

Drivers of sustainable security in Southeast Asia

Sustainable security seeks to compromise short-term security needs with long-term goals of developing a legitimate and feasible security system. It can be also coined to describe a harmonious combination of people's individual security and safety and security of nations, regions, and the whole world. Sustainable security in Southeast Asia is facing a number challenges, including violent thinking, strategic competition between major powers in the region, unresolved disputes over sovereignty and natural resources and existing divergences, and nontraditional security issues.

Sustainable security is an aspiration and goal pursued by all nations. In order to establish sustainable security in Southeast Asia, ASEAN member states should try their best to establish a law-based regional order; oppose use or threat use of force in international relations; invest effort in resolving disputes and divergences by peaceful means on the basis of international law, and promote conclusion of an equitable and effective South China Sea Code of Conduct; strengthen solidarity and consensus between ASEAN member states; enhance cooperation in building an increasingly prosperous ASEAN Community; and deepen cooperation in coping with nontraditional security issues.