Greetings from the Journal of ASEAN (JAS) Studies. With the publication of this Volume 5 Issue 2, 2017, we are very grateful to stay on track in contributing to the Southeast Asian studies and providing an academic venue for scholars, practitioners, diplomats, businessmen, and larger stakeholders of the ASEAN region.

In this issue, there are five articles. The first two articles are on migrant and refugee issues. The first article is entitled, “Forced Migrants, Media, and Securitization: Making Sense of the Changing Representations of Transit Asylum Seekers in Indonesian Print Media” written by Antony Lee from Kompas Newspaper, Indonesia. Written from the perspective of a practitioner in the media business, the article is originally a summary of some parts of the author’s master thesis at Lund University, Sweden. The article aims to explain how and why the representations of transit forced migrants in Indonesian major print media had significantly shifted during the arrivals of the Indochinese refugees in 1975-1996 and in the period of the new generations of refugees from Middle Eastern and South Asian countries in 1997-2013.

The second article is entitled, “Rethinking Refugees as Economically Isolated: The Rohingyas Participation in Informal Economy in Klang Valley, Malaysia” written by Andika Ab. Wahab from National University of Malaysia, Malaysia. The author is also a practitioner on the refugee issue, currently a project leader of business and human rights at The Forest Trust (TFT), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. His article aims to analyze the relationship between the Rohingya refugees participation in the informal economy and their livelihood activities in the Malaysia.

Moving on from migrant and refugee issues, the third article is entitled, “Regional Maritime Cooperation in Maintaining Maritime Security and Stability: A Test Case for ASEAN Unity and Centrality” written by Angel Damayanti from Christian University of Indonesia. The article aims to elaborate the reasons why the region needs regional maritime cooperation and discusses challenges that ASEAN has to deal with in order to implement the ASEAN unity and centrality in promoting maritime cooperation and regional stability.

The fourth article is entitled, “The Effectiveness of De-Radicalization Program in Southeast Asia: Does It Work? The Case of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore” written by Yosua Praditya Suratman. The article aims to analyze the effectiveness of the de-radicalization program in Southeast Asia to propose some recommendations for Indonesian government in strengthening and reshaping its de-radicalization policies.


Finally, the editor-in-chief would like to express highest appreciation for the authors who have submitted their manuscripts as response from our invitation and call for papers. We also would like to thank the Indonesian Association for International Relations (AIHII) for
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Jakarta, 22 December 2017

Prof. Dr. Tirta N. Mursitama, Ph.D.

Editor-in-chief