobing. Amidst the political turbulence and ongoing mass protests, there is an escalation of crimes against humanity. While the ASEAN's lack institutional power to handle the crisis, the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) is in a way could provide more meaningful advisory and mediatory functions. The policy brief addresses the limits and potential of ASEAN-IPR, through its expertise, to carry out the plan of action regarding Myanmar’s crisis.

The ASEAN PodQuest



The podcast was released through several platforms ([Spotify](#), [Apple Podcast](#), and [Google Podcast](#)) to broaden academic and practitioners' engagement. A series of discussion captures the salient issues to provide a more holistic understanding of Southeast Asia and ASEAN as an institutional body.

■ *Eps. 1 - Myanmar Unrest*

3 June 2021



The pilot episode titled "*Myanmar Unrest*" was hosted by Yulida Nuraini Santoso (Managing Director ASC UGM) and invited Thiha Wint Aung, who passionately resists the coup that happened in February 2021. This first episode explores the ongoing crisis in Myanmar from the social movement perspective and discusses its relevance to human rights.

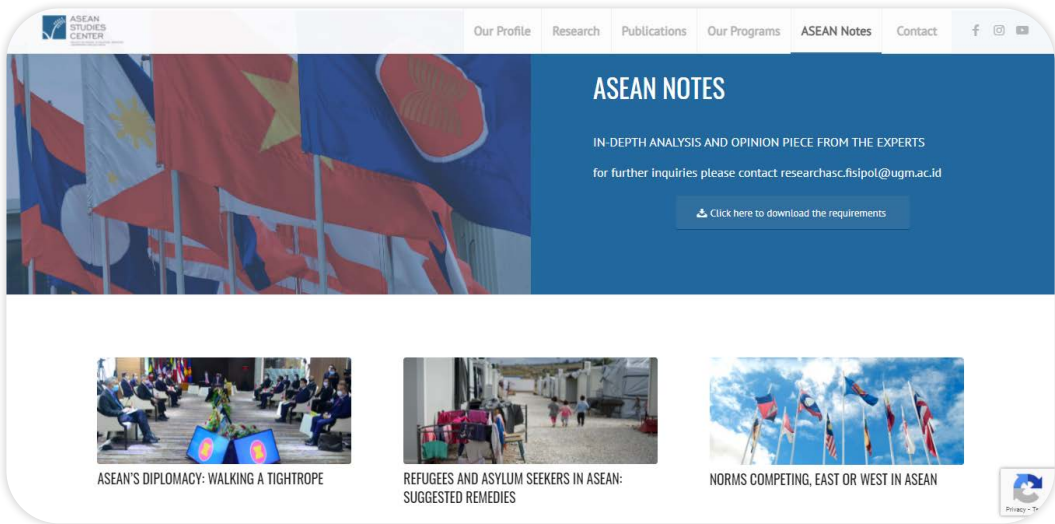
■ *Eps. 2 - Pageant dan Advokasi*

22 June 2021



Meanwhile, the second episode titled "*Pageant dan Advokasi*" was hosted by Ayu Kartikasari (Research Analyst ASC UGM) and invited Tunggul Wicaksono (Research Manager ASC UGM) to discuss the social campaign in the Miss Universe 2020 competition. Moreover, the conversation followed up by the advocacy that intertwines with the public awareness, peace initiative, and way forward to reconciliation by ASEAN member states regarding the Myanmar crisis.

ASEAN Notes Release



Two articles of ASEAN Notes have been published on the ASC website (<https://asc.fsisipol.ugm.ac.id/asean-notes/>). The titles are as follow:

“ASEAN’s Diplomacy: Walking A Tightrope”

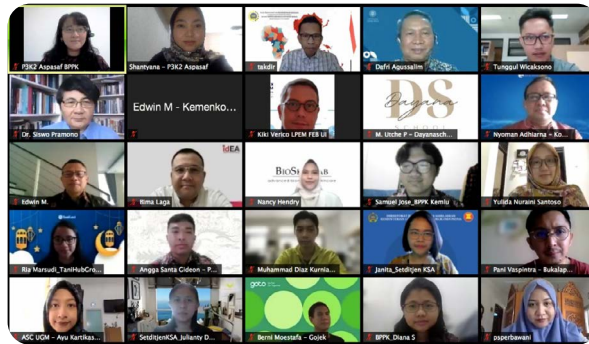
Written by Tunggul Wicaksono, this article explores the obstacles of ASEAN in handling the Myanmar crisis and the way forward to ASEAN Leader’s Meeting, human rights violation, non-interference principle, and recommendation to build better collaboration through unified responses.

“The Youth Resistance Toward’s Myanmar Military Coup: Efforts to Young Generation Protest Through Art”

Written by Berliana Azka, explores the youth anti-coup demonstration through art as a tool against the government and reflects the current situation in Myanmar. The initiative aims to gain more awareness and to show a willingness to re-establish democracy.

All articles mentioned above were reviewed carefully to meet the institution’s standards. Under the ASEAN Notes platform, we highly encourage scholars to publish their academics writings.

ASEAN Studies Center Collaborative Research



Collaborative research is one of the efforts to broaden the networks, as well as to conduct meaningful collaboration through multiple stakeholders. This year, **ASEAN Studies Center Universitas Gadjah Mada** engages in three research projects, the detail is as follows:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Republic of Indonesia

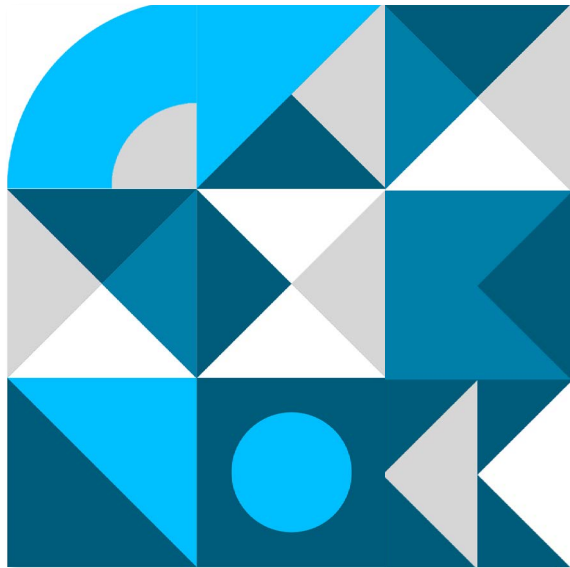
In collaboration with the Policy Analysis and Development Agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Indonesia the research brought up with a theme *“Keketuaan Indonesia di ASEAN tahun 2023: Optimalisasi Penguatan Sektor E-Commerce ASEAN dalam Rangka Percepatan Pemulihan Ekonomi”*. The research aims to map e-commerce industry during and post-pandemic situation, consumer behavior, and potential partnership on regional context.

The Coordinating Ministry for Politics, Law and Security of the Republic of Indonesia

In collaboration with the Ministry, (Kementerian Koordinator Bidang Politik, Hukum, dan Keamanan Republik Indonesia), the research titled *“Mengukur Kekokohan dan Keberlanjutan Keamanan Maritim Indonesia”* aims to assess the robustness and sustainability of maritime security in Indonesia through several indicators; diplomacy, border protection, naval power, and the current maritime initiatives. The research would like to develop a concrete policy action based on the policy gap consideration.

Independent Research

Independent research titled *“Teacher Deployment Policy in ASEAN”* is in the stage of designing a workable method with Agustina Kustulasari (Lecturer at the Department of Public Policy Management, Universitas Gadjah Mada) and Kana Takahashi (PhD in Educational Policy and Leadership, University at Albany). The research would like to explore the typology of policy instrument and concern on the teacher deployment in rural areas in selected ASEAN member states. Further, the research aims to establish the occurrence of innovation diffusion.



**ASEAN
STUDIES
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