

# THE HABIBIE CENTER

## ASEAN ROUND-UP



Regional news round-up for the week ending : 2 March 2015

### [8 ASEAN Countries implemented Death Penalty](#)

*Liputan6.com - February 22, 2015*

In couple days, Indonesia has become trending world news related to the execution for 6 drug dealers from other countries. Behind this gesture, there are 8 other ASEAN countries still implement the death penalty. According to Death Penalty Worldwide, there are 8 ASEAN Countries still implement the Death Penalty, namely Brunei Darusallam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Thailand.

### [Will Singapore's Tax Hike On Top Earners Deter Top Talent?](#)

*CNBC - February 23, 2015*

Singapore's decision to hike taxes on its top earners has raised questions about whether the unanticipated move may erode the city state's longer-term competitiveness. The nation's low tax regime has long been a magnet for attracting highly skilled talent as well as the super-rich from abroad.

### [AirAsia Launches ASEAN Flight Pass](#)

*The Jakarta Post - February 24, 2015*

Malaysian budget airline AirAsia launched on Monday "AirAsia ASEAN Pass" in a bid to grab the ASEAN market ahead of the open sky policy that will be implemented next year.

AirAsia ASEAN Pass is a travel pass that allows passengers to enjoy flights at a fixed rate on over 148 routes across all 10 ASEAN countries: Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore, Indonesia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and the Philippines.

### [Does Asia Need a New Maritime Organization Beyond ASEAN?](#)

*The Diplomat - February 24, 2015*

"The physical contours of East Asia," leading geopolitical analyst Robert Kaplan recently wrote, "argue for a naval century." Given the significance of the maritime realm in the region – evident in everything from rich energy resources to vital maritime trade routes to raging territorial disputes in the East and South China Seas – few would disagree.

### [Improving Cooperation, ASEAN-Japan Invited 100 of Talented Youth](#)

*Metrotvnews.com - February 25, 2015*

100 Talented youths from ASEAN countries and Japan will meet to share their experience and insight about development agenda in their respective countries. This activities will adopt a theme 'The Role of Youth on Strengthening ASEAN-Japan Partnership toward ASEAN Community 2015'.

### [SMEs Still In The Dark As Asean Union Looms](#)

*Nationmultimedia.com - February 25, 2015*

Although small and medium-sized enterprises have a better grasp

of what the Asean Economic Community (AEC) is all about than they used to, more than 80 per cent still lack a deep understanding of how to start trading or investing in Asean or even how to compete in the home market after liberalisation.

### [SMEs 'Lack Understanding of Asean Economic Integration'](#)

*Bangkokpost.com - February 25, 2015*

Despite Asean economic integration coming closer, Thai businesses are still short of in-depth understanding about it, says a survey by the University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce (UTCC).

### [The Best Library in ASEAN : RIAU](#)

*Kompas, Indonesia - February 27, 2015*

Library Soeman in Pekanbaru, Riau, defeating 19 participants from eight countries in Southeast Asia in the selection of architectural design that reflects the ASEAN identity. The design of the library building was considered successful accentuate the characteristics of the local culture, without leaving the elements of modernity and quality carpentry.

### [ASEAN Economic Ministers Expect Stronger Growth In 2015](#)

*Channelnewsasia.com - March 01, 2015*

The ministers expect ASEAN's economy to improve in 2015 to 5.1% - above the 3.5% global growth projection - based on the stronger demand in advanced economies, energised by the robust US recovery and several policy stimulus measures in the Eurozone and Japan.

### [Cambodia's Largest Hydropower Plant Begins Operation](#)

*Powermag.com - March 01, 2015*

The 338 - MW Russey Chrum Krom hydropower plant in southwestern Koh Kong province, Cambodia, was inaugurated on Jan. 12. The Chinese-built project is the largest hydropower station located in the Southeast Asian country of more than 15 million people.

*ASEAN Studies Program of The Habibie Center conduct monthly discussion and bi-monthly policy brief on ASEAN and its current development.*

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