

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

ASEAN AT 50: FADING MULTILATERALISM AND GREAT POWERS' ALLURE

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PRESENTATION PREPARED FOR THE KAS-USSH "ASEAN COMMUNITIES AFTER ONE YEAR OF REALISATION"

14/09/2016

MOMENTUM

- ASEAN CHARTER
- ASEAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
- ASEAN COMMUNITY BLUEPRINTS

ASEAN COMMUNITY 2015

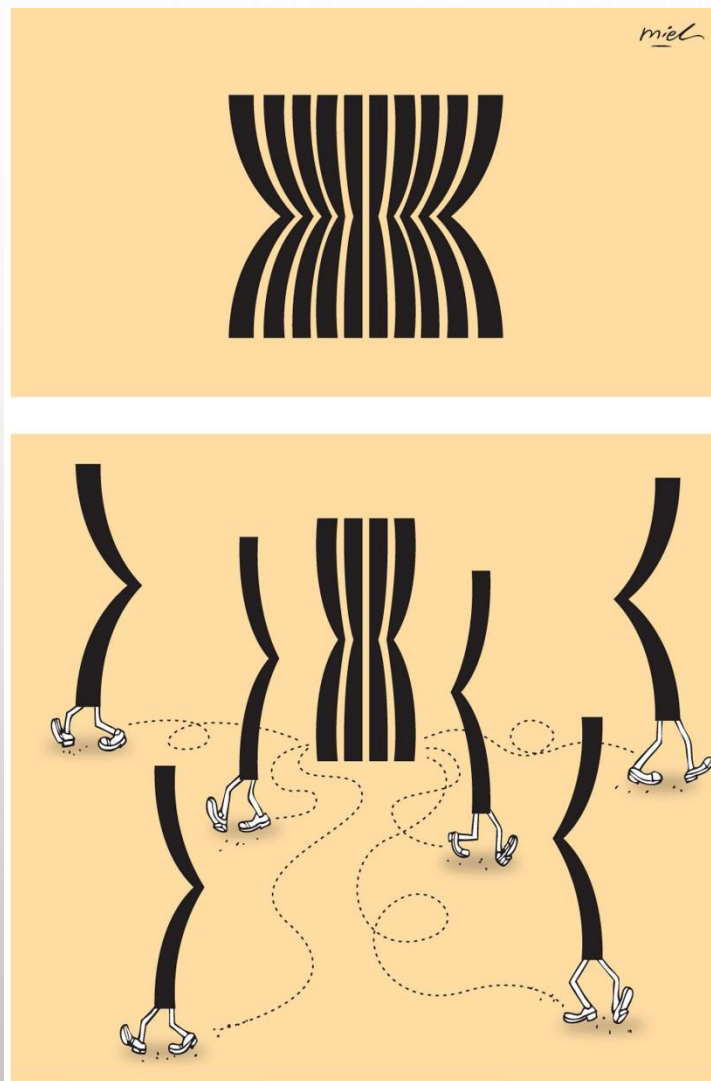
- ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY
- ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
- ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

- AMBIVALENT ASSESSMENTS

ASEAN BEFORE 50

- WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE ASEAN COMMUNITY?
- A MOMENTUM HAS BEEN LOST.
- GROWING CRITICISM AND EVEN SKEPTICISM ABOUT ASEAN'S REMAINING RELEVANCE.

CENTRALITY AND UNITY REPLACED BY DISUNITY



EXTERNAL FACTORS

- GREAT POWER RIVALRY
- “SYSTEMIC NEGLECT” OF THE KEY SECURITY ISSUES
- RESISTANCE IN ADDRESSING KEY SECURITY AND POLITICAL ISSUES
- ABUSE OF THE CONSENSUS RULE

CHINA'S RISE AND THE IMPACT ON THE REGION

- DIRECT NEIGHBORHOOD
- POWER ASYMMETRY
- ECONOMIC IMBALANCE
- STRATEGIC TERRITORY
- IDEA OF "PERIPHERY"
- POLITICAL INSTABILITY



U.S. REBALANCE

- RE-FOCUSING ON SOUTHEAST ASIA



INTERNAL FACTORS

- POLITICAL INSTABILITY ACROSS SOUTHEAST ASIAN STATES
- ECONOMIC CHALLENGES
- PERCEPTION OF GREAT POWER RIVALRY

STILL SUBALTERN REALISM?

- FADING MULTILATERALISM
- SLOW INSTITUTIONAL MATURITY





THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DISPUTES

- “THE ELEPHANT” IN THE ROOM
 - FIASCO ON ASEAN SUMMIT
 - ASEAN CONSENSUS AS AN EFFECTIVE BLOCKING MECHANISM
- 

A MERELY STAGE OF GREAT POWER POLITICS?



A NEW GOAL?

- DOES ASEAN NEED A NEW “ASEAN COMMUNITY” TYPE OF VISION AND GOALS?
- CAN COMMITMENT BE HALF-WAY?
- WHAT IS MISSING AFTER 50 YEARS?



A NEW RECIPE FOR 10

- TO UPDATE THE ASEAN SPIRIT AFTER 50 YEARS
- A REVISION FOR ASEAN'S ROLE IN THE REGION
- REVISITING THE "ASEAN CONSENSUS"



Q&A

- THANK YOU