



**International Conference “Dynamic Alignments and Realignments in Global Southeast Asia,”  
Organized by the FRIAS Research Focus Southeast Asia, Freiburg, 24 – 26 June 2015**

The FRIAS Research Focus “*Dynamic Alignments and Dealignment in Global Southeast Asia*” examines how global flows and challenges impact on the actors, patterns and processes that drive social and institutional adjustments in a strategically important, economically vibrant, culturally diverse and politically volatile region. Alignments denote forms of cooperation, alliances, coalition-building and caucuses; de-alignments refer to fragmentation, conflict and disintegration as responses to intensifying global and local challenges. How alignments and dealignments of societal groups play out in a highly diverse world region like Southeast Asia and how they shape cultural, political and economic processes is an issue of great significance. The Research Focus explores at different organizational levels – international, national, local – and from an interdisciplinary perspective how cultures of cooperation are negotiated and by which encounters and narratives changing alignments between nations as well as diverse ethnic, economic, religious, political and professional groups are framed. The conference is a stocktaking exercise of current work under the Research Focus and presents work in progress of FRIAS fellows and guests working on Southeast Asia.

**Tentative Program**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topics</i>
<b>Venue: Conference Room, Rector’s Office, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Friedrichstr. 39, 79085 Freiburg</b>	
<b>Wednesday, 24 June 2015</b>	<b>Arrival of participants</b>
18.15 -19.30	<b>Keynote Southeast Asia Lecture</b>  Lecture Room HS 1098, KG IV  <i>The (Economic) Rise of Southeast Asia: Lessons and Implications</i> Hal Hill (Australian National University)



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<b>Thursday, 25 June 2015</b>	<b>Day 1</b>
8.30-9.00	Registration
9.00-9.30	<p><b>Welcome of Participants</b></p> <p>Bernd Kortmann (FRIAS Director, University of Freiburg)</p> <p>Jürgen Rüländ (Speaker FRIAS Research Focus Southeast Asia, (Department of Political Science)</p>
9.30 – 12.30	<p><b>The Changing Nature of Political Cooperation in Southeast Asia</b></p> <p><b>Convener: Jürgen Rüländ (Department of Political Science, University of Freiburg</b></p> <p>The member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have claimed for a long time that they have developed a culture of regional cooperation which was tailor-made to the needs of young and aspiring nation states (except Thailand). The so-called ASEAN Way emphasized sovereignty norms including non-interference into the domestic affairs of other members, non-binding decisions, voluntarism and cooperation for mutual benefit. However, the Asian financial crisis of 1997/1998 strongly questioned the norms of the ASEAN Way. Since then many adjustments have taken place, including attempts to deepen regional integration and the transformation of the regional grouping into a less elitist and state-centered organization as epitomized by the ASEAN Charter. Yet, pressures of democratizing ASEAN as a regional organization from below, greater calls for democracy and respect of human rights have been internalized by member countries to different degrees. Cooperation is also tested due to political and economic dynamics in the wider region. The rise of China and India and the renewed presence of the United States under its “rebalancing policy,” also known as Pivot to the Asia-Pacific, have given rise for many Southeast Asian governments to rethink their alignments within and beyond the region. The panel seeks to shed light on selected aspects of this process.</p>



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9.30 – 10.45	<p><b>Panel 1: Trajectories of Regional Governance in Southeast Asia</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Mikko Huotari, Merics, Berlin</p> <p><b><i>ASEAN's Diplomatic Culture: Can it Cope with China?</i></b></p> <p>Mark Beeson (University of Western Australia)</p> <p><b><i>Producing Democratic Space from Below: The ASEAN Civil Society Conference and the ASEAN Youth Forum</i></b></p> <p>Stefan Rother (University of Freiburg)</p>
10.45-11.15	Tea and Coffee Break
11.15 – 12.45	<p><b>Panel 2: Cooperation Culture and Foreign Policy</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Muhadi Sugiono (Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia)</p> <p><b><i>Thailand in Sino-US Rivalry and the Impact on ASEAN</i></b></p> <p>Pavin Chachavalpongpun (University of Kyoto)</p> <p><b><i>Democratizing Foreign Policymaking in Indonesia and the Democratization of ASEAN</i></b></p> <p>Jürgen Rüland (University of Freiburg)</p> <p><b><i>Does Foreign Aid Undermine Human Rights? Interest Convergence Theory and the US-Philippines Counterterrorism Cooperation</i></b></p> <p>Salvador Santino Regilme (Northern Illinois University, De Kalb)</p>
12.45-14.00	Lunch Break
14.00	<p><b>Repositioning alterity and identity: anthropological perspectives</b></p> <p><b>Convener: Judith Schlehe (University of Freiburg)</b></p>



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	<p>In our contemporary world, cultural orientation and the dynamics of <i>alignments</i> and <i>dealignments</i> arise from the intersubjective level of transcultural encounters and social imaginaries. Global Southeast Asia is not a bounded “region” but based on networks, transitions, migratory circulations. Yet, this does not automatically lead to fluidity, cultural hybridity and cosmopolitanism. This panel will focus on Southeast Asians’ assumptions about the world and one's place in it. Historically- and culturally-specific trajectories lead to a certain politics of difference and related interpretations of sameness and difference. In our ethnographic case studies, perceptions of the self and the other as well as strategies for dealing with alterity will be connected to issues of belonging and to the experiences, knowledge, representations and practices of concrete actors. A special focus will be on the manufacturing of identity and alterity in the relationship between the Malay-Indonesian world and the Middle East.</p>
14.00 – 15.15	<p><b>Panel 3: Migratory Experiences</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Anna Marie Wattie (Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia)</p> <p><b>In Between and in the Middle: Multiple Positioning among Hadhramis in Indonesia</b></p> <p>Martin Slama (University of Vienna)</p> <p><b><i>Distant Friends and Intimate Strangers: on the Perils of Friendship in the Context of Iranian Migration to Malaysia</i></b></p> <p>Olivia Killias (University of Zurich)</p>
15.15 - 15.45	Tea and Coffee Break
15.45 – 17.15	<p><b>Panel 4: Imaginaries of the ‘Arab world’</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Ariel Heryanto (Australian National University)</p> <p><b><i>Indonesian Alumni from Cairo: Cultural and religious orientations</i></b></p> <p>Eva F. Nisa (Universitas Negeri Jakarta, Indonesia) and Judith Schlehe (University of Freiburg)</p>



