



Politics in Action: Updates from Southeast Asia

5-6 May 2021

Online

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The Sydney Southeast Asia Centre is forging Australia's relationship with one of the world's fastest growing regions by educating students and building new partnerships with academics and governments based on research excellence.

With more than 400 academics across all faculties and schools working on and in Southeast Asia, the University of Sydney has one of the highest concentrations of regional expertise in the world.

Event proceedings

In this public forum, invited experts will provide an analysis of the current political situation in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand and discuss the broader implications of events in these countries for our region.

Each of our country-specialists will present for up to 15 minutes, followed by a short Q&A session. They are instructed to pitch their talk to an interested, but not necessarily academic, audience so the talks are able to be enjoyed by a wide range of people. These talks should be particularly valuable to non-political scientists working in one or more Southeast Asian countries.

All videos recorded as part of Politics in Action 2021 will be made available for public viewing on our [Facebook page](#) and our [YouTube channel](#). Find all the links on the [Politics in Action webpage](#).



Program:

Date	Time (CEST)	Time (SGT)	Time (AEST)	Topic	Presenter	Link
Wed. 5 May	9:00am	3:00pm	5:00pm	Singapore	Dr Elvin Ong	bit.ly/PiASGP
Wed. 5 May	9:30am	3:30pm	5:30pm	Indonesia	Dr Burhanuddin Muhtadi	bit.ly/PiAInd
Wed. 5 May	10:00am	4:00pm	6:00pm	Cambodia	Dr Astrid Norén-Nilsson	bit.ly/PiACam
Thurs. 6 May	9:00am	3:00pm	5:00pm	Myanmar	Prof Melissa Crouch	bit.ly/PiAMMR
Thurs. 6 May	9:30am	3:30pm	5:30pm	Philippines	Prof Maria Ela L. Atienza	bit.ly/PiAPhil
Thurs. 6 May	10:00am	4:00pm	6:00pm	Thailand	Prof Duncan McCargo	bit.ly/PiAThai

Cambodia

Dr Astrid Norén-Nilsson

University of Lund



Astrid Norén-Nilsson is an Associate Senior Lecturer at the Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies at Lund University since 2016. She received her Ph.D. in Politics & International Studies (2013) from the University of Cambridge, UK, where she was a Gates Scholar. She was a research fellow at the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV), Leiden, the Netherlands, 2013-15. Her scholarship focuses on the politics of Cambodia in the post-conflict reconstruction era (1993 -). Her research interests include democratic change, nationalism, the politics of memory, and emerging notions of citizenship and social change in Southeast Asia.

Indonesia

Dr Burhanuddin Muhtadi

Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University



Burhanuddin Muhtadi is a Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta. He is also an executive director of the Indonesian Political Indicator (*Indikator Politik Indonesia*) and the Director of Public Affairs at the Indonesian Survey Institute (*Lembaga Survei Indonesia, LSI*). His research interests include political Islam, voting behaviour, clientelism, democracy and social movements.

Twitter: @BurhanMuhtadi

Myanmar

Professor Melissa Crouch

UNSW Sydney



Melissa Crouch is Professor and Associate Dean Research at the Faculty of Law & Justice at the University of New South Wales. She leads the Southeast Asia Law & Policy Forum. Melissa's research focuses on comparative constitutional law, law and society, and law and religion in Southeast Asia.

Twitter: [@MelissaACrouch](https://twitter.com/MelissaACrouch)

The Philippines

Professor Maria Ela L. Atienza

University of the Philippines, Diliman



Maria Ela L. Atienza, PhD is Professor at the Department of Political Science, University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman. She is the Editor of the *Philippine Political Science Journal* and Co-Convenor of the UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies' Program on Social and Political Change. She also served as Chair of the Department of Political Science (2016-19), Director of the UP Third World Studies Center (2010-13), and President of the Philippine Political Science Association (2007-09).

Twitter: [@AtienzaEla](https://twitter.com/AtienzaEla)

Singapore

Dr Elvin Ong

National University of Singapore



Elvin Ong is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at NUS. He was previously a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for Southeast Asia Research, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, University of British Columbia. He obtained his PhD in Political Science from Emory University, the MPhil in Politics (Comparative Government) from the University of Oxford, and a Double Degree in Business Management and Social Science from the Singapore Management University. He was named a 2019 Dan David Prize Scholar in Defending Democracy, and a 2018 Young Southeast Asia Fellow.

Twitter: @ElvinOngPolSci

Thailand

Professor Duncan McCargo

University of Copenhagen



Duncan McCargo, Director of the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies and Professor of Political Science at the University of Copenhagen, is best known for his wide-ranging work on the politics of Thailand. Earlier books include the best-selling *The Thaksinization of Thailand* (with Ukrist Pathmanand, NIAS Press 2005), and the award-winning *Tearing Apart the Land: Islam and Legitimacy in Southern Thailand* (Cornell 2008). More recently, he has published *Fighting for Virtue: Justice and Politics in Thailand* (Cornell 2019) and *Future Forward: The Rise and Fall of a Thai Political Party* (with Anyarat Chattharakul, NIAS Press 2020). A past president of the European Association for Southeast Asian Studies, Duncan co-founded the Columbia University-based New York Southeast Asia Network (www.nysean.org) and has co-supervised 29 PhD students to successful completion.





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