



Webinar
ASEAN-India: Coping with COVID-19 Challenges & Way Forward

Resume of the Speakers

Brunei Darussalam

Amin Abdul Aziz



Professor Amin Abdul Aziz is Senior Professor of Islamic Governance at the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Universiti Brunei Darussalam. His academic training was in Islamic legal theories, as well as in political sociology, with special emphasis on the ‘Negara’ socio-political system. At the IPS, he established the world’s first ‘Islamic Governance’ programme; supervising PhD topics in a wide range of fields, such as ‘power dynamics’, ‘security architectures’ to ‘operationalihsan’ and the ‘knowledge economy’. He also teaches ‘Islamic Governance’ and ‘Political Islam’ on the Master in Public Policy and Management and on the ‘Master of Government’ programmes. Professor Amin is also Consultant Professor at UBD’s Institute for Leadership, Innovation and Advancement (ILIA) where he teaches on the Executive Development Programme for Senior Government Officers (EDP SGO) and the EDP for Middle Management Officers. In addition, he also teaches at the Brunei Civil Service Institute, as well as, at the Royal Brunei Armed Forces Defence Academy.

Cambodia

Pou Sothirak



Ambassador Pou Sothirak is currently holding a position as Executive Director of the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP) since June 2013. He also serves as Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia as of February 2014. He was appointed as Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia from September 2013 to January 2014. He was Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore from January 2009 to December 2012. He was appointed as Cambodian Ambassador to Japan from April 2005 to November 2008. He served as elected Cambodian Member of Parliaments twice during the general election in 1993 and 2003. He was appointed as Minister of Industry Mines and Energy of the Royal

Government of Cambodia from 1993 to 1998. He has written extensively on various issues confronting the development of Cambodia and the region.

Indonesia

Rizal Damuri



Dr. Yose Rizal Damuri, Head of the Department of Economics, Center for Strategic and International Studies. His research activities focus on international trade, regional integration and globalization of value chain. He is active in several research and advisory networks both in Indonesia and in East Asia, such as Indonesia Service Dialogue (ISD) and Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT). Yose also teaches International Economics courses at the Faculty of Economics University of Indonesia. In addition, he occasionally writes in local and national newspapers. He received his Bachelor of Economics from the Faculty of Economics, University of Indonesia. He continued his study at the National Centre for Development Studies, Australian National University (ANU), Canberra and got his Master of Economics of Development (MEcDev). He received his PhD in International Economics from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI), Geneva, Switzerland.

Laos PDR

Phouphet Kyophilavong



Dr Phouphet Kyophilavong is Associate Professor and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business Management, National University of Laos. He received his PhD in economics from Kobe University in 2003 and has been carrying out research on issues including SMEs, macroeconomic management, economic integration, energy, natural resources and poverty, contributing to such publications as the International Review of Economics & Finance, Research in International Business and Finance, Economic Modelling and others. He has directed numerous research projects and works closely with government agencies in Laos and international organizations such as ERIA, OECD, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency and Mekong River Commission (MRC). He has been a visiting scholar at Pukyong National University, Nagoya University, University of Laval, Kobe University, and Nanyang Technological University, as well as Fulbright U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar at Harvard University. He is editor in chief of the Lao Journal of Economics and Management.

Myanmar

Tin Htoo Naing



Dr. Tin Htoo Naing is a Vice-chairman of Myanmar Economic Association (MEA), a secretary of Dawei Special Management Committee (DSEZ MC) and a founding member of the Center for Economy, Environment and Society (CEES Myanmar). Prior to these appointments, he was an International Research Associate at Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya in Malaysia, a Research Fellow at University of Turin in Italy, and Senior Policy Advisor for German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in Myanmar. He holds a PhD in Economics from University of Malaya, Malaysia. He has been deeply involved in many research areas related to macroeconomic policy, economic integration, inequality and poverty alleviation, agricultural and industrial development and published papers in journals, project reports and international conferences.

Malaysia

Shankaran Nambiar



Dr. Shankaran Nambiar is a Senior Research Fellow at the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER). He has been engaged as a consultant for the Ministries of Finance, International Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs in Malaysia. He has also been a consultant for UNESCAP, UNDP, UNECLAC, ILO, ADBI, ERIA and JETRO. As a consultant, he has worked on areas such as trade policy, distributive trade, industrial development, competition policy, and poverty. He is a member of the academic advisory council of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). He has been a visiting scholar at the IMF as well as a member of the Working Group for the Malaysian Export Council. He has contributed to the drafting of the Third Industrial Master Plan and the Malaysian Consumers' Master Plan. Dr. Nambiar has also conducted feasibility studies for international agencies on the US-Malaysia FTA, ASEAN-Pakistan FTA and the ASEAN-India FTA. He has been a resource person for capacity-building programmes sponsored by the UN in Central Asia and Southeast Asia.

The Philippines

Carlos Tabunda



Dr. Carlos C. Tabunda, Jr., is the Dean of the School of International Relations of the New Era University where he also oversees the ASEAN Studies Center (the first of its kind in the Philippines) and the Center for International Linkages. He hosts “ASEAN IN FOCUS Weekend” over Net 25 TV and “ASEAN Hour” over Radyo Agila. He was a senior government administrator, serving as Assistant Secretary in various units under the Office of the President of the Philippines. A public administration and international relations educator, he has been teaching in various universities in the Philippines. He was also a visiting lecturer at the Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. He has co-authored and co-edited various books and journals, particularly on APEC and ASEAN issues and concerns. He earned his academic degrees, including a doctorate in public administration, at the University of the Philippines.

Singapore

Jayant Menon



Dr. Jayant Menon is Visiting Senior Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute) in Singapore, following his early retirement from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila, Philippines. At ISEAS, he continues his work on trade and investment issues in the region but with more of a research focus, and co-edits the *Journal of Southeast Asian Economies*. Prior to this, he was Lead Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist at ADB. He joined ADB in 1999 and has worked in research and operational departments, including the ADB Institute in Tokyo. In 2020, he will be at ISEAS in Singapore as a Visiting Senior Fellow. Prior to joining ADB, he worked as an academic in Australia for more than a decade, mainly at the Centre of Policy Studies at Monash University at its original campus in Clayton, Melbourne. He has also worked at the University of Melbourne, Victoria University, and the American University in Washington, DC. Dr. Menon holds adjunct appointments with the Australian National University, University of Nottingham, UK and the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia. He has served as a Board Director of the Cambodia Development Resource Institute and on the Advisory Board of the University of Nottingham Campus in Malaysia. He also serves on the editorial board of several academic journals. He has

authored/edited 15 books, more than 40 chapters in books and 70 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Thailand

Suthipand Chirathivat



Dr. Suthipand Chirathivat is professor emeritus of economics at Chulalongkorn University. He is also executive director of ASEAN Studies Center and chairman of Chula Global Network. He was Dean of Faculty of Economics, Chairman of the Ph.D. Program in Economics, Chairman of Economics Research Center and Center for International Economics at Chulalongkorn University. His academic interests involve the issues related to international trade, investment, finance, regional integration and development, and emerging issues in Asia in relation to the global economy and society. Recent publications include *China's Rise in Mainland ASEAN: New Dynamics and Changing Landscape* (co-eds) (2019), *Celebrating the Third Decade and Beyond: New Challenges to ASEAN-India Economic Partnership* (co-eds) (2017) and *Global Economic Uncertainties and Southeast Asian Economies* (co-eds) (2016).

Vietnam

Nguyen Huy Hoang



Dr. Nguyen Huy Hoang is Associate Professor and Director General of the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies - Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. He obtained his Engineering Degree from Hanoi University of Mining and Geology in 1989, Master Degree in Economics from Department of Economics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India in 1997 and PhD Degree in Development Economics from Wageningen University and Research Centre, the Netherlands in 2009. Professionally, he has been conducting various research projects jointly and individually in various fields, from development studies to political economics, contemporary political and security issues in the Southeast Asia as well as regional integration and international relations of Southeast Asia region and ASEAN. His expertise has gained him position in several professional groups in Vietnam and abroad. His current research interests include contemporary issues in Southeast Asia, development studies, regional and international relation, and politics as well. He has numerous publications both in the book form and journal articles as well in Vietnam and abroad focusing on development studies, development economics, regional cooperation and integration, and the regional politics and security, and international relations. His current research

interests include development economics, political economics, international relations, political and regional studies.

India

Mohan Kumar



Dr. Mohan Kumar is the Chairman of Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) since June 2018. Ambassador Kumar has had an outstanding career in the Indian Foreign Service lasting 36 years which culminated in his being India's Ambassador to France based in Paris. Under his watch, the Indo- French strategic partnership was strengthened and consolidated further in spheres such as defense, space, nuclear & solar energy, smart cities and investment. Earlier, Mohan Kumar was India's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain where he witnessed and dealt with a strategically complex region characterized by events such as the "Arab Spring". He was India's lead negotiator first at the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and then at the WTO (World Trade Organization) in crucial areas such as Intellectual Property Rights, Services, Dispute Settlement, Rules and Technical Barriers to Trade. He was a leading member of India's delegation at the WTO Ministerial Conferences held in Marrakesh (1994), Seattle (1999) and Doha (2001). Ambassador Kumar also has strategic understanding of India's ties with some of her key neighbours such as Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Maldives. Ambassador Kumar's specialization thus includes diplomatic practice & foreign policy, strategic partnerships between countries, multilateral negotiations especially trade negotiations, climate change and globalization. Ambassador Kumar holds a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from the Faculty of Management Studies, University of Delhi and a Doctorate (Ph.D.) from Sciences Po University, Paris. Ambassador Kumar also teaches at the Jindal School of International Affairs and is Vice-Dean and Professor of Diplomatic Practice.

Prabir De



Dr. Prabir De is a Professor at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, and also Coordinator of the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC), RIS. Dr De works in the field of international economics and has research interests in international trade and development. He was a Visiting Fellow of the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO), Japan; Asian Development

Bank Institute (ADB), Tokyo; and Visiting Senior Fellow of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok. He has been conducting policy research for the Government of India and several national and international organisations. He has a Ph.D. in Economics from the Jadavpur University, Kolkata. He has contributed several research papers in international journals and written books on trade and development. His recent book includes *Act East to Act Indo-Pacific: India's Expanding Neighbourhood* (Knowledge World, 2020). He is also the Founding Editor of the *Journal of Asian Economic Integration*, published by Sage.



Sabyasachi Dutta

Sabyasachi Dutta is founder Director of the Asian Confluence, India East Asia, Center headquartered at Shillong, Meghalaya in North East India. The “Asian Confluence”, is a pan regional initiative to promote an open space for cultural and intellectual exchanges towards creating better understanding of the Eastern and North Eastern region of India in the larger context of India as an emerging power in South East and East Asian geopolitics. Through research, training and advocacy programs, the Asian Confluence provides an opportunity for civil society to enhance people to people contact between India and her neighbours and also encourage a better understanding of the cultural and socio-political issues of the region that actually are the driving force behind India’s “Act East Policy”. At the heart of the project are initiatives that encourage people to people exchange such as, promoting research and interest in the region through educational tourism, cultural tourism, creation of “out of the box” livelihood generation by promoting leadership and entrepreneurship programs, eco-friendly products and services and impetus to green industries aimed at economic development by forging a network of civil society organizations working on similar objectives. Sabyasachi continues to facilitate cultural programs, exchange programs, talks, discussions and symposia with scholars and leaders of culture and thought, from India and abroad and The Asian Confluence has established itself as a premier organization in the North East with several successful initiatives to its credit such as the “Intelligent Third Space”, the NADI Asian Confluence River Festival and the Young Scholars Forum.