

Title	Inter-Regionalism and Connectivity: Towards a Global ASEAN
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Introduction

The formation of an ASEAN Community has increased the visibility of ASEAN at the global level. While there are activities to integrate ASEAN through three strategic pillars, ASEAN is also profiling itself at the global level through connecting with a number of regions such as Europe, Latin America and MENA. ASEAN has to compete with other regions in order to secure better markets and resources. This study focuses on the geostrategic concerns and transformation of global flows within the ASEAN Connectivity Agenda related to enhancing inter-regionalism. Due to the vast ocean space surrounding ASEAN, this study will also focus on maritime spaces from the perspective of social science. The four central research questions are: What forms of economic and social-cultural connectivity has ASEAN developed with other regions of the world (EU, Latin America and MENA)? What are the drivers of connectivity between ASEAN and other regions? How can ASEAN develop a common position in a regional (APEC) and global economic (WTO) forum? How can ASEAN play a major role in managing maritime space? The objectives are to understand connectivity between ASEAN and other regions within a bigger network such as APEC, to develop a framework of multilateral engagement towards realizing the goal of a global ASEAN. Both qualitative and quantitative methods will be utilized. IKMAS will engage with partners in the regions through the ASEAN Economic Integration Platform, the Latin America in Asia network as well as the World Trade Institute network. At the end of the study, the aim is to develop a strong cluster of researchers who can provide policy input towards ASEAN Integration.

Publication: