Political and Economic Integration in ASEAN Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Political Science and International Relations	**Duration**	5 Days
Base Fee	$1,500 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a dynamic **regional organization** at the heart of the Asia-Pacific. Since its founding in 1967, ASEAN has evolved from a mechanism for political stability into a key driver of **economic integration** and **regional cooperation**. This course provides an in-depth analysis of the complex interplay between political and economic forces shaping the **ASEAN Community**, exploring the achievements, challenges, and future direction of this pivotal bloc. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the **ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)** and **ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)**, essential for navigating the complexities of the Southeast Asian region.

Political and Economic Integration in ASEAN Training Course goes beyond theoretical frameworks to provide practical insights into the **ASEAN way** of diplomacy and policymaking. We will examine how **trade liberalization**, **market integration**, and **investment policies** are pursued alongside the principles of non-interference and consensus. The course addresses the current **geopolitical landscape**, including the impact of global trends and the roles of major powers. By focusing on **contemporary issues**, **strategic policy analysis**, and **cross-border collaboration**, this program equips professionals with the knowledge and skills to effectively engage with and contribute to the ongoing **ASEAN integration** process.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

1. Analyze the historical evolution and foundational principles of ASEAN regionalism.
2. Deconstruct the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Blueprint and its implementation.
3. Examine the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and its impact on intra-regional trade and foreign direct investment (FDI).
4. Evaluate the challenges and opportunities of digital integration and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) in Southeast Asia.
5. Understand the ASEAN way of diplomacy, consensus-building, and conflict resolution.
6. Assess the role of ASEAN centrality in the evolving geopolitical dynamics of the Indo-Pacific.
7. Analyze cross-border connectivity and infrastructure development initiatives like the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC).
8. Investigate sustainable development and inclusive growth strategies within the ASEAN framework.
9. Examine the intricacies of trade agreements and free trade areas (FTAs) involving ASEAN, including the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).
10. Explore the mechanisms for dispute settlement and regional security cooperation.
11. Discuss the future of the ASEAN Community post-2025 and its strategic vision.
12. Identify the key stakeholders and their roles in the ASEAN integration process.
13. Formulate strategic policy recommendations for enhanced regional cooperation and integration.

Organizational Benefits

- Equip your organization with a deep understanding of the ASEAN business and political landscape, enabling informed decision-making and market expansion.
- Develop internal capacity to navigate complex **cross-border regulations**, **trade policies**, and **geopolitical risks** specific to Southeast Asia.
- Foster connections and build rapport with key government officials, business leaders, and policymakers across the ASEAN region.
- Improve your organization's ability to anticipate and respond to political and economic shifts, ensuring business continuity and compliance.
- Gain a significant advantage by understanding the nuances of regional integration, from supply chain optimization to market entry strategies.

Target Audience

1. Government Officials and civil servants from foreign affairs, trade, and economic ministries.
2. Corporate Executives and business leaders focused on market entry and expansion in Southeast Asia.
3. Policy Analysts and researchers from think tanks and academic institutions.
4. International Relations Professionals and diplomats working on regional affairs.
5. Investors and financial analysts evaluating market opportunities in the ASEAN bloc.
6. NGO and Civil Society Leaders
7. Supply Chain Managers
8. Media Professionals and journalists

Course Outline

Module 1: Foundations of ASEAN Regionalism

- Historical context and founding principles of ASEAN.
- The three pillars of the ASEAN Community: APSC, AEC, and ASCC.
- Understanding the **"ASEAN Way"** and its core principles.
- Evolution of ASEAN from a political to a multi-faceted organization.
- **Case Study:** The Bali Concord II and the vision for the ASEAN Community.

Module 2: The ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)

- Objectives and key components of the APSC Blueprint 2025.
- Mechanisms for **conflict resolution** and **preventive diplomacy**.
- The role of ASEAN in regional security, including the South China Sea disputes.
- Cooperation in non-traditional security issues: counter-terrorism and transnational crime.
- **Case Study:** ASEAN's response to the Myanmar political crisis.

Module 3: The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

- The AEC Blueprint 2025: a single market and production base.
- **Trade liberalization:** progress and challenges in reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers.
- **Investment facilitation** and the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA).
- Facilitating the **free flow of services** and **skilled labor**.
- **Case Study:** The implementation of the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) to streamline customs procedures.

Module 4: Trade, Investment, and External Relations

- ASEAN's role in global trade and the **Indo-Pacific economic landscape**.
- Deep-dive into major **Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)**: RCEP and others.
- ASEAN's relations with key dialogue partners: China, the U.S., Japan, and the EU.
- Analyzing the impact of **global supply chain shifts** on ASEAN economies.
- **Case Study:** The economic implications of the RCEP agreement for ASEAN member states.

Module 5: Digital Transformation and 4IR

- The ASEAN Digital Integration Framework and its strategic goals.
- The rise of the **digital economy** and its impact on traditional industries.
- Policy challenges in e-commerce, **fintech**, and cybersecurity.
- Developing digital skills and a digital-ready workforce.

- **Case Study:** Singapore's Smart Nation initiative and its influence on regional digital policy.

Module 6: Cross-Border Connectivity and Infrastructure

- The Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and its implementation.
- **Hard infrastructure:** transport, energy, and ICT connectivity projects.
- **Soft infrastructure:** regulatory harmonization and logistics facilitation.
- **People-to-people connectivity:** tourism and educational exchanges.
- **Case Study:** The China-Laos Railway and its impact on regional connectivity and trade.

Module 7: Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

- ASEAN's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Addressing the **development gap** among member states.
- The role of **SMEs** and micro-enterprises in inclusive economic development.
- **Green economy** initiatives and sustainable finance in the region.
- **Case Study:** Thailand's Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) economic model and its regional relevance.

Module 8: The Future of ASEAN Integration

- Assessing the progress and shortcomings of the ASEAN Community post-2015.
- Challenges and opportunities for the next decade.
- Strategic foresight: preparing for future political and economic shocks.
- The role of the private sector and civil society in shaping ASEAN's future.
- **Case Study:** Debating the "ASEAN Way" and the need for a more rules-based framework.

Training Methodology

This course utilizes a **dynamic, blended learning approach** to ensure maximum engagement and retention. The methodology includes:

- **Interactive Lectures:** Expert-led sessions providing foundational knowledge and strategic context.
- **Case Study Analysis:** In-depth, practical examination of real-world scenarios to apply theoretical concepts.
- **Group Discussions and Workshops:** Collaborative problem-solving and peer-to-peer learning.
- **Expert Panel Q&A Sessions:** Opportunities to engage directly with leading policymakers, academics, and business professionals.
- **Simulations and Role-Playing:** Hands-on exercises to practice diplomatic negotiation and strategic decision-making in a safe environment.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Online	$1,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$1,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$4,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000

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