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	<p><b><i>Gendered Moralities: Indonesians' Experience in the Middle East On and Off Screen</i></b></p> <p>Evi Elisyah (Australian National University) &amp; Mirjam Lücking (University of Freiburg)</p>
19.00	Reception and Conference Dinner
<b>Friday, 26 June 2015</b>	<b>Day 2</b>
<b>9.00 – 12.00</b>	<p><b>Political-Economic Consequences of Alignment and Dealignment in localized Indonesia and Philippines</b></p> <p><b>Convener: Günther G. Schulze (University of Freiburg)</b></p> <p>The panel analyzes important consequences of political alignment and its antipode, political rivalry, on political and economic outcomes in the context of two leading Southeast Asian nations. The first part focuses on the political economics of alignment and rivalry in the context of decentralized states. The paper by Joseph Capuno studies the effect of political competition on fiscal and economic outcomes in subnational Philippine jurisdictions; the second paper by Gonschorek and Schulze analyzes how political (non)alignment of the district heads with the president in Indonesia affects the distribution of discrete transfers from the center to local jurisdictions.</p> <p>The second part is devoted to important governance issues - Political dynasties and the murder of journalists. The paper by Farfan studies how the presence of political dynasties in localized Philippines are correlated with key development indicators, i.e. overall governance quality and the extent of poverty. The contribution by Capuno, Farfan and Schulze sheds light on the circumstances under which journalists are killed in the Philippines and tries to draw conclusions on the correlates of these incidents. The Philippines are among the top 5 countries in the world with the highest murders of journalists. The final paper shows <i>pars pro toto</i> using the example of two Philippine cities how good governance may be obtained in the presence of local elites if these elites compete with each other.</p>





9.00 – 10.15	<p><b>Panel 5: Political Competition and Economic Policy</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Prof. Hal Hill (Australian National University).</p> <p><b><i>Political Competition, Fiscal Performance and Local Development in the Philippines</i></b></p> <p>Joseph Capuno (University of the Philippines, Manila)</p> <p><b><i>The Political Economy of Central Government Transfers in Indonesia: Political Alignment and Core Support in Indonesia</i></b></p> <p>Gerrit Gonschorek and Günther G. Schulze (University of Freiburg)</p>
10.15. – 10.45	Tea and Coffee Break
10.45 – 12.15	<p><b>Panel 6: Governance issues: Rivalry, Dynasties, and the Freedom of Press</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Krisztina Kis-Katos (University of Freiburg)</p> <p><b><i>The Impact of Political Families on Poverty and Governance. Evidence from the Philippines</i></b></p> <p>Antonio Farfan (University of Freiburg)</p> <p><b><i>Let's Shoot the Messenger: An Analysis of Murder of Journalists in the Philippines</i></b></p> <p>Joseph Capuno, (University of the Philippines, Manila), Antonio Farfan &amp; Günther G. Schulze (University of Freiburg)</p> <p><b><i>Elite Contestability: Possibilities of Good Government in Two Philippine Cities</i></b></p> <p>Christian von Lübke (Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute) &amp; Joseph Capuno (University of the Philippines, Manila)</p>
12.15 – 13.005	Lunch Break



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13.00 – 16.00	<p><b>Historical Perspectives on Transcultural Interactions in Southeast Asia</b></p> <p><b>Convener: Sabine Dabringhaus (University of Freiburg)</b></p> <p>The concept of Southeast Asia is a fairly recent one, separating areas that historically, culturally, linguistically, and environmentally might better have been treated as undivided regions. Though being a victim of statehood, modern borders and conventional ways of demarcating the world, the area is not just a mapmaker's invention. Southeast Asia has many historical, cultural and other features in common. This panel will explore some of them in their transcultural regional context.</p>
13.00 – 14.15	<p><b>Panel 7: The Modernization of Tradition: How Local Cultures of Cooperation Change</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Nurul Ilmi Idrus (Hasanuddin University, Makassar)</p> <p><b><i>Non-state institutions of welfare and citizenship: Gotong royong in Indonesia and Jajmani in India</i></b></p> <p>Agus Suwignyo (Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta)</p> <p><b><i>The Journey of a Dead King: On the Question Why a Thai Royal Cannot be Buried in England</i></b></p> <p>Katja Rangvissek (University of Copenhagen)</p>
14.15 – 15.30	<p><b>Panel 8: Chineseness in Southeast Asian Environments</b></p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Sabine Dabringhaus (University of Freiburg)</p> <p><b><i>The historic significance and politics of teaching Mandarin in Java at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (working title, will be fixed soon!)</i></b></p> <p>Sai Siew Min (National University of Singapore)</p> <p><b><i>State and Non-state Agents in Sino-Vietnamese Cultural Exchange</i></b></p> <p>Han Xiarong (Lingnan University, Hong Kong)</p>



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15.30	<b>Concluding Remarks</b>  Bernd Kortmann (FRIAS Director, University of Freiburg)  Judith Schlehe (University of Freiburg)
16.00	<b>End of Conference</b>