

EUC Research Seminar

The European Union's Real Influence on ASEAN: An Analytical Framework

By Mr Tobias Lenz, DPhil Candidate, International Relations,
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Regionalism has become a perennial feature of the world order, which has concurrently given rise to a new phenomenon in international relations: the relationships between regional groupings such as the EU and ASEAN. The interregional relationship between the blocs since the early 1970s is among the oldest of its kind. Beyond fostering mutual cooperation and understanding, these relations have also served to share experiences of regional integration. The EU has become one of the most active promoters of ASEAN's cooperative efforts, through financial and technical assistance. But what have been the real results of these interactions? How has EU-ASEAN interregionalism asserted itself into ASEAN regional cooperation and integration? In this research seminar, Mr Lenz will present a framework for understanding the EU's influence on regionalism in ASEAN, and its applications to findings from fieldwork in Southeast Asia, conducted while being hosted at the EU Centre. Does EU influence, with fairly recent developments of the ASEAN Charter and mooted economic integration, amongst other factors, attest or deflect from the increasing soft power of European ideals of regional integration?

About the Speaker



Tobias Lenz is currently a visiting fellow at the European Union Centre in Singapore, researching for his DPhil in International Relations at the University of Oxford, UK. His doctorate deals with the EU's influence on regional integration projects in the global South, including ASEAN, Mercosur and SADC. He holds an MPhil in Politics from the University of Oxford and a BA in European Studies from the University of Osnabrück, Germany. His research interests include EU external relations, comparative regionalism and interregionalism. He has recently published a book entitled *The European Union's Promotion of Regional Integration in Latin America* (2009, VDM Verlag).

Details

Date: 24 September 2009
Time: 2.00pm – 3.30pm
Venue: CDTL Seminar Room 1
Centre for Development of Teaching & Learning
National University of Singapore
10 Kent Ridge Crescent
Singapore 119 260 [[Map](#)]

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at [www.eucentre.sg](#) by
23 September 2009.
Thank you.