

2 – 3 September 2017, Kuala Lumpur

Welcome and Launch of Conference



Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Chairman of SUHAKAM

Tan Sri Razali Ismail is the current Chairman of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM). He has had a long diplomatic and political career following his entry into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1962. He headed the Malaysian delegation to the United Nations and chaired the Security Council from 1989-1990. He also served as the Special Advisor to former Prime Minister Mahatir Mohamed.

Tan Sri Razali Ismail was the Special Envoy for Myanmar between 2000 and 2005 and played a pivotal role in securing the release of Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest in 2002. He has also headed the Yayasan Chow Kit Foundation, on protecting displaced children and with the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation that aims to engage political stakeholders in dialogues on peaceful coexistence of religions.

YB Senator Datuk Paul Low Seng Kuan

YB Senator Datuk Paul Low Seng Kuan currently serves as the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department in charge of Governance, Integrity and Human Rights.

He previously served as President of Transparency International Malaysia, Vice President of the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM), and was the President of FMM from 1997 to 1999.



He has extensive knowledge and experience in industry as he was involved in the glass manufacturing and automotive industries for more than 35 years and was the Managing Director of Malaysian Sheet Glass Sdn Bhd until his retirement in March 2010. Datuk Low also sat on the boards of Sunway Berhad and Pos Malaysia Berhad up until his recent appointment as a Minister.

He was also served on several agencies of the Malaysian Government, such as the National Economic Action Council (NEAC), Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA) Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER), and Malaysian Services Development Council (MSDC). On April 1, 2011 he was appointed Deputy Chairman and a Commissioner

of the Enforcement Agency Integrity Organisation (EAIC). Datuk Low is a chartered accountant by profession and graduated from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Melbourne.

Yves Leterme

Yves Leterme is the current Secretary General of International IDEA and served as Prime Minister of Belgium from 2007 to 2011. Belgium held the Presidency of the European Union during Leterme's tenure as Prime Minister. He then served as Deputy Secretary General of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris from 2011 to 2014.



Before serving as Prime Minister, Leterme held a variety of political posts in Belgium. After starting his career as an Alderman in his home town of Ypres, he became a Member of Parliament in the Chamber of Representatives and served as Chairman of his party CD&V. He also held various Ministerial positions, such as that of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Leterme has also worked, *inter alia*, as a deputy auditor at the Belgian Court of Audit and as an administrator at the European Parliament.



H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was the sixth President of Indonesia, serving two terms from 2004 to 2014. President Yudhoyono is presently chairman of Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and, as head of Partai Demokrat, remains active in the politics of Indonesia. A graduate of the Military Academy he achieved the rank of four star general, including a included a tour as chief of the United Nations Military Observer in Bosnia and Herzegovina. After retiring early from the military service in 1999, he was appointed as Minister of Mining

and Energy, then serving as Coordinating Minister for Political, Social, and Security Affairs from 2000 to 2004. In 2012, President Yudhoyono was appointed by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as Co-Chair of the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the post-2015 Development Agenda. President Yudhoyono is very active on global diplomacy on climate change. In 2007, Indonesia successfully hosted the Conference of Parties (COP) 13 and in 2008 he created the National Council on Climate. He is a prolific author and international speaker.

Panel I: Development and Democratization: Friends or Foes

Noeleen Heyzer

Moderator

Dr. Noeleen Heyzer is the former Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). She served in this capacity from 2007-2014 and in 2013 was also appointed Special Adviser of the Secretary General for Timor-Leste.



Dr. Heyzer was the first executive director from the South to head the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). Dr. Heyzer has served on numerous boards and advisory committees of international organizations including the UNDP Human Development Report, the Commission on Globalization of the State of the World's Forum, the UNDP Eminent Persons Group on Trade and Sustainable Development. She was a founding member of numerous international women's networks and has published extensively on gender and development issues, especially economic globalization, international migration and trafficking, women, peace and security.

Born in Singapore, she received a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Singapore and a doctorate in social sciences from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom. She has received several awards for leadership.



