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# ASEAN security challenges

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# Current security\* challenges

Three major aspects of Asean security challenges:

1. internal challenges
2. external challenges
3. environmental challenges

\*both traditional and non-tradition security



# Internal challenges

- Domestic impacts of Russian-Ukraine war
- Economic recovery from Covid-19 pandemic
- Weakening of legitimacy among governments
- Territorial disputes between member states
- Explosion of internal displaced persons due to conflicts
- Illegal migrant workers
- Avoiding debt traps and over dependence on China
- Peaceful coexistence with neighboring with different world views
- Impacts of disinformation—domestic, regional and international



# External challenges

- US-China rivalries and its intended and unintended consequences
- New alignments among Indo-Pacific countries (four plus four)
- Asean Outlook on the Indo-Pacific—guidelines for other IP frameworks
- Future of Quad and its relevance—non-military cooperation
- Indo-Pacific Economic Framework—governance and standard setting
- Cybersecurity and space domain (information flow and satellite)
- Potential of Asean plus three
- Role of Comprehensive strategic partners: China, Australia, (the US, India pending)
- Proxy war in Myanmar
- Gulf of Benga can be the next strategic battlefield for major powers
- Situation in the Korean Peninsula, Middle East



# ASEAN must shape up

- **ASEAN Centrality**

1. shifts of geopolitics brings out issues related to collective leadership and Asean centrality
2. current geopolitical uncertainty resulting from new realignments of powers in the region

- **ASEAN rapid responses**

1. ASEAN needs speedier responses to challenges both within and without
2. Consensus could be exempted in certain cases with a majority rule
3. More mandates for Secretary General and the office of SG in engaging and managing crisis



# Environmental challenges

- Energy security, well planned and well balanced energy transition need
- Food security must be secured for the whole region
- Climate change has impacted on regional disasters and agricultural production



Thank you