

ASEAN@50

Volume 4



# Building ASEAN Community: Political–Security and Socio-cultural Reflections

Edited by  
**Aileen Baviera and Larry Maramis**



Economic Research Institute  
for ASEAN and East Asia



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## Foreword



I congratulate the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to ASEAN and the Philippine ASEAN National Secretariat for publishing this 5-volume publication on perspectives on the making, substance, significance and future of ASEAN. This valuable publication, forming part of the Philippines' commemorative activities in celebration of ASEAN's golden anniversary, highlights ASEAN as one of the world's most successful and enduring regional organizations.

It pleases me to note that this printed work equally supports the development priorities of President Rodrigo Duterte and the Philippine Chairmanship priorities — building a people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN, maintaining peace and stability in the region, cooperating in maritime security, advancing inclusive and innovation-led growth, promoting a resilient ASEAN, and establishing ASEAN as a model of regionalism and a global player. Consistent with President Duterte's pursuit of an independent foreign policy for the benefit of the Filipino people, the publication also affirms the ASEAN Community Blueprints in raising the profile and awareness on the ASEAN pillars of political-security, economic and socio-cultural communities.

We seek the aid of the Almighty and are hopeful that this publication will provide the reader with greater insights on ASEAN's history, will be used by decision makers, government officials, analysts, and the people of ASEAN, in charting the future course of the region .

Mabuhay!

Manila, August 2017

**Alan Peter S. Cayetano**  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of the Philippines

## Foreword



This volume is part of the commemorative publication, *ASEAN@50: Retrospectives and Perspectives on the Making, Substance, Significance, and Future of ASEAN*. Volume 4 provides insights, perspectives, and reflections of eminent persons and experts on issues of significance to the success of building the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Political–Security Community (APSC) and the ASEAN Socio–Cultural Community (ASCC) and ASEAN moving forward. The volume is a collection of essays specifically written for it together with the integrative chapters of the author–editors.

Whether Southeast Asia will once more become an arena for big power competition or whether it will manage to defend its autonomy against the machinations of more powerful states will depend largely on ASEAN’s success in building a political–security community. Thus far, ASEAN has demonstrated considerable ability to adjust and redefine its role while adapting to a changing regional environment. The formation of the APSC and building the regional security order, which consists of the establishment of multilateral security cooperation mechanisms in East Asia and Asia–Pacific, has resulted from the growing identity of ‘ASEAN Centrality’ over the past 50 years. ASEAN has demonstrated that, notwithstanding its shortcomings and challenges, shared norms and common interests are powerful forces that continue to bind countries and provide them with an anchor to face the future together. Towards achieving the APSC Blueprint 2025, ASEAN addresses the challenges of maintaining regional peace and security, and to keep playing a central role in shaping the regional architecture, to deepen its engagement with external parties, and to contribute collectively to global peace, security, and stability. The papers in this volume discuss the history of ASEAN security cooperation, the building of the security architecture, the norms and identity of ASEAN, and dealing with nontraditional security challenges in the 21st century.

The latter half of this volume discusses the building of the ASEAN Socio–Cultural Community. Socio–cultural cooperation is vital and highly complex but poised in the post–2015 period to take a significantly greater role in the ASEAN Community project. In addition to the traditional players, like nations and local governments, non-

governmental organisations, private sector organisations, civil society, and traditional and non-traditional partners become more and more important players in successfully building the ASCC. This part explores recurring, persistent, and emerging themes that helped define the ASCC and frame the key challenges for the ASCC in the next 10 years: the role of social media and networking in social integration; the responsiveness of ASCC institutions to promote and protect human rights and instil good governance; consolidating regional integration through capacity development of non-state actors; the promise of education and health services as a source of innovation; designing a sustainable and resilient future for ASEAN; modelling regional cooperation for sustainability and resilience; addressing the demographics of social protection and its impact on integration; the ongoing work of shaping and sculpting an ASEAN Identity suited for the ASEAN Community Vision 2025; and the coordination conundrum of facing cross-cutting and cross-sectoral issues.

As you read the essays and the integrative chapters, I hope you gain a deeper understanding of the success and the challenges of ASEAN, and will feel more engaged with ASEAN's community building moving forward.

Lastly, I would like to thank Aileen Baviera and Larry Maramis who are the editors of this volume, and all contributors to this book who are the experts in the studies related to the APSC and ASCC.

Jakarta, August 2017



**Hidetoshi Nishimura**

President

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia

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