Bilahari Kausikan

Bilahari Kausikan was the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2001 to May 2013. He has previously served as Director for Southeast Asia, Director for East Asia and the Pacific and as Deputy Secretary for Southeast Asia. He also served as the Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York and as Ambassador to the Russian Federation.

Mr. Kausikan has been awarded the Public Administration Medal (Gold) and the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Meritorious Service Medal) by the government of Singapore. He has also been awarded the "Order of Bernardo O'Higgins" with the rank of "Gran Cruz" by the President of the Republic of Chile and the Oman Civil Merit Order by the Sultan of Oman.

Pak Heru Prasetyo

Pak Heru Prasetyo has been the Head of Indonesian's National REDD+ Agency, where he was a member of the National REDD+ Task Force since 2010. His responsibilities included chairing the global REDD+ Partnership and developing the national framework on climate change mitigation in forestry, agricultural sectors and natural resources. He has also been Deputy I of Planning and International Relations of the



President's Special Delivery Unit for Development Monitoring and Oversight (UKP4) since 2009 and Secretary of the National Committee of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Previously, Mr. Prasetyo was the Director for International Relations of the Executing Agency for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Aceh-Nias (2005 – 2009). Mr Prasetyo has been active as a School Advisory Council member of the School of Business and Management (SBM), Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) since 2004. Mr. Prasetyo graduated from Industrial Engineering, Institut Teknologi Bandung in 1974 and received his Master of Business Management from Asian Institute of Management in 1978.

Sébastien F. Brack

Sébastien F. Brack is the senior political officer of the Kofi Annan Foundation and the coordinator of its Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII). He has worked closely with Mr. Annan on a number of delicate high-level negotiations, some involving fraught elections. Prior to joining the Foundation, Sébastien Brack was a campaign manager in the French general elections of 2012 after having been a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in crises in the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia for nine years.



Though French and Swiss, Sébastien grew up largely in Southeast Asia, namely in Thailand, Indonesia, and Singapore, before going on to study the social and political sciences at Lausanne University (BA), international relations at Oxford University (M.Phil.) and diplomacy at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.

Panel II: How Can Election Monitoring Bodies Build Trust and Legitimacy in the Political Process?



Beverly G Hagerdon

Moderator

Beverly G. Hagerdon is the International Foundation for Electoral Systems' (IFES) Sri Lanka chief of party. She has 20 years of experience working in the election field, including in the following countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Philippines, Afghanistan, Iraq, Thailand, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, the Maldives and Sri Lanka.

Hagerdon has also served as IFES chief of party for the Maldives, the Philippines, former Sarajevo, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Hagerdon began her career in election administration and management with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1997. She has also served as head of operations for the International Organization for Migration's Out-of-Country Registration and Voting Program for the Afghanistan presidential elections in 2004, as well as senior operations officer for the Out-of-Country Voting Program for the Iraqi National Elections in 2005. She has observed elections in Armenia, Croatia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and the United States.

Prof. Dato' Dr Aishah Bidin

Prof. Dato' Dr Aishah Bidin is a Professor of Corporate and Insolvency Law at the National University of Malaysia. She has been an academic staff of the Faculty of Law of UKM since 1984 and has been a visiting Professor at several universities around the world. In 2013, she was appointed as a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) where she also served as the Asia Pacific Representative in Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Working Group on Business and Human



Rights. In June 2016, Prof. Dato' Dr Aishah Bidin was re-appointed as a Commissioner for a second term until 2019.

Prof. Dato' Dr Aishah Bidin is a Board Member of the Companies Commission of Malaysia (CCM) and an Executive Council Member of International Centre for Law and Legal Studies (I-CeLL) of the Attorney General Chambers (AGC) of Malaysia. She also serves on the Advisory Board of Intellectual Property of UKM, Malaysian Legal and Tax Information Centre (MLTIC). She was an Executive Council Member of Legal Aid Foundation of Malaysia (YBGK).

Prof. Dato' Dr. Aishah earned her Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Malaya and Masters in Laws from the University of Kent, and her Ph.D in Laws from the University of London.



Damaso Magbual

Damaso Magbual is the founder of NAMFREL, a citizen election monitoring group. Currently, he is the chairman of the Asia Network for Free Elections (ANFREL), which works to bring together citizen election monitoring groups across the region to conduct international election observations. He was also the first Chair of the Global Network of Domestic Election Monitors (GNDEM).

Magbual is a retired corporate executive and a former Professor of Philosophy and Political Science at the St. Louis University in the Philippines. He has served as a resource speaker, trainer, and consultant on election monitoring, systems, and administration.

Hasyim Asy'ari

Hasyim Asy'ari is a Commissioner on the Election Commission of Indonesia. Asy'ari is a lecturer in Constitutional Law at the University of Diponegoro, Semarang, Central Java. He is also a renowned expert in the issue of voter registration and political law in Indonesia.

Asy'ari led a team of experts in support of "SIDALIH", a voter registration reform initiative. This work contributed to the development of Indonesia's nationally-integrated voter registry, the "Sidalih" platform, the biggest national voter registry in the world. Following this



role, Mr. Asy'ari served as senior voter registration consultant for various NGOs. Previously, he served as a commissioner in Central Java Provincial Election Commission from 2003 to 2008. He has co-written various articles and books about elections, including numerous manuals published by the KPU as official guidebooks for field election officers.

He attained his bachelor's degree in government law from Jenderal Soedirman University, his master's degree in political science from Gadjah Mada University, and his doctoral degree in political sociology from University of Malaya.

Panel III: "Financing Elections without Undermining Legitimacy"

Leena Rikkilä Tamang

Moderator

Leena Rikkilä Tamang is International IDEA's Director for the Asia and the Pacific region and oversees country programmes in Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan. Tamang joined International IDEA in 2002. She managed International IDEA's programme on Supporting Constitution-Building Process in Nepal. Prior to her time in Nepal, Tamang worked at the South-Asia Programme, including Burma/Myanmar at International IDEA.



Tamang is former Secretary-General of Finland's Advisory Board for Relations with Developing Countries (Ministry for Foreign Affairs). She is a member and former chair (2001-2002) of the Network Institute for Global Democracy (NIGD). Amongst her work with NIGD, she coordinated projects promoting North-South Dialogues on democracy and globalization and was involved in the World Social Forum (WSF) process. She is also a former Board Member of Asia–Europe (ASEF) Foundation and has been teaching at the University of Tampere in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Finland from where she graduated, as well at the department of Environmental Politics.

Tamang has worked in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Vietnam and on Burma/Myanmar and published about democracy at the global level, on women's political participation, and on inclusive democratic processes.



Luie Tito Ferrer Guia

Luie Tito Ferrer Guia is a Commissioner at the Commission on Elections of the Philippines. In COMELEC, he currently chairs its Committees on Detainee Voting, and Voting by Indigenous People. Commissioner Guia was involved in various civil society organizations (CSOs), the most recent of which was acting as the Executive Director of the Legal Network for Truthful Elections (LENTE).

He also served as Executive Committee member of the Consortium on Electoral Reform (CER) and founding member and president of the Lawyers' League for Liberty. He started as a local volunteer in the National Citizen's Movement for Free Elections or NAMFREL during the 1986 snap elections. Commissioner Guia had short term stints as an election consultant in Libya, Papua New Guinea, Kosovo, the Maldives, and Kyrgyzstan. He obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science (1986) and Law (1991) from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. He became a member of the Philippine Bar in 1992.

Datuk Latifah Merican Cheong

Datuk Latifah Merican Cheong is a member of the G25 Malaysia organization and Deputy President of the Malaysian Economic Association. She previously served as Program Director at the World Bank at the Financial Market Integrity Unit and as Alternate Executive Director in the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund. She worked as

Assistant Governor at the Central Bank of Malaysia (Bank Negara, Malaysia) and a member of the Bank's Management Committee.

She has also sat on the UNDP Asia Strategic Panel, been Advisor to the Securities Commission of Malaysia, and provided substantive input into the New Economic Model issued by the National Economic Advisory Council. Merican Cheong has a Bachelor's Degree in Analytical Economics (Hons.) from the University of Malaysia, 1973, and a Master's Degree in Economics, from Vanderbilt University Tennessee, USA (1979)



Koul Panha

Koul Panha, the Executive Director of COMFREL, is a Cambodian human rights activist and a former prisoner of conscience. At a young age, he lost his father at the hands of the Khmer Rouge. Since then, he dedicated his life to promoting democracy in Cambodia. He joined the non-partisan "Task Force on Cambodian Elections" in 1993, which became COMFREL by 1997. Panha has been its executive director since 1998.

COMFREL has become a leading independent organisation on electoral issues in the region. In 2011, Panha won the Ramon Magsaysay Award for his work on democracy in Cambodia.

Panel IV: "Securing Elections: Creating a Safe Environment"



Dr. Ketut Putra Erawan

Moderator

Ketut Putra Erawan has been the Executive Director of the Institute of Peace and Democracy (IDP) Indonesia since 2008. The IDP is the implementing agency of the Bali Democracy Forum. He has also led many programs to support democracy initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region. He is currently a member of the Rising Democracies Research Group of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Erawan also held the position of the Director of Master and Doctoral programmes in Political Science at the Gadjah Mada University

Indonesia. He has served as an expert for the Indonesian government in developing political laws as well as a special advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in promoting democracy.

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa

Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa is the Chairman of the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia. Since 1 January 2014, he has also served as Chief Executive of ISIS Malaysia.

Tan Sri Rastam spent more than 36 years in the Malaysian diplomatic service. He served in various capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Malaysian diplomatic missions abroad, including as High Commissioner of Malaysia to Pakistan, Ambassador of Malaysia to



Bosnia Herzegovina, Ambassador of Malaysia to the Republic of Indonesia and Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York. He was Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2006 until 2010. Prior to his appointment as Chief Executive of ISIS Malaysia, he was Advisor at the Chief Minister's Department in Sarawak.

Tan Sri Rastam is Chairman of the Malaysian National Committee for the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC) and Chairman of the Malaysian National Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP).

He holds a Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) degree from Universiti Sains Malaysia, a Master of Arts degree in International Relations and Strategic Studies from the University of Lancaster and a Certificate of Diplomacy from the University of Oxford and is recipient of numerous awards.

Jerald Joseph

Jerald Joseph is a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM). In 2015 he was elected Chair of the Region Steering Committee of the ACSC/ASEAN People's Forum (APF).



He was one of the senior civil society members who led the Malaysian NGOs' reporting to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group in Geneva. He also served as a member of various human rights organisations including the Commonwealth Foundation, Asian South Pacific Bureau for Adult Education, Asia-Pacific NGO Steering Committee of World Conference against Racism (WCAR).

He is presently a Board Member and Advisor of the Anti-racism and Non-Discrimination Programme of Pusat Komunikasi Masyarakat Sdn Bhd (Pusat KOMAS). Mr Jerald Joseph received his Bachelor of Applied Science in Industrial Chemistry from University Science Malaysia. He subsequently earned his Masters in Human Rights from Mahidol University, Thailand.

Elijiah Lewien

Elijiah Lewien is the Carter Center's Yangon-based Field Officer helping to manage the Center's continued engagement of Myanmar's political transition. During the Nov. 2015 election he coordinated the Center's observer deployment and data analysis. Prior to Myanmar, he was at Carter Center headquarters working to advance the Center's election observation methodology. Elijiah also worked for several years on the Carter Center's project in Nepal, and contributed to Center projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Mozambique.



In Congo, Myanmar, and Nepal he worked closely with civil society organizations on developing strategies for monitoring. He brings additional experience from deployment on missions with the National Democratic Institute, OSCE-ODIHR, and IFES.

Panel V: How to Manage Pluralism and Identity Politics in Democracies

Surin Pitsuwan

Moderator

Surin Pitsuwan is the former Foreign Minister of Thailand and Secretary General of ASEAN from 2008 to 2012. Previously, he served as Chair of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and the Chair of the ASEAN Regional Forum



(ARF) in 1999-2000. Dr. Surin served on the National Reconciliation Commission (NRC), charged with bringing peace and security back to Thailand's deep South. He also served as MP in the National Legislative Assembly. He is currently on the Advisory Board of the UN Human Security Trust Fund; the Advisory Board of the International Crisis Group (ICG); a member of the International Advisory Board of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York; an International Academic Advisor of the Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford University; and an advisor to the Leaders Project. Between 2002-2004, Dr. Surin was also a member of the "Wise Men Group" under the auspices of the Henri Dunant Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HDC) in Geneva, advising the peace negotiations between the Acehnese Independence Movement (GAM) and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.



Alissa Wahid, Founding Director of the Gusdurian Institute Indonesia Alissa Wahid is the daughter of the first elected President of Indonesia, Abdurarahman Wahid, and the founder of the Gusdurian Network Indonesia (GNI), which aims to strengthen interfaith understanding, promote individual resilience, and advocate for rights through public policy.

Most recently, she represented the Anti Persecution Coalition in warning that persecution can lead to social unrest and mental trauma. She has also supported local Indonesian organisations' initiatives in subjects such

as youth on countering violent extremism. She was also a receipt of an Eisenhower Fellowship in 2015.

Michael Vatikiotis

Michael Vatikiotis is the Asia Regional Director for the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD) where he has had a decade of experience working as a private diplomat and conflict mediator. Previously he served as the Editor of the Far Eastern Economic Review. A writer and journalist for more than thirty years, he is fluent in both Thai and



Indonesian. During his career, he has been based as a journalist in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Hong Kong.

Vatikiotis is a graduate of the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and gained his doctorate from the University of Oxford. He is a member of the Asia Society's International Council. He is the author of two previous books on the politics of Southeast Asia and is based in Singapore.

YM Tunku Zain Al-Abidin Ibni Tuanku Muhriz

YM Muhriz is the founding President of IDEAS Malaysia. He is also a regular columnist for *Malay Mail*, *Oriental Daily* and *Borneo Post*. He has previously worked in a number of London-based think tanks, the Houses of Parliament and the World Bank as a Public Sector Consultant. Upon returning to Kuala Lumpur in 2008, he worked at the UNDP. He was a Research Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore from 2009 to 2010.

A member of the Negeri Sembilan Royal Family, he also led a major project to revitalise the State Anthem. He is a trustee of Yayasan Chow Kit and Yayasan Munarah, an advisor or patron to several educational and cultural organisations, an honorary major in the Malaysian Territorial Army, and a committee member of the LSE Alumni Society of Malaysia and the Malaysian British Society.

Panel VI: "Key Role of CSOs in Ensuring Respect for Political Rights Including Elections"



Dr. Kyaw Yin Hlaing

Moderator

Dr. Kyaw Yin Hlaing is the founding Director of the Center for Diversity and National Harmony in Yangon, which is an independent NGO that works to enhance social harmonisation, peaceful coexistence, and violence mitigation in Myanmar. Most recently their work has focused on the violence in the Rakhine and Mandalay regions with financial and logistical support from Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, and the Peace Support Fund.

Dr. Hlaing was a leading advisor to the Burmese government in the peace process and on education until 2016. He has since closely followed the political transition in Myanmar through his work at the Centre. Notably, the Centre published several reports on the state of social harmony in the different key regions in Myanmar to inform the political climate. He is a strong advocate for human rights and democracy in the country.

Dr. Hlaing also authored several books on South East Asian politics, pluralism, and national reconciliation, including "Myanmar: State, Society, and Ethnicity" and "The Politics of Statebusiness Relations in Post-colonial Burma".

Datuk Dr. Anis Yusal Yusoff

Datuk Dr. Anis Yusal Yusoff is an IDEAS Council Member and the current President and Chief Executive Officer of the Malaysian Institute of Integrity (INTEGRITI). He has served over ten years at UNDP and UNV. He was a Principal Fellow and founding Chairman of the Oversight Committee for the Institute of Ethnic Studies' (KITA) Research Projects. He was also the founding National Coordinator of the National Social Cohesion Programme (PADU) and the project



leader in the development of KITA- MESRA (Malaysian Ethnic Relations Monitoring System) – an early warning system to manage potential tension and conflict among the community.

In addition to his academic research work, Dr. Anis has served on a number of national advisory councils including the Advisory Panel for the Consultation and Prevention of Corruption under the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission. He was also an advisory member of the panel for the National Advisory Consumer Council and the National Unity and Integration Training Institute. Dr. Anis was recently appointed by the King as Commissioner of the Enforcement Agency Integrity Commission (EAIC).

Dr. Anis holds a PhD from the National University of Malaysia and MSc in Information Management and Technology from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.



Hon. Jose Luis Martin "Chito" Gascon, Chairperson

Chito Gascon is the Chairperson of the of the Commission on Human Rights Philippines (CHRP). A civil and human rights activist and a practicing lawyer, he previously served as undersecretary of education in the Arroyo government. He began is activism at University, leading students and citizens alike in major rallies. He is also the youngest member of the 1986 Constitutional Commission who drafted the 1987 charter.

Shahrul Aman Mohd Saari -- TBC

Organisations



Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, Suruhanjaya Hak Asasi Manusia Malaysia (SUHAKAM)

Partner Organisation

SUHAKAM was established by the Malaysian Parliament under the 1999 Act 597 of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia to kickstart Malaysia's participation in the UNCHR. The impetus of the

government to finally consider setting up a human rights institution came from international pressures after the success of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights in 1993.

SUHAKAM's duties and functions are separated into specific working groups on Education and Promotions, Law reform, Treaties and International Instruments, Economic Social and Cultural Rights, and Complaints and Inquiries. Their areas of work cover the protection of prisoners, indigenous people (orang asli), people with disabilities, older persons, victims and survivors of human trafficking, and victims and survivors of human rights violations.

Commission on Human Rights Philippines (CHRP)

CHRP was created under the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines and was the first human rights organisation in South East Asia. It is mandated to conduct investigations on human rights violations and complies with the Paris Principles adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1995. They serve all persons in Philippines as well as Filipino nationals abroad. This organisation has been particularly vocal against President Duterte and his regime.





(ISEAS)

The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), an autonomous organization established by an Act of Parliament in 1968, was renamed ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute in August 2015 in honour of Singapore's first President. Given its legal status as a statutory board, it is quasi-governmental. Mr Tan Chin Tiong was appointed as its Director in 2012 and as Ambassador at Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the same date. ISEAS is dedicated to the study of socio-political, security and economic trends and developments in Southeast Asia and its wider geostrategic and economic environment. To achieve these aims, the Institute conducts a range of research programmes; holds conferences, workshops, lectures and seminars; publishes research journals and books; and generally provides a range of research support facilities, including a large library collection. ISEAS has a reputation as the region's premier producer and purveyor of SEAIR and is very well known in the field of academic publishing.



Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR)

The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR) is an independent NGO in Cambodia that works to promote and protect democracy and respect for human rights. They are an advocacy organisation that works on the grassroots level to empower local communities outside the city centre through educating citizens of their civil and political rights.

In 2015, the Cambodian ruling party implemented a law that attempted to regulate the country's NGOs, largely limiting the scope of possible work. As guidelines for implementing the law have still not yet been released, many organisations like the CCHR have been working in an ambiguous state of limbo for the last two years.

The Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL)

The Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL) was established in 1997, as Asia's first regional network of civil society organizations focused on elections and election monitoring. It has established itself as the preeminent civil society organization in Asia working on elections. It strives to promote and support democratization at national and regional levels in Asia. ANFREL is supported by a number of



national organizations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste and Thailand. ANFREL has been active in organizing trainings and comparative study seminars of election laws in Asia. Further, research activities on electoral reform, democracy and good governance have been conducted jointly by ANFREL with civil society organizations in several countries. ANFREL also advocates on good governance issues in Asia.



Perceptions of Electoral Integrity (PEI)

The PEI is one of the research projects under the Electoral Integrity Project which is an

independent academic study with a research team based at the Department of Government and International Relations at the University of Sydney and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. It was founded in 2012. The PEI conducts expert survey monitoring of the quality of parliamentary and presidential elections worldwide, generating the PEI dataset and annual 'Year in Election' reports. Max Grömping is the program manager for PEI.