# **Regional Integration in Southeast Asia**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study aims to examine the concept and phenomenon of regional integration in Southeast Asia as expressed mainly through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). ASEAN which has contributed to regional peace and stability has been recognized as a successful regional institution. ASEAN, which initially aimed to strengthen regional cooperation rather than to pursue regional integration, has started seeking a new direction towards regional economic integration under a new world order characterized by globalization and the end of the Cold War, although many challenges lie ahead. This study reveals major trends that indicate the degree of regional integration particularly in the economic field, and investigates its limitations and challenges.

#### **ABSTRAK**

Tujuan tesis ini ialah untuk konsep dan fenomena integrasi serantau di Asia Tenggara seperti yang dinyatakan melalui kesatuan negara-negara Asia Tenggara (ASEAN). ASEAN yang menyumbang kepada kerukunan dan kemantapan serantau dikenali sebagai sebuah institusi serantau yang berjaya. ASEAN, yang dahulu lebih menumpukan ke arah 'Kerjasama Serantau' mana integrasi serantau tidak diutamakan, kini telah mula mencari arah baru menumpu kepada integrasi ekonomi serantau di bawah order dunia baru yang dicetuskan oleh globalisasi selepas tamatnya perang dingin, walaupun banyak cabaran berada di hadapaanya. Kajian ini menunjukkan beberapa aliran penting yang menandakan tahap integrasi serantau terutamanya dalam bidang ekonomi serta menyelidiki batasan-batasan dan cabaran-cabaran.

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#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

AEC ASEAN Economic Community

AFTA ASEAN Free Trade Area
AIA ASEAN Investment Area

APEC Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

APT ASEAN Plus Three

ARF ASEAN Regional Forum

ASA Association of South-East Asia
ASA ASEAN Swap arrangement
ASC ASEAN Security Community

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ASP ASEAN Surveillance Process
BSA Bilateral Swap Arrangement
BTA Bilateral Trade Agreement
CBU Completely Built-Up

CKD Completely Knocked-Down
EAEC East Asian Economic Caucus
EAEG East Asian Economic Grouping

EAGA East Asian Growth Area
EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone
FDI Foreign Direct Investment
FTA Free Trade Agreement
IMF International Monetary Fund

IMT-GT Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle

IPE International Political Economy

ISA Internal Security Act

KMM Kumpulan Mujahideen Malaysia
MILF Moro Islamic Liberation Front
MNC Multi National Corporation

NAFTA North American Free Trade Agreement

NTBs Non-tariff barriers ROOs Rules of Origins

SEATO South-East Asian Treaty Organization
TAC Treaty of Amity and Cooperation

UNDP UN Development Program WTO World Trade Organization

ZOPFAN Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality