

# INDONESIA BUZZ

Indonesian Embassy in Brussels' magazine  
First Edition - August 2018



Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi with Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders, October 2017  
(Photo courtesy of Foreign Minister Reynders' website)

## EU Air Safety List

All clear for Indonesian planes to fly back to Europe

## Indonesia-EU CEPA

Building resilient and modern cooperation between Indonesia and the EU

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## Indonesia's Chairmanship in ASEAN Brussels Committee

## Industry 4.0

Opportunities for cooperation in Indonesia's industry sector

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# Selamat datang!\*



Let me first welcome all of our readers.

It is indeed a pleasure to provide you with some interesting news that I am sure would make a useful reading for you. The Embassy's team has worked diligently to prepare them for you.

Indonesia attaches importance on promoting its friendship and cooperation with EU — this is indeed about making our already strong ties even closer and more useful for all of us. Being fellow democracies, Indonesia and EU are special friends and, needless to say, we are duty-bound to help each other.

In this bulletin, you will find some update on initiatives pursued and some progress made in promoting closer ties between Indonesia - EU, Indonesia - Belgium and Indonesia - Luxembourg.

Obviously, the three distinguished friends — EU, Belgium and Luxembourg — are the accredited countries and regional entity covered by the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels.

This bulletin will provide you with a news update, ranging from progress in Indonesia-EU CEPA negotiation to the recently-announced removal of Indonesia from the EU Air Safety List.

As well, it will highlight efforts made to promote trade and investment, tourism, scholarship, seafood products, agricultural commodities, our “palm oil” diplomacy and the preparation made for the ASEM Summit in October 2018.

In addition, we have also selected several thought-provoking opinions written by some well-known Indonesian columnists. As a matter of fact, those opinions were already published in some Indonesian magazines, but we reproduce them in this bulletin for the benefit of our readers.

In concluding, let me wish you all the best and please enjoy your reading!

*Yuri O. Thamrin*

Indonesian Ambassador to Belgium,  
Luxembourg and the European Union

\*”welcome” in Indonesian



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# In frame: celebration of 73th anniversary of Indonesian independence day

Indonesians at home and abroad celebrate Independence Day every 17 August. Here are some of the festivities we had this year!



(Left) President Joko Widodo and First Lady Iriana in traditional Indonesian costume during the celebration of Indonesian Independence Day/ (Right) Ambassador Thamrin congratulating representatives of BIMESA (Belgia-Indonesia Medical, Education and Social Association) for their contributions



(Left) Ambassador Thamrin and Madam Sandra Thamrin together with Indonesian diaspora in Belgium and Luxembourg/(Right) Some of the door prizes of the Indonesian Independence Day Bazaar on 19 August 2018



(Left) Ambassador Thamrin discussing with representative of Belgian FPS Foreign Affairs who wears batik, the Indonesian traditional cloth/(Right) Ambassador Thamrin with Indonesian students in the flag-hoisting team (PASKIBRA)



Some of the merriments during the Indonesian Independence Day Bazaar on 19 August 2018, featuring food, music, gamelan performances and many more. Be sure to participate next year in 2019!

# All clear for Indonesian planes to fly back to Europe

A piece of good news came out recently from the European Commission. On 14 June 2018, the EU Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc announced that Indonesia has been removed from the EU Air Safety List and All 62 air carriers from Indonesia are considered safe to enter European air space.

The good news might be seen a Ramadhan gift to Indonesia as its announcement was made several days before the end of Ramadhan or the holy fasting month for Muslims around the world. Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi welcomed the EU decision, underlining that it means that Indonesian air safety system has now fully regained world's trust and confidence.

Prior to the EU announcement, the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in August 2016 upgraded the safety status of Indonesian airlines to Category 1 and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has given Indonesia in February 2018 a high score of 80.34 percent and place it to ranking 58 out of 192 countries.

Years of hard work and close cooperation have indeed paid off for Indonesia and EU since flight ban was imposed to all Indonesian carriers in 2007.

The two sides have worked cooperatively and productively, they initiated the so-called 'fast track' program, Indonesian team regularly attended Air Safety Committee (ASC) meeting in Brussels and the EU assessment teams have paid many visits to Indonesia.

Indonesia continues improving its safety oversight system based on ICAO's standard and also promulgated Law No. 1/2009 to improve its air transport and air safety.

Bilateral technical cooperation was also pursued with some important partners including the Netherlands, France and Australia.

Now, with the flight ban totally lifted by the EU, the prospects of closer Indonesia - EU cooperation in air transport sector look very promising.

For your information, the air transport sector has contributed around 3.7 percent to Indonesia's GDP. Our market



**“On 14 June 2018, the European Commission cleared all air carriers from Indonesia from the EU Air Safety List...following further improvements to the aviation safety situation that was ascertained in the country.” (European Commission)**



Photo courtesy of Garuda Indonesia

would consist of 140 million airplane passengers in 2018. And President Joko Widodo continues to intensify development of infrastructure projects including new airports. In this regard, we are sure that Indonesia will continue to procure lots of equipments, services, expertise and training, including from the EU.

In the meantime, many Indonesian airlines have made large procurement of European planes. Lion Air, for instance, bought 234 airbus jetliners in 2013 and plans to purchase this year another 50 planes and 380 jet engines for its airbus fleet. Our national carrier Garuda Indonesia also bought 30 air buses plus 25 ATR 72-600s. As a matter of fact, Indonesia has a plan to buy 2500 units of airbus worth USD 25 billion in the next 20 years.

Finally, Indonesia and EU might also explore cooperation in high-precision components. Indonesia possesses good and reliable precision components supply chain. Therefore, some 'offsetting' model is important to be pursued with a view to providing more opportunities to Indonesia's component industries to participate in the supply chain of EU's plane construction projects.

People say that it takes two to tango, implying that both parties should be equally willing and committed to attain a common goal. EU and Indonesia should therefore collaborate even closer in air transport sector as greater opportunity and benefit awaits them therein (by Ambassador Yuri O. Thamrin)



Some of Indonesia's local carriers in Soekarno Hatta's International Airport terminal in Jakarta (Photo courtesy of Soekarno Hatta airport)

# A Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to Build Resilient and Modern Cooperation between Indonesia and the EU



Indonesian President Joko Widodo met President Jean-Claude Juncker during his visit to Brussels, April 2016 (Photo courtesy of European Commission)

Indonesia-EU economic cooperation elevated into a new height with the recently concluded 5th round of negotiation of an Indonesia-EU Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (I-EU CEPA) on 13 July 2018 in Brussels.

I-EU CEPA covers vast-ranging areas of cooperation including trade in goods and services, investment, intellectual property rights, business competition, sustainable development, small and medium enterprises, capacity cooperation and development.

When concluded, it would eliminate import tariffs by up to 90% both in Indonesia and the EU, therefore expected to increase trade balance up to US\$ 2 billion as well as investment by 4%. It would also be Indonesia's biggest trade agreements among the six ongoing negotiations, including Indonesia-Australia CEPA and Indonesia-EFTA CEPA.

Indonesia and EU still need to work closely in addressing some key issues of mutual concern such as sustainability.

Amidst an increasingly challenging global environment marked by rising populism and heightened protectionism, Indonesia together with the EU reaffirm continued commitments to the open, predictable and rules-based multilateral trading system.

President Joko Widodo has also stressed that Indonesia's economy need to be open and competitive. In this regard, President Widodo has also mandated that the I-EU CEPA be concluded at the latest in 2019. Given the good results and positive progress since the scoping paper in 2016 until the 5th round of negotiation in July 2018, this ambition can and will be achieved.

Initiated in 2009, I-EU CEPA serves as an essential agreement for both Indonesia and the EU in creating resilient and comprehensive economic cooperation in various areas particularly trade, services as well as investment.

Indonesia believes that trade has been and will continue to be the main engine of inclusive growth, development and poverty reduction.

Strengthening and improving participation of developing countries, including LDCs, in the multilateral trading system, would be very critical and offer new opportunities to business as standards of living of our people around the globe improved.

Currently, EU is Indonesia's 4th largest trading partner (after Japan, China and Singapore), whilst Indonesia is the 5th ASEAN partner and 30th from the overall trade partner from EU. The EU also the second largest investor in the Indonesian economy, with the total investment USD 13.4 billion in 2016 (by Merry Astrid and Alessandro Bernama)

# Seeing is believing: promoting further cooperation with Luxembourg through trade and investment mission to Indonesia

A Luxembourg trade and investment mission will visit Indonesia in October 2018. To prepare for its success, the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels participated in the Country Seminar “Discover the Business Potential in Thailand and Indonesia” at the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce headquarter on 4 July 2018.

Both the Country Seminar and the trade and investment mission are organized to commemorate 45 years of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Luxembourg. Ambassador Yuri O. Thamrin presented Indonesia’s economic developments and business opportunities before 30 participants among others from the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce of LCC; Luxembourg Ministry of Finance as well as Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs; the country’s CEOs and business associations; as well as the Ambassador of Thailand to Luxembourg and diplomats from Embassy of Thailand and Indonesia in Brussels.



Ambassador Yuri O.Thamrin signing the guest book in front of Director General of the LCC and Ambassador of Thailand to Luxembourg

Ambassador Thamrin also highlighted opportunities in the sector of green bonds for sustainable infrastructure projects and sustainable agriculture commodities, financial technology, aviation industry including off-setting to precision components supply chain.

Luxembourg private sectors are further invited to invest in banking products, commercial services, software industry as well as tourism. Opportunities are also available in the industry sector, particularly chemical, basic metal, electronics and textile. The trade and investment mission will also participate in the Trade Expo Indonesia 2018 from 24-28 October 2018 (by Allesandro Bernama)



Discussion during the Country Seminar at Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce

# Future course for sustainable palm oil and SDGs

Earlier in August 2018, Singapore during the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) with the European Union (EU), Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi, re-emphasized Indonesia's high concerns on the political agreement reached on 13 June 2018 regarding the Renewable Energy Directive II (RED II) tri-ologue.

The basis of Indonesia's position is loud and clear – that although that there is no direct mentioning of palm oil in the final text of the RED II, EU's proposed criteria using the Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) methodology, which distinguishes low-risk and high-risk biofuels, is still highly contested at the international level.

Furthermore, in the bilateral meeting with EU High Representative/Vice President (HRVP), Federica Mogherini, Minister Marsudi not only underlined the significance of sustainable palm oil for poverty eradication in Indonesia, but also the importance to work together with the EU towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals/SDGs (SDGs compliance) in the relevant sector. This proposal, among others, can be translated through exploring joint cooperation in the development of sustainable standards – a high call was well received by HRVP Mogherini.

In addition, on 24 July 2018, EU Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action, Miguel Arias Cañete, also conveyed an official reply letter to the joint letter of the Ambassadors of palm oil producing countries in Brussels.

In the letter, he indicated that the EU is willing to work with producing countries to ensure production of sustainable palm oil.

The latter point is the centerpiece of this article – how Indonesia and the EU should strengthen its bilateral cooperation on sustainable palm oil, among others, through developing a sound yet acceptable sustainable standard on palm oil.

There are at least two main modalities for a strengthening an already solid bilateral partnership.

First, Indonesia and EU are already on the right track and well on its way to finalizing the long-awaited Indonesia – EU Comprehensive Partnership Agreement (I-EU CEPA). This year alone, both sides have conducted both its 4th and 5th round of negotiations and aiming to meet again October for its 6th round (in Palembang). This reflects the high political will to boost its economic partnership to new heights for the benefit of both sides.

Second, and more relevant to the matter at hand, throughout the RED tri-ologue negotiation process (February – June 2018), Indonesia and the EU have ramped up its bilateral engagement through various stakeholders. To mention a few, the Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and the Minister of Environment and Forestry visited Brussels and was well received by EU high level officials – from the EU Commission and the EU Parliament. Foreign Minister Marsudi also previously conveyed two official letters to

HRVP Mogherini and her Foreign Minister counterparts in the EU.

In addition, the Executive Director of the Council of Palm Oil Producing Countries (CPOPC), an intergovernmental organization for countries that produce palm oil, also met with relevant counterparts in the EU including with the Vice President of the European Parliament from the Environment Committee (ENVI).

The Indonesian Embassy in Brussels also led the initiative to send a joint letter, at the Ambassador level, on 15 February 2018 which was joined by fellow Embassies of palm oil producing countries in Brussels such as Malaysia, Colombia, Nigeria, Thailand, Guatemala, Ecuador, and Honduras.

The collective effort was followed by a joint demarche to the Director General of DG Environment, Education, Transport, and Energy on the 13th of July 2018 and with the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union on 27th of July 2018.



Photo by [www.organicfacts.net](http://www.organicfacts.net)

On 4 September 2018, the Indonesian Ambassador in Brussels, Yuri Thamrin, along with fellow respective Ambassadors also met with EU Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action, H.E. Miguel Arias Cañete. These joint demarche series are conducted with a view to raise joint concerns regarding the results of triologue as well as to promote a healthy and constructive dialogue with the EU.

As a side note, the respective palm oil Embassies in Brussels also meet regularly at the working group level (Deputy Chief of Mission level) to coordinate efforts and exchange views on recent updates in regard to sustainable palm oil.

Vice versa, two high EU delegations visited Indonesia in early May 2018, namely the Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations/ASEAN (DASE) and the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) where sustainable palm oil was high on the agenda.

Post the said visit, Chair of DASE, Dr. Werner Langen wrote an appeal letter to President of the European Parliament, EU Commissioner for Trade, Cecilia Malmström, that inter alia pushes for (i) no ban on sustainable palm oil; (ii) the final RED II text should be WTO compliant, and (iii) the urge to extend the phase out period for first generation biofuels in the EU – which in the end, is extended from 2021 to 2030. Dr Langen also stated that the said visit helped in obtaining a more comprehensive understanding regarding the realities on the ground in Indonesia.



Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs, Luhut Binsar Panjaitan (right) accompanied by Ambassador Yuri Thamrin (left) met Hon. Sean Kelly at a joint meeting with Member of EU Parliament

In a nutshell, in times like these, it proves that building an open and constructive dialogue truly goes a long way for the benefit of bilateral relations.

Therefore, going forward what is crucially needed is contextualizing the agreement to explore forms of joint cooperation in a concrete manner. A paramount prerequisite, however, is for the EU to be open to accommodating constructive inputs from Indonesia as well as all palm oil producing countries in the development of the EU criteria on vegetable oils. The EU Commission will embark on this so-called “delegated act” to develop the EU criteria starting in February 2019.

It is imperative for the EU to accommodate aspirations of Indonesia and palm oil producing countries as the commodity itself is undeniably linked to different and, to some extent, complicated realities. For example, in some Latin American countries, palm oil plantations are in spread across in post conflict areas and serve as a main source of employment for smallholders, especially in the remote areas or on the fringes of its territory. Hence, it becomes highly complex for these smallholders to just “switch” their top source of employment.

In this light, the upcoming EU criteria should also take into account

principles enshrined in the SDGs, as a fundamental and internationally agreed development goals. In this context, the SDGs is needed to balance economic development, social and environmental aspirations.

Equally important, the criteria should be non-discriminative, include traceability, WTO compliant, and ensure the promotion of a rules-based multilateral trade system, including by advancing I-EU CEPA negotiations that also addresses sustainable palm oil.

Lastly, there is no question about how sustainability is a top priority for both Indonesia and the EU. Indonesia is now even developing a roadmap for sustainability for vegetable oils by 2030. This effort is pursued on top of current strong commitments by Indonesia such as through the replanting program, moratorium on new palm oil plantations, as well as re-vamping the ISPO standard.

Amidst growing concerns over rising protectionism (and trade war) sentiments, the prospective avenue to strive for a stronger bilateral partnership in the promotion of sustainability and SDGs becomes the logical path to ensure mutual benefits for both sides in the long run (by Andi Sparringa).

# Indonesia offering incentives for new 100 % palm oil-based “green diesel”

**Indonesia, the world’s biggest palm oil producer, is offering incentives to developers of a new 100 percent palm oil based “green diesel”, which the net oil importer hopes can replace costly fuel imports within three years, the country’s industry minister said.**

Biodiesel for land transportation in Indonesia currently consists of a 20 percent bio component that is mixed with petroleum diesel. That component is expected to be raised to 30 percent in 2020.

In Indonesia, the bio portion of biodiesel is made with fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) from palm oil, but efforts to increase FAME concentrations in biodiesel have faced resistance from regulators as well as the automotive and oil industries. While biodiesel can cut fuel costs and reduce emissions, higher blends of FAME require special handling and equipment as the fuel has a solvent effect that can corrode engine seals and gasket materials, and it can solidify at cold temperatures. But according to Industry Minister Airlangga Hartarto, Indonesia has found a new way to produce biodiesel that is not based on FAME that can avoid these problems.

“We already have a prototype and in three years we will be ready to produce it,” Hartarto told Reuters in an interview last week.

“Green diesel” made completely from palm oil has “the same specifications as petrol” and is compliant with the Euro IV emissions standard, said Hartarto, who chairs the country’s second-biggest political party, Golkar. A biorefinery owned by Elevance Renewable Sciences and Wilmar International is cur-

rently producing “green diesel” in a pilot project, and has been given a corporate tax discount to develop full-scale output, Hartarto said. Modifications to engines and machinery “wouldn’t be needed because its specifications are the same as (B20) biodiesel,” he added. “It’s actually better than conventional fuel.”

According to Lila Harsyah Bakhtiar, an official at the industry ministry, green diesel is made using hydrotreated vegetable oil, a technology that is expensive to develop but which could avoid disruptions to automakers who were “angry” over repeated changes to the FAME-based biodiesel mix. Elevance and Wilmar did not reply to requests for comments. According to its website, Elevance uses a patented process at its refinery in Gresik, East Java, to produce 180,000 tonnes of modified triglyceride, unsaturated methyl esters and olefins per year.

Indonesia’s biodiesel program was already reducing Indonesia’s fuel import demand by \$21 million per day, Hartarto said, adding that green diesel can “help (improve) our trade balance, and strengthen the rupiah while creating jobs.” Southeast Asia’s largest economy is among the region’s most vulnerable to external factors due to its sizeable current account deficit and its large fuel imports.

Because of that, the rupiah has been among the hardest hit this year as investors have sold emerging market assets. Indonesia has been pushing increases in domestic palm oil consumption to cushion a possible slowdown in export demand. The European Union last month agreed to phase out the use of palm oil in transport fuels from 2030 because of deforestation concerns.

Indonesia’s auto industries lobby group GAIKINDO has previously said increasing biodiesel blends can increase fuel consumption and may lead to engines overheating. Hartarto asserted that green diesel generated 90 percent fewer emissions than conventional fossil fuels. However, a 2015 study funded by the European Commission found that among vegetable oils, palm and soybean oils generated the highest indirect greenhouse gas emissions because of deforestation and the drainage of peatlands associated with their cultivation.

Indonesia is expected to consume 3.2 million to 3.3 million kilolitres of FAME this year, below an earlier target of 3.5 million kilolitres, according to the Indonesia Estate Crop Fund. The Indonesia Biofuel Producers Association expects unblended biodiesel exports to reach 800,000 kilolitres this year. (Article was published on The Star online on 25 July 2018)

# Widodo launches roadmap for Industry 4.0: Making Indonesia 4.0

Industry 4.0 is supported by five key technological advances: Internet of things, artificial intelligence, human-machine interface, robot and sensor technology, and 3D printing. The world is now experiencing Industry 4.0 and therefore Indonesia needs to be well prepared to join the new trend. Industry 4.0 is expected to result in very rapid and wide transformations. As such, countries, including Indonesia, need to be ready.

Widodo is enthusiastic about Industry 4.0 and is optimistic that the transformation will lead to more jobs - rather than job shedding - on the Indonesian market. Moreover, he regards Industry 4.0 as an opportunity for Indonesia to enter the top ten of biggest global economies by 2030 as it should lead to a boost in exports. Furthermore, Widodo emphasized the importance of safeguarding inclusive economic growth, shared by all portions of society. Per Wednesday (04/04) the “Making Indonesia 4.0” roadmap, which is led by the Industry Ministry, is an important element on the national agenda. Therefore, all sides have to support this roadmap and contribute to a more successful and developed nation.



Industry Minister Hartarto said it will be key to encourage added value and high-technology downstream industries to become a competitive player in the new global context. In order to turn Indonesia into a competitive nation, it will require the development and integration of connectivity, technology, information and communication. This should lead to a more efficient economy as well as higher quality output in the industry sector.

In the “Making Indonesia 4.0” roadmap five sectors are named priority sectors: food and drinks, automotive, textile, electronics, and chemicals. These five sectors are all key sectors in the world economy and Indonesia should become among the leading global players in these sectors. As such, these sectors are envisaged to boost the country’s exports in the future and cause a thriving role of the manufacturing sector towards Indonesia’s gross domestic product (GDP).

The design of the “Making Indonesia 4.0” roadmap involved stakeholders from various segments, including the government, industry players, industry associations, tech companies, as well as research and educational organizations. The commitments and efforts of all sides involved is required to turn the roadmap into a success. Hartarto expects to see quick results. If successful, then the roadmap will boost the real economy of Indonesia by between 1 - 2 percent. Hence, in the period 2018-2030 Indonesia’s GDP growth rates should be at least 6-7 percent per year. Meanwhile, the manufacturing industry is targeted to contribute between 21-26 percent to the nation’s GDP by 2030. Meanwhile, on the back of the thriving manufacturing industry and export performance, job creation through the roadmap is estimated at 7-19 million by 2030 (Article was published on 6 April 2018 at [www.indonesia-investment.com](http://www.indonesia-investment.com)).



# Winners and Losers in the New Industrial Revolution

I was having a quiet lunch sitting outside my neighborhood restaurant when a Go-Jek driver arrived and promptly sat down at the same table. Rather than being appalled at this breach of protocol, I took the opportunity to engage in a little research. What is like being a Go-Jek driver?

Nothing special, he responded. He was speaking up someone's food order, for which he'd be paid Rp.10.000. To collect the order and deliver it he'd to pay two parking fees or Rp. 2.000 each, so that left Rp. 6.000. If the customer was generous and you were given a tip, it wouldn't be too bad, but if not, well Rp. 6.000 was what you'd get.

It -'s not a brilliant way to make a living, especially when you have to own a motorbike and a smartphone to be able to do the job. Yet, this is the sharp end of Industrial Revolution 4.0 that we're all supposed to be delirious about.

After quizzing the Go-Jek driver for a while I shared my observations with him. In the developed world these days you don't have to confront a check out person, you can pass your purchases through a scanner yourself, pay with a card and you're done, no human interaction whatsoever. You don't go to a bank anymore, just use an ATM, making many thousands of bank tellers irrelevant and unemployed. Toll roads? Just swipe a card and put another 10,000 out of work.

Where are people supposed to work, I asked the driver? Quite clearly, he didn't have any breakthrough ideas.

After he'd left with his delivery, I returned to skimming the (non-digital) newspaper. There I found a lengthy op-ed, entitled *Geoekonomi Digital*, by Yanuar Nugroho, Deputy II in the presidential chief of staff's office. According to him, we can all relax because all sorts of new employment opportunities are opening up. Jobs that never existed until Industrial Revolution 4.0 came along.

There are vacancies for digital media strategists and digital media analysts. What used to be known as web developers have branched into two new fields, search engine optimizers and user experience designers, otherwise known as front-end developers.

There's a need for data scientists and data analysts. I couldn't really fit any of these fancy new job titles to the Go-Jek driver who was now on his way to deliver someone's lunch for Rp 6.000. Further on in the newspaper, in the education section, was an article entitled *Student Profile Not in Line with the World of Work*. It cited the results of a survey by a group called *Inadata* which had found that 75% of high school students did not possess the organizational capacities needed by employers.

As many as 60% of students did not have the required level of problem-solving skills and there wasn't a Single school where, on average, students had a high degree of critical thinking. The report quoted Ina Liem, a career consultant, as stating that President Joko Widodo had raised the question of how ready the college education system was to deal with the requirements of the modern workplace. "The question is the same for our schools, to what degree have they readied students for college and with skills of the future?" she stated.

A further problem, she said, is that schools themselves don't have the capacity to teach the required skills and knowledge. Tests measure IQ but often reflect the input of parents and coaching schools rather than the student's real abilities. "School counselors should be empowered but if their own horizons about job opportunities and industry development are limited, the advice they will be able to offer will be limited and tend to be inappropriate." In other words, the blind are leading the blind.

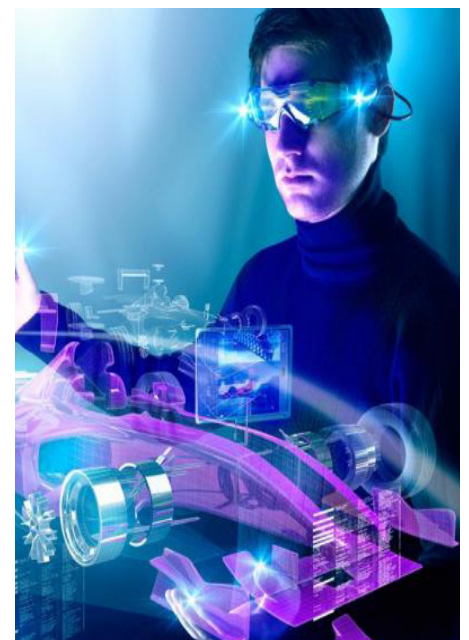
## A World Without Work

During her recent visit to Jakarta, International Monetary Fund managing director Christine Lagarde noted that new economic development paradigms were required due to the uncertainty caused by technological change. Quoting McKinsey, she noted that as many as 60% of current jobs would cease to exist. That will mean for many a world without work. Just what you do all day is unclear. Be creative? Good, but what do I live on? Perhaps fairy godmother can come along and pay us all a basic living wage and we'll inherit paradise. Perhaps not. A lot of us might get left to hang around on street corners fomenting civil disobedience and rebellion. Industrial Revolution

4.0 appears to me to be coming in time for a perfect storm for Indonesia: the disappearance of jobs, the rapid increase in urbanization and the arrival of the demographic 'bonus'. Remember the Luddites? They were early 19th century weavers in Britain who went around destroying the new machinery that was taking their jobs away. They didn't

succeed, and emulating them is unlikely to work for the coming generation of jobless. After all, what would be destroyed? It's all safely tucked away on a cloud somewhere.

This is going to be a problem in the rich world and most likely even more of one in the emerging economies. A small elite of smart, tech-savvy individuals will live extremely rewarding lives organizing everything so that the world runs without a glitch while out on the streets the rest are thrown breadcrumbs to keep them from breaking in and destroying everything. Maybe I'm over-reacting but the great advantages that Industrial Revolution 4.0 are going to bring will also bring a lot of disadvantages. Just go back a couple of hundred years and ask those workers who were forced into dismal factories when the process of industrialization got underway. At the least, we need to think about where technology is leading us and what can be done to ameliorate its negative aspects...before it's too late. (by Keith Loveard, article as published in *Globe Asia*, edition April 2018)



# Developing Biomass Energy from Municipal Waste

Developing new and renewable energy is a priority for Indonesia, but one that is often neglected. One option to shift from fossil fuel consumption is to develop biomass energy. Less developed in the technology compared to other countries, Indonesia has to catch up, even if only to produce a fraction of the national energy demand.

One major source of biomass energy is the abundance of municipal waste from our big cities. Most of this waste is organic, generated by the increasing number of households in densely-populated areas, posing problems for the cities in terms of waste management due to the lack of waste treatment facilities and funding. In the case of the capital, Jakarta, around 7,000 tons of waste is collected each day and dumped at the main designated dump at Bantar Gebang in Bekasi, East of Jakarta.

The Agency for Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT) last December signed a memorandum of understanding with the Jakarta city administration (DKI) to build a biomass power plant utilizing the waste (PLTSA) from Bantar Gebang. The project will soon be commissioned and groundbreaking was slated for March 21. Head of BPPT Unggul Priyanto has said the pilot project will convert 50 tons of waste a day to generate 400 kilowatts of electricity. "It's only a small bonus but at least it's an effort to reduce waste with green technology. We hope the project will be a model for other municipal governments to implement." The joint effort between BPPT and the Jakarta city administration will go some way to transforming the landscape of Bantar Gebang into a green area, dulling protests that Bekasi residents shouldn't have to live with the smell of Jakarta's waste.

Building the PLTSA is stipulated under Presidential Decree No 58/2017 and BPPT's Center for Environmental Technology is responsible for carrying out the implementation. Dr. Hammam Riza, deputy head of BPPT who oversees the center, told GlobeAsia that thermal technology which includes incineration, gasification and pyrolysis will be used. Feedback on the assessment and implementation of this technology will be recommended to the government as a basis in formulating future policies to solve the problems of waste disposal while at the same time generating power.



Biogas and biomass energy plant (Photo courtesy of Parker.com)

"Thermal technology is proven and used in many waste-to-energy projects in the world. The process is environmentally friendly, economical and suitable for Indonesia. The design which will be used at Bantar Gebang was conducted entirely by BPPT and Indonesian consultants," Hammam said, adding that once completed the PLTSA will be run by the city administration. Critics believe there are still hurdles in building PLTSA as regional governments and the state electricity company, PLN, often differ on the emphasis and the urgency. PLN has said that waste is a problem of regional governments and the company has no obligation to get involved in anything other than developing the national grid.

Another problem is that the 70% of the waste in Bantar Gebang categorized as wet waste is not separated from dry waste such as glass bottles, plastics, tin, aluminum or paper. This makes recycling difficult.

The densely-populated city of Bandung in West Java has for many years planned to use waste-to-energy technology to build power generating plants using municipal waste. But such projects have always been opposed by environmentalists due to the unpleasant smell from the process.

## BIOMASS ENERGY POTENTIAL

Indonesia has other huge biomass sources. According to estimates, the country produces more than 150 million tons of biomass a year. Biomass energy sources are found in Sumatra, Kalimantan, Sulawesi and Papua as residues from wood, palm oil and other agricultural wastes.

A group of researchers from the Bogor Institute of Agriculture (IPB), Malang State Polytechnic and University of Melbourne carried out a joint research program on forests as producer of biomass for renewable energy. They explored current and future biomass availability, including wood residues from harvest operations in native forests and production of wood biomass. The results show biomass energy has enormous potential. But so far biomass is mostly used as raw material for the timber industry and is very rarely utilized as bio-energy. Most industries mix softwood with hardwood to produce the desired quality woodchips for export rather than use it domestically.

Development of biomass power plants in Indonesia can only be realized with a sound policy to support it. State-owned forestry company Perhutani and South Korea's Korea Western Power (KWP) last year signed an agreement to develop biomass power plants for a sago factory in Kais sub-district, South Sorong district, West Papua. Under the agreement, Perhutani will develop 200,000 hectares to produce 3-2 million tons of woodchips which will be utilized to generate up to 800 MW of power a year.

Most biomass energy players mainly seek woodchips and palm kernel shells as biomass fuel, with the majority of biomass fuel imports in to Japan and South Korea in the form of woodchips (by Yanto Soegiarto, article was published in Globe Asia edition April 2018)

# Indonesia's priorities in UNSC

The United Nations General Assembly elected Indonesia as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on June 8, along with South Africa, the Dominican Republic, Germany and Belgium.

This would also mark the third time for Indonesia to hold the seat. Previously, the country served as a UNSC non-permanent member from 1973-1974; 1995-1996; and 2007-2008.

The election therefore signifies the continuing confidence of the international community in Indonesia's diplomacy. It also reflects global acknowledgement of our notable track record and high commitment to maintaining world peace and security.

A seat on the UNSC will give Indonesia an opportunity to participate in promoting global peace and stability more actively than usual.

Starting January 1, 2019 and for the following two years, Indonesia will join 14 other countries in the UN's most powerful body to help defuse wars, conflicts and tensions in all corners of the world.

Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi has laid out Indonesia's four priorities during its two-year tenure in the UN body.

First, to continue the efforts to realise world peace. The Indonesian government would strengthen the ecosystem of global stability by encouraging dialogue and peaceful settlement of conflicts. Efforts to realise world peace would include increasing the capacity of UN peacekeeping forces, including the role of women.

Second, to build synergy between regional organisations and the UN to maintain peace and stability.



Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi with UN Secretary General in New York (Photo courtesy of SindoNews)

When a very dynamic development took place in a region, regional organisations were quicker to respond. Therefore, it was necessary to strengthen relations and communications between regional organisations and the UN.

Third, to increase cooperation in the fight against terrorism, extremism and radicalism.

Lastly, to synergise efforts to create peace with that to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The Government of Indonesia considers it important to link peace with the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs).

As mandated by the preamble of Indonesia's constitution: "establishing a world order based on freedom, eternal peace and social justice", and translated to its slogan "true partner for world peace", Indonesia will advance efforts towards (1) solving existing conflicts in the world, such as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict,

the undeniably the root of all problems in the region; (2) combating the threats of terrorism through multilateral approach, upholding respect for human rights as well as international and national law; (3) promoting the importance of efforts for conflict prevention through preventive diplomacy; and (4) continuously playing active role as a peacemaker and in peace building by continuously contributing to UN peacekeeping missions around the world. on

To successfully realize this vision, Indonesia believes in good collaboration between permanent and non-permanent members of UNSC, as well as other related agencies and stakeholders. (by Fahmi Jamaludin and Alessandro Bernama)



# The Seventh Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process: Joining efforts on tackling migration and transnational crimes

Conflicts in many parts of the world have forced people fleeing from their country in order to find a more secured place to live and a decent life. They dare taking risk of their life and family to the hands of those people who seek opportunity to exploit their vulnerability. In 2015, in Europe as in Asia, as well as in other part of the world, we are facing the highest influx of refugees and asylum seekers coming from countries as results of many conflicts, such as from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Nigeria.

The number of casualties has never been high during these years, more than 3,000 people was dead and missing in the sea, a real tragedy for humanity, and countries are confused and conflicted on how to better deal with this dilemmatic issue. Until 2017, more than 150,000 people reached Europe by sea and in Indonesia alone it reached more than 16,000 people. As the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi said during the Seventh Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process, on 7th August 2018: "Inaction had grave consequences".

This year, we therefore warmly welcome the soon to be agreed final draft of "Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)" in December 2018 under the United Nations auspices,

which address the challenges of governance on migration and other related aspects of migration. We also praised many regional forums who took more steps on how to address the root causes of these issues and empowering the country's ability to resolve the conflict and at the same time strengthening cooperation between countries involved.

In the European Union, harmonizing different national policies implemented by each of the 28 countries and also the cooperation involving many other neighboring countries is an ongoing process. We follow closely with optimism the concept of Regional Disembarkation Platforms and controlled centers, and assistance provided for the transformation of socio-economic conditions in the African continent. This year in Asia, co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia, we also held the 7th Bali Process Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons, and Related Transnational Crimes (BPMC 7), 6-7 August 2018 in Bali, attended by 46 governments and 10 international organizations and NGO, such as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

This forum as both Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Retno L.P. Marsudi, and Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Julie Bishop, conveyed, has successfully able to reach more deeper understanding of the root causes and the generation of solutions of the problem of human trafficking and modern slavery, by enhancing collaboration among all stakeholders and optimizing existing capacity, networks and influence, especially through business sector and civil society.

Besides the Declaration of the 7th Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process", the new concept of "Triple A Recommendation", that is "Acknowledge", "Act", and "Advance", were also agreed as an outcome of this forum. "Triple A", has a literal meaning of calling for the government and business sector to "Acknowledge" and understand the modern trafficking and slavery practices, to "Act" by implementing policies or mechanisms, and "Advancing" the process through wider network.

All that is left to say that, it is now timely to increase efforts and strengthen our capacity on tackling this complex and beyond national border issues more effectively by embarking to a wider level of cooperation between countries in the world (by Yuri Alwis)



The 7th Bali Process Ministerial photo gathering. Photo by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate of Media and Information (Photo courtesy of Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

# Indonesia's chairmanship in ASEAN Brussels Committee

Indonesia successfully chaired the ASEAN Brussels Committee (ABC) from January to June 2018. ABC comprises all 10 missions of ASEAN member countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

ABC Ambassadors meet regularly to discuss ways to promote ASEAN's visibility in Europe the EU as well as Belgium; to further strengthen ASEAN-EU relations based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and mutual trust; as well as to broaden networks between ABC and its counterparts in Belgium, including government officials, private sectors, academia/universities and think-tanks.

One of Indonesia's priorities during its chairmanship is to better profile ASEAN in Belgium and to strengthen ASEAN-Belgium cooperation. In this regard, ABC had a productive working luncheon with Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders on 7 May 2018 at The Hotel, Brussels. During the luncheon, Minister Reynders underlined that Southeast Asia is an important region and that ASEAN plays key role in promoting peace, security, stability and development in the region. The year 2017 marks the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-EU dialog relations.

It was also underscored that both sides have collaborated closely in addressing various global challenges. Both sides also expressed readiness to expedite concrete cooperation in areas including connectivity, people-to-people links, climate change, as well as political and security cooperation.

Indonesia's ABC chairmanship has also cemented close collaboration between ABC and the European Parliament, particularly with the Delegation for relations with the countries of South East Asia and ASEAN (DASE).

As close and equal partners, ABC and DASE/the European Parliament meet regularly in Strasbourg and Brussels to address various issues of common concern such as briefing on new EU policies/initiatives relevant to ASEAN-EU relations, outcomes of major ASEAN Meetings/Summit, and other ASEAN/EU concerns. In the spirit of further elevating ASEAN-European Parliament cooperation, EU delegations comprising DASE and AFET paid a working visit to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand from 7-12 May 2018. In Indonesia and Malaysia, the EU was also updated with efforts made by both countries in promoting 100% sustainable palm oil.

ABC also worked closely with the European External Action Service (EEAS), particularly in supporting ASEM's vision of promoting connectivity and partnership between Asia and Europe. ABC participated during the ASEM Day ceremony on 1 March 2018 at EEAS. ABC also collaborated closely with EEAS in the preparation for the forthcoming 12th ASEM Summit in Brussels, 18-19 October 2018.

ABC reached out to the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the EU to learn more about the priorities of the Bulgarian presidency in the Council of the EU from January-June 2018. In this regard, a meeting between ABC and Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the EU was convened on 2 March 2018.



ABC Ambassadors with Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders



One of ABC meetings at the Indonesian Embassy

Both sides had a productive discussion on developments in ASEAN-EU relations, particularly in the context of implementation of the roadmap of ASEAN-EU Plan of Action 2018-2022.

Indonesia hosted a meeting between ABC and the Chinese Mission to the EU on 8 May 2018 to exchange views on ways to promote cooperation with the EU. ABC also expanded professional networks with various partners in Belgium, including the Mayor of Willebroek, Euraflex (consultant) and DLA Piper (law firm). ABC also worked closely with the European Institute for Asian Studies (think-tank) to organize various seminars relating to developments in ASEAN countries, namely “Understanding Myanmar” on 17 May 2018 (organized by Embassy of Myanmar); “The EU-Vietnam FTA: The Final Push” on 20 June 2018 (organized by Embassy of Vietnam); and “Quo Vadis Cambodia?” on 29 June 2018 (organized by Embassy of Cambodia).

At the end of Indonesia’s chairmanship as well as to welcome the long-awaited summer, ABC organized the ASEAN Summer Fair 2018 on 30 June 2018 at the Indonesian Embassy, aimed at promoting Southeast Asian countries and ASEAN through their rich and diverse arts, culture and cuisines to the European audience.



Ambassador Yuri Thamrin officiating the ASEAN Summer Fair 2018

The event was well-attended by diplomats and diaspora of ASEAN member countries in Belgium, Luxembourg as well as from other neighboring countries. ABC’s counterparts from Belgium and the EU also participated in the event. The event is also aimed at strengthening the “we feeling” and networks among ASEAN diaspora in Belgium.

Prior to this, the ABC also conducted ASEAN Family Day Visit to Keukenhof, the Netherlands on 28 April 2018, organized by Embassy of Brunei Darussalam. ABC believes that creative efforts need to be made to further promote ASEAN’s visibility as well as to extend ABC’s outreach to the European audience. In this regard, Indonesia pioneered the launch of ABC Facebook and Instagram pages. Through social media, ABC aims to better profile Southeast Asian countries, ASEAN as well as ABC activities, particularly under the theme of strengthening ASEAN-EU relations down to the grassroots level.

ABC is currently chaired by Laos from July to December 2018. (by Alessandro Bernama)



Betawi dance performed by Bogor Raya School

# Indonesia Interfaith Scholarship: experiencing tolerance and diversity

From 23 to 31 July, EIAS Programme Coordinator Mr Alberto Turkstra participated in the 2017 Indonesia Interfaith Scholarship funded by the Ministry for Religious Affairs of Indonesia. The week-long tour included meetings in Jakarta with the EU Delegation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Indonesian Parliament. Other cities visited included Semarang, Yogyakarta as well as Bali, where representatives from different faiths, as well as academic and religious institutions, were held. Below are his reflections:

“Nowadays, Europe seems dominated by a climate of fear, mistrust, mutual suspicions and misunderstandings which has given rise to populist parties promoting a “us vs them” mentality, scapegoating religious and ethnic minorities for the woes of the continent.

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“Nowadays, Europe seems dominated by a climate of fear, mistrust, mutual suspicions and misunderstandings which has given rise to populist parties promoting a “us vs them” mentality, scapegoating religious and ethnic minorities for the woes of the continent.

Indonesia, on the other hand, has long been regarded as the poster child of pluralism where different faiths co-exist peacefully and harmoniously, despite being one of the most diverse countries in the world. Indonesia and the EU share almost the same motto – Unity/United in diversity – but in Indonesia this unity is much more palpable in the day-to-day reality than in Europe. Hence, one of the main rationales to participate in this study tour was to observe and learn how Indonesia manages the complex relationship between religion, state and society which Europe so much struggles with.

Scrolling through some of the Indonesian news headlines in the weeks prior to participating in the 2017 Indonesia Interfaith Scholarship, however, threw some surprisingly negative headlines: many related, but not limited to, the implications of the Ahok case for Indonesia’s model of tolerance, the growing impact of hardline Islamic groups such as the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI), the intrusion of less tolerant forms of Islam into Indonesia and the exploitation of religious sentiments by political elites in the lead-up to the 2019 presidential election: “What Explains rising Islamism in Indonesia”; “Should we worry about Islamism in Indonesia?”; “Why Indonesian extremists are gaining ground?”; “Indonesia has been mercifully resistant to extremism—until now”; “The Rising Tide of Radicalism Threatening Indonesia”; “Indonesia’s Moderate Islam is Slowly Crumbling”; “Indonesia: A nation’s tolerance on trial”; and “Pluralism in peril: Is Indonesia’s religious tolerance under threat?”, to give a few examples.

Of course, good news is no news, and, as we were often reminded through the trip, the smallest of problem can be blown out of proportion (and frequently out of context) by the media. Today’s media landscape has created a hotbed for the rapid spread of “post-truth” sensationalist headlines; this acquires greater importance if we consider that Indonesia is host to one of the world’s largest numbers of Facebook and Twitter. Furthermore, some of the problems highlighted are certainly not unique to Indonesia: the forces of globalisation have generated conditions favourable to the development and intensification of inter-cultural and inter-religious tensions.

Re-reading the above-mentioned articles after the completion of the study trip, they seem to fail to capture the strength of the Indonesian societal system which has successfully managed internal conflict and addressing social issues peacefully. There are plenty of examples we have witnessed during this trip conducive to creating an atmosphere of harmonious and peaceful life in a pluralistic society. For all the talk of radicalisation, Indonesia has for instance been largely immune to ISIL recruitment, with the numbers of Indonesian foreign fighters in Syria largely the same as Belgian citizens (which has almost 25 times less the population of Indonesia).

The Indonesia Interfaith Scholarship allowed us to meet with a wide range of representatives and stakeholders from various ministries and religious groups, from Jakarta to remote villages in Bali to witness first-hand the inter-religious cooperation and harmony at work. There was no denying about the challenges faced, but Indonesia has long been accustomed to living in a multicultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and plurilingual nation, the pillars of its identity and its stability, and the Indonesian model of tolerance rests on very solid pillars which are (largely) immune to sporadic episodes of instability and intolerance, otherwise quite normal in a plural, open vibrant democracy and a country with hundreds of ethnicities, languages and six official religions.

During our field visits and meetings it was made clear to us that Islam in Indonesia is very different from Middle Eastern Islam, less rigid, less Arabized, more moderate and accommodative, compatible with modernity, plurality and democracy,



IIS 2018 participants among officials and students of an Islamic boarding school in Indonesia

the active participation of women in society, and a robust civil society (exemplified by Muhammadiyah and Nahdlatul Ulama which form the backbone of civil society in Indonesia); but this certainly does not make it a weaker or watered-down version of Islam (“Islam with a smiling face”, as someone pointed out). One of the most prominent examples of inter-religious harmony in practice was finding houses of worship of different religions built side-by-side, such as the St Mary of the Assumption Cathedral and the Istiqlal mosque in Jakarta, facing each other; and the Pura Mandala complex in Bali, housing five places of worship. In the case of Jakarta, we were introduced to the concept of parking diplomacy, which entails that the cathedral parking area for motorcycles can be used by the Muslim community during the main prayer on Friday, likewise for the mosque premises which can be used by Christians for the Sunday Mass at the Cathedral, as well as during other important celebrations such as Easter or Christmas. The location of these two temples serves as a powerful reminder that in Indonesia the coexistence of major religions is a reality and widely accepted.

Meetings at the Ministry for Religious Affairs, Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Indonesian Parliament served to familiarise ourselves with the principles guiding religious life in Indonesia, centred around Pancasila, and the spirit of unity in diversity enshrined in the 1945 Constitution which ensures freedom of religion for all. Intercultural, inter-religious and bilateral interfaith dialogues, are all powerful tools for prevention, mediation, combating intolerance and extremism. Nationally, every one of the 34 provinces is host to a religious Harmony Forum. Indonesia, as a leader in inter-faith dialogue, also as a strong mandate to promote it abroad. It holds many bilateral inter-faith dialogues, including with Singapore, Myanmar, Fiji and Australia in the immediate neighbourhood; as well as regionally and multilaterally (through the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations, for example). Indonesia is bidding to become a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 2019-2020 with an agenda strongly focus on human security, peace-keeping and peacebuilding. Indonesia, as a living model of tolerance and pluralism, can benefit from UNSC membership to promote these values in its interactions with other members of the international community.



IIS participants in Bali on a visit to one of the temples

The meeting at the EU Delegation in Jakarta threw some light on how the EU sees Indonesia as a role model regionally and globally. To this end, last year, Federica Mogherini announced an exchange programme for religious scholars and leaders. Concerns were expressed concerning growing religious conservatism in Indonesia; the emergence of hard-line Islamic groups; radical teachings in public schools; the politicisation of religious factors in the context of the recent Jakarta government elections; the losing grip of Muhammadiyah and NU vis-à-vis radical Islamic minority groups; the role of social media (with its huge penetration and amplification effects through which radical messages can spread easily and quickly); the spreading of radicalisation to well-educated, middle class Indonesian and the situation of the Ahmadiya, banned from proselytising their faith.

Other meetings such as those with scholar Holland Taylor and at the Jesuit school in Yogyakarta, served to contextualise how Islam, Christianity and other religions had been introduced in Java and Indonesia at large. It was interesting to learn that Indonesia is the only country where Confucianism is considered a religion (as opposed to a philosophy) and the only country where Hinduism is a monotheistic religion.

As the trip advanced, we were introduced to other initiatives that increase interaction between members of different religions, because, as the saying goes, “he who knows one religion knows none”.

The Indonesian Consortium of Religious Studies, in cooperation with Christian and secular universities, has a programme with an inter-religious flavour, in which students are able to work under two dissertation supervisors, one Muslim and one Christian. In a village in Karangasem regency (Bali), where Hindus and Muslims peacefully live side by side, we were explained by local leaders some of the initiatives taken by Muslims to better integrate with Hindu neighbours and incorporate local Balinese traditions, including having versions of the Quran written in Sanskrit, and giving Balinese names to new-borns.

A valuable lesson is that harmony can never be taken for granted, but has to be fought for every day. As we heard numerous times during our trip, especially at the grassroots level, people have a tacit agreement to solve disputes at the local level without resorting to authorities, avoiding the escalation of small problems. In order to preserve harmony in society, it is crucial that the recognition of religious freedom and pluralism prevails; as well as mutual respect, interfaith tolerance and mutual cooperation. It is clear that despite the challenges faced, the scholars and policymakers we met agreed that there is no need to change radically the Indonesian political system. Religion is both a political and social element and hence the basis for statehood; and the power of the five Pancasila principles is strong enough to overcome any fractures in the system.

I come back from Indonesia significantly more optimistic than in the days prior to departing after having read the above-mentioned articles. Indonesia is gracefully endowed with a very rich spiritual-religious capital and it is hoped it can assist and offer some valuable lessons to the EU in tackling extremism, radicalisation and other related challenges.”



Ambassador Yuri O. Thamrin with CEO of Pairs Daiza Mr. Eric Domb



## Food, coffee, music and dance...a wonderful Indonesian summer in Pairs Daiza

From 3-5 August 2018, a three-day cultural and culinary event “Indonésie à la fête” or “Indonesian Party” as organized at Pairs Daiza in Bruglette, Belgium.

Pairs Daiza is home of the Kingdom of Ganesha, an Indonesian-inspired park with majestic rice fields, banana trees and exotic flowers blossoming under the caress of the sun, sumptuous temples from the other side of the world. You can also find orangutans and elephants here.

Organized by the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels and Pairs Daiza Park and supported by the Creative Economy Agency (Bekraf) and the West Java Provincial Government, Indonesian Party featured a culinary demonstration by renowned chef Bara Pattiradjawane, presentation of Indonesian specialty coffee by Anomali Coffee, as well as West-Java and Balinese music and art performances as well as Indonesian jazz-fusion music.

“Indonesia is a large, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country, we hope that with this Indonesian Party the Belgian people will get to know and visit Indonesia later,” said Ambassador Yuri Thamrin in his opening remarks. Ambassador Yuri also hopes that this good collaboration with Pairs Daiza Park would continue in the coming years to further showcase arts and culture, culinary as well as trade and investment opportunities in Indonesia.



Coffee brewing presentation by Anomali coffee

CEO of Pairi Daiza Mr. Eric Domb participated in the Party. When Mr. Domb was 18, Bali was his first destination for a trip after graduated from school. He felt in love immediately with the beautiful “Island of Gods” and later decided to build “a piece of Indonesia in Belgium” in form of the Kingdom of Ganesha.

Celebrated Indonesian chef Bara Pattiradjawane managed to amaze visitors with his entertaining and teaching methods on how to cook soto ayam or Indonesian chicken soup in three languages; French, Dutch and English. They were very enthusiastic to try the hot soup despite the heat.

Visitors were also entertained by barristas from Anomali Coffee who served specialty coffee from Indonesia. Visitors are also taught good coffee preparation techniques to obtain optimal flavor and aroma.

After eating soto and enjoying coffee, visitors were treated with some Balinese music and dance. They also participated in Balinese dance workshop. The dynamic West Javanese dance and the Indonesian fusion jazz music performance concluded the Indonesian Party event every day throughout this weekend.

Pairi Daiza is the largest theme park and zoo in the Wallonia region of Belgium. Opened from April to November, Pairi Daiza is visited by nearly 2 million visitors each year (by Ance Maylany and Alessandro Bernama)



(Top) Celebrated Indonesian Chef Bara Patiradjawane demonstrating how to cook Soto Ayam  
(below) Balinese dance performance and gamelan workshop by Made Wardana



TRAVEL DESTINATION:

# Yogyakarta, Central Java



Borobudur Temple (photo courtesy of Marc Smittbuhl)

Yogyakarta, together with its twin city Surakarta (Solo), is the cradle of civilization on Java. This city was the seat of power that produced the magnificent temples of Borobudur and Prambanan in the 8th and 9th century and the new powerful Mataram kingdom of the 16th and 17th century. Yogyakarta is known as Neverending Asia for its endless appeals. This city is one of the foremost cultural centres of Indonesia. From climbing the magnificent Borobudur temple, visiting the Keraton (Sultan's Palace) and the famous Alun Alun, to watching silversmiths produce amazing jewelries at Kotagede and also learn to make one yourself. Maybe try a splurge shopping up at Malioboro road, relaxing Javanese Spa and many more ways to never get bored in this relatively small yet bustling city.

From natural wonders, local art and traditions, examples of Javanese heritage to delicious culinary delights. Try the Gudeg, a special cooking of traditional Javanese recipe. Taste the Bakpia, a traditional snack with many enticing flavours. Yogyakarta is indeed a city with numerous attractions to enjoy. All of this and many more to explore has bring Yogyakarta as the second most visited destination in Indonesia after Bali.

## Get Here

There are numerous daily flights from Jakarta, Surabaya and Bali to Yogyakarta. Yogyakarta is also served by AirAsia from Kuala Lumpur. There is a regular train service between Yogyakarta and other major cities. Yogyakarta is also easily accessible by road in cars or public overland bus services.

## Get Around

Once you arrive, there are a number of ways you can explore Yogyakarta. Walking is a great way to take in the sights and meet the locals though it can get hot by the middle of the day. Embrace the local mode of

transport and try a becak, traditional three wheeled pedal powered cart. Remember to negotiate the price before you start on your journey. Traditional horse drawn carts known as andong can be found in the tourist areas of Yogyakarta. These are a relaxed and romantic way to take in the sights.

You may wish to organise a car and driver for the duration of your stay in Yogyakarta. If you know how to ride a motorbike you can hire one in the city. Taxi's are available and can be arranged through your hotel. Buses are the major form of public transportation here however their hours of operation can be limited. If you take a bus beware of pickpockets.

## Where To Stay

Tentrem Hotel will welcome you in a tranquil settings match to her name. A traditional beverage called Jamu, mixed of herbs in Javanese recipe will also be greeting you to begin your lovely leisure. With luxurious ambiance and modern architecture, you will comfortably sleep in a cozy bedroom interior. One of the highlight for family travelling with kids is the incredible kids club, with floor to ceiling playground that will certainly put more smile on the little ones.

Address : Jl AM Sangaji 72A, Yogyakarta 55233, Indonesia

Explore Yogyakarta and Central Java – Obama Style!

On repeated invitation from Indonesia's President Joko Widodo to the then President Obama and later to former President Obama, finally from 23 June – 2 July, US 44th President together with Michelle Obama, daughters Malia and Natasha, and for a private holiday to Bali, Yogyakarta and Central Java and Jakarta-Bogor. They had one request only : not to be distrubed by throngs of media and tv crews during this private visit. In Jakarta Obama was invited as keynote speaker to the 5th

Indonesian Diaspora Congress. But, of course, the excited Indonesians were difficult to keep at bay.

Following in the footsteps of the Obamas, the choice of attractions and places they visited revealed the deep interest Obama had to study in more in depth Indonesia's culture at site and more up to date, how Indonesia's multi-cultural society worked in today's modern world. When in Bali, Obama studied the Subak sustainable agricultural system at Jatiluwih, while in Central Java and Yogya, where he had also stayed during his childhood, he seemed to have taken great interest in the reconstruction of the once ruined Hindu Prambanan temple, spending a longer time there and taking many photographs of the temple and the Ramayana reliefs etched on the walls. He also asked for a special performance of the Gatotkaca wayang kulit shadow puppet show, which has deep philosophical connotations. Of course he also visited the places where he used to wander around in Yogyakarta. It was for this reason, we presume that he chose to stay in the center of the city in the Tentrem hotel, rather than at the more exclusive hotels much closer to the magnificent Borobudur temple. In Yogya the group stayed from 28 July - 30 July 2017.

So, if you are eager to follow in the footsteps of Obama's holiday in Yogya and Central Java, here are the places and attractions the Obamas visited during their vacation here.

#### DAY ONE:

- 1 | The Tentrem Hotel
- 2 | Explore the Borobudur Temple
- 3 | Get a guided tour through the Prambanan Temple

#### DAY TWO:

- 1 | Visit the Museum of Gajah Mada University
- 2 | Have Lunch at Bumi Langit Restaurant.
- 3 | Stop by at Taman Sari Water Castle
- 4 | Enjoy a lovely evening at Becici Peak

#### DAY THREE

- 1 | Try iconic culinary dish of Yogya

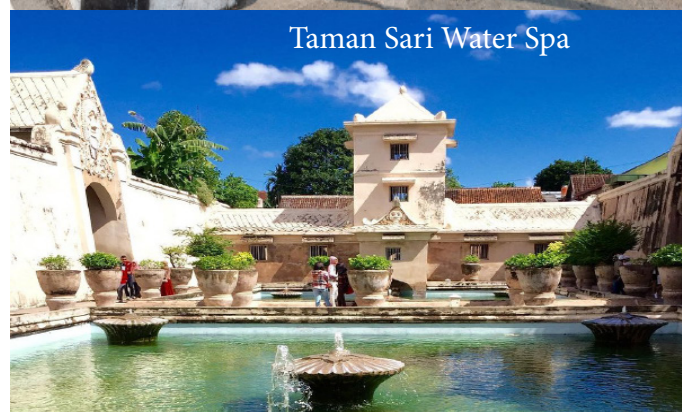
For more information on this destination, visit [www.indonesia.travel](http://www.indonesia.travel) and find out for more practical info on how to get there!



Girl in traditional Javanese wedding costume



Strolling at the old market street of Malioboro



Taman Sari Water Spa

# From Bean to Bar: A Journey in exploring the Indonesian Cocoa Bean

Chocolate, everybody loves it!

As the third largest cocoa bean producer in the world, the condition that I found when I visited Brussels' Salon du Chocolat in 2017 and 2018 has brought questions to mind. Namely, the lack of representation of Indonesian cocoa bean in chocolate bars. The majority of the cocoa bean used [in the chocolate bars] were sourced from Latin America, such as Peru, Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Guatemala. It was quite disappointing to see that our cocoa bean lack of representation from the artisan chocolatier nor the Belgian chocolate industry.

To my knowledge, many Indonesian cocoa bean farmers are less likely to produce "fermented" cocoa beans and [the fact that] also there is no significant incentive to produce it. [The majority of our cocoa bean were produced as unfermented cocoa bean.] Although Indonesian cocoa bean is known for its spectrum of flavor due to its use in agroforestry system, in which the cocoa tree shades coffee trees, spices or fruit trees. This growth among other plants enhanced the flavor of the bean itself.

Working collaboratively with chocolatier supply chain in Brussels allows the idea of "bean to bar" to be a reality.

It starts by facilitating an exploration of Indonesian cocoa bean by Le Circle du Cacao to several major producing areas of cocoa beans in Indonesia.

The field trip is facilitated by the Indonesian embassy and it includes Kendeng Lembu Plantation in Banyuwangi (East Java), Langgeran Chocolate Station in Yogyakarta, Kerta Semaya Samaniya and Kalimajari Cocoa Farmer Groups in Jembrana – Bali, and major producing areas of cocoa bean in South Sulawesi. Other than farms, the field trip also includes meetings with Indonesian bean to bar chocolatier in Yogyakarta, Bali and Jakarta.

We have a great expectation, that this trip could be the start of our long journey and effort to bring our premium fermented cocoa bean to the Belgian market. Fingers crossed! (by Wahida Maghraby)



Bean to bar with cacao products from Indonesia(photo courtesy of Bean to Bar)

# Study in Indonesia: available scholarships

Every year the Government of Indonesia invites international participants (university students as well as professionals) to study in Indonesia. We invite our friends of Indonesia in Belgium, Luxembourg and the EU to make best use of these interesting opportunities!

## INDONESIAN ARTS AND CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

The Indonesian Arts and Culture Scholarship (IACS) is organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for students aged 18-27 to study arts and culture for a period of three months (April to June) in various cities across Indonesia.

IACS gives opportunity to learn Indonesia's music, dance, theater, crafts and other forms of arts.

Since its inception in 2003, IACS has gained popularity among international participants, including member countries of the South West Pacific Dialogue (SwPD), Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Timor-Leste. Between 2003 and 2017, the scholarship has been awarded to 776 alumni from 69 countries.

The scholarship will be available in 2019. To participate, please check the Embassy's website on [www.kemlu.go.id](http://www.kemlu.go.id) or e-mail to [publicdiplomacy@embassyofindonesia.eu](mailto:publicdiplomacy@embassyofindonesia.eu).



Lize Pede and Shay Amitai, former participants at IACS 2018 who studied in Yogyakarta and Bali

## DARMAISISWA PROGRAM

Darmasiswa scholarship is dedicated to international students interested to study Indonesian language, arts and culture. It is also designed to build stronger cultural links and understanding among students from participating countries.

The program is organized by the Ministry of Education. In 2011, the scholarship was offered to around 750 participants and this number continues to increase every year.

The program starts in September and lasts for a period of one academic year. Registration opens in December and online application deadline is in February the following year. For more information about the scholarship, visit [www.darmasiswa.kemdikbud.go.id](http://www.darmasiswa.kemdikbud.go.id).



Closing ceremony of 2016 Darmasiswa program (Photo courtesy of Arone Silva Bila)



# Indonesia's seafood industry

Being the largest archipelagic country globally, with more than thirteen thousand islands, Indonesia is rich in marine resources. Indonesia scores among the top five of fishery and aquaculture producers in the world.

Its tuna fisheries are among the largest and most productive worldwide and with its shrimp sector Indonesia is among the top three producing nations in the world. Indonesia has a large domestic market for fishery and aquaculture products as well.

Marine fisheries and aquaculture are expected to play an increasingly important role in Indonesia's economic development and food security. It contributes large income to Indonesia's Gross Domestic Bruto (GDP). Around 5 million people in Indonesia depends their livelihoods on aquaculture and fisheries sector.

The Indonesian government continues to improve its strategy and policy in this sector to improve production system that lead to a better productivity, value adding capacity and fishery products.

Indonesia also actively participates in the Seafood Expo Global in Brussels every year to further promote exports of Indonesian fisheries products to Europe.

From 29-30 October 2018, Indonesia will also host the 5th Our Ocean Conference 2018 under the theme of "Our Ocean, Our Legacy" in the beautiful city of Bali.

Below are some of the leading players in the industry with target to increase its trade relation to the EU market:

1. PT. Permata Marindo Jaya.  
Products: Mahi mahi, Opa, Swordfish, Tuna  
Address: Jl. Hiu Raya Kav D. No. 4, Muara Baru, Kompleks PPSJ, Jakarta.

2. PT. Bahari Biru Nusantara  
Products : Ribbon fish, sea breams, big eye, snapper, groupers, red snapper, other reef fishes, croakers and cephalopod  
Address : Jl. Raya Daendels no. 88 KM 82, Sedayulawas, Brondong, Lamongan, Jawa Timur.

3. PT. Awindo International  
Products: sailfish, frozen fish, tuna, wahoo  
Address: Jl. Muara Baru no. 12, Perum PRasana PPS Jakarta, Penjaringan, Jakarta

4. PT. Rex Canning  
Products: canned baby clams, crab meat, canned snail, frozen shellfish, canned tuna, canned shrimp, canned crab meat  
Address: Jl. Raya Beji-Bangil KM 4 No. 42 Pasuruan 67154, East Java

5. PT. Wahyu PRadan Binamulia  
Products: shrimp, coral fish, tuna, cephalopod  
Address: Jl. Kima, Daya, Biring, Kanaya, Makassar City, South Sulawesi

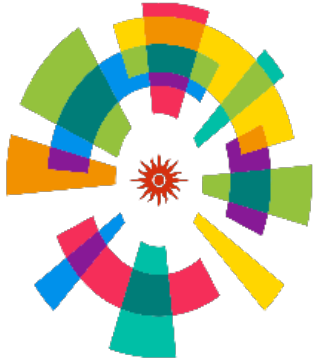
6. PT. Kelola Biru Harmoni  
Products: Demersal fish  
Address: Jl. Laksamana R.E. Martadinata I, Tanjung Priok, Jakarta

7. PT. Intimas Surya  
Products: skipjack, albacore, fresh cuttlefish, tuna, frozen cephalopod  
Address: Jl. Ