



ASIA HOUSE

HOME OF BUSINESS – CULTURE – PEOPLE

ASEAN on the world stage: Navigating global tensions



Photo: Asia House

A LIVELY DISCUSSION ON ASEAN AT ASIA HOUSE

Wednesday, 23 November, Asia House welcomed key speakers Steffen Gram and Camilla T. Sørensen and a full house of guests for a seminar discussing the current and future position of the Southeast Asian nations. Warm thanks to the speakers for their insightful presentations and to our many guests for active participation in the discussions - among others by H.E. Ambassador Leo Herrera-Lim from The Philippines and H.E. Ambassador Sirilak Niyom from Thailand.

Following the barrage of global Summits in Asia in previous weeks (ASEAN

and partners in Phnomh Penh, G20 at Bali, and APEC in Bangkok) here are some of the discussion points and important take-aways:

- The ASEAN countries are very nimble and **able actors on the global stage**, delivering resounding political results by e.g. negotiating agreed texts on the war in Ukraine;
- A **dichotomy in global relations** along the divides of American and Chinese competition are neither in ASEAN's nor in Europe's interest, and the two regions should and must forge closer ties;
- Asian countries demand more influence and changes to **the international order** crafted by the Western powers after WWII. Western claims that the international, rules-based order is under threat are not valid; Asian countries are striving to establish a new, rule-based order – just not by the rules defined by the West.
- Concerning **ASEAN coherence**, the West often tends to misunderstand that ten such diverse countries with different cultures, languages, religions, and political systems can cooperate and be united by common goals of progress and prosperity;
- The efforts of ASEAN to agree on a **code of conduct for the South China Sea** with neighbouring countries will not be able to reconcile the legal claims to vast maritime territories, but could be successful in relieving tensions among the ships and boats navigating the contested seas.

Once again warm thanks to the participants present and online and to the [Danish Foreign Policy Society](#) for co-hosting.

ASIA HOUSE PROJECTS



NORDIC ΔSIΔN
VENTURE ΔLLIΔNCE

100 companies and counting



Photo: NAVA

NAVA WELCOMES 100 COMPANIES ... AND COUNTING!

The Nordic Asian Venture Alliance is delighted to welcome another TEN cool New Nordic tech startups onboard: four Finnish, two Swedish, two Danish, one Norwegian and one from Iceland.

A warm welcome to Meili Robots, Seaborg Technologies, Sceneri Spectacular AI, Fepod Oy Ltd, Pure Luminescence Technologies, Diagonal Bio, EpiEndo Pharmaceuticals, RegIT, AKITA, by Finnadvance!

[See company profiles here.](#)

Now with a critical mass of 100 companies on the platform, we'll be putting all our effort into generating leads and opportunities for startups looking to East Asia: delegations, events and online promotion.

[Sign up here to be part of this growing network of tech startups, VCs and community partners looking to East Asia.](#)

New Indo-Danish Maritime Project



Photo: Abir Roy Barman

NEW MARITIME INITIATIVE LOOKS TO INDIA

With nearly half the world's population residing in the Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) by 2050, the region is making a shift from being identified as the “Ocean of the South” to the “Ocean of the Future”.

India is central to this shift, with its maritime sector likely to play a pivotal role in the global Blue Economy. Denmark and India have strengthened their maritime collaboration through the #GreenStrategicPartnership, and joint declaration of interest to create a maritime Centre of Excellence.

The Indian government's plans to revitalize ports, inland waterways and shipyards makes for an opportune time for Danish maritime companies (incl. start-ups and SMEs) to access a promising new market. The Indo-Danish Maritime project will help uncover actionable export and innovation opportunities for Danish maritime solutions in India. In the process, the project will also build a strong network of relevant partners, and seek to qualify the extent of the Indian maritime opportunity in a Danish context.

With the support of the Maritime Fund, Bjarne Bøtcher from Danish Maritime together with the old NORDIN team; Tom Sebastian (Red Thread Consulting), Tobias Hansen (DI Mumbai), Anandita Prakash (ICDK Bangalore) and Peter Johansen (Asia House), will identify opportunities for Danish maritime solutions in India.

[Sign up here if you want to participate or know more about the Asia House Indo-Danish Maritime Project.](#)



DASN makes strides in Vietnam



Photo: Gert Grønkjær

Many thanks to all the Danish business people and SMVs who met up with the Danish-Asian SMV Network meetings in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City this week, headed by Gert Grønkjær and Lars Siggurd Andersen. The project partners received fantastic feedback and recommendations for the network and for its continued development.

DASN assembled a group of talented, competent and experienced Danes who have settled in Vietnam and established their business activities - everything from medical equipment, medicine, steel, furniture, shipping, programming, food, and more. The meetings addressed topics such as the importance of clear communication, how the local subcontracting market is developing, the importance of being both present and realistic in ones business ventures - as well as many other relevant issues.

One message vital to the network stands out: there are top professionals from

Denmark in Vietnam with all the knowledge and experience needed to get off to a good start. Join the network, make connections, and see for yourself.

The Danish-Asian SME Network helps Danish small to medium-sized enterprises acquire knowledge about and get a foothold in the Asian markets. [Read more on the DASN website.](#)

PAST EVENTS



Photo courtesy of Hasse Ferrold

AUTUMN AMBASSADORS' LUNCH AT ASIA HOUSE

Monday, 14 November, the annual Autumn Ambassadors' Luncheon was held at Asia House, with keynote speaker Ambassador Michael Zilmer-Johns, the main author of a new analysis on global issues impacting Denmark's security situation up to 2035. Ambassador Zilmer underlined the importance of Asia and how the world is on the threshold of a new era, where the rules-based international system crafted by the Western powers after WWII is changing. Going forward, all countries including Denmark will have to listen, adapt and cooperate to exert their influence on the new rules.

Guests included Ambassadors from countries in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as business partners and scholars from various Danish universities and foundations. We would like to send thanks to all who participated.

COMING EVENTS FROM OUR NETWORK



Tribal Ecologies in Modern India

7 December 2022, 9:30-17:00, at Læderstræde 20, 1. Floor - Lecture Hall

This workshop explores tribal critiques of climate change and environment-disruptive extractive practices, along with tribal interpretive practices and epistemologies about the environment more broadly.

LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFT?

These two EAC motifs, Midnight Sky designed by the iconic Sven Dalsgaard, or Saffron Ships are still available in a limited edition. Find more information [here](#).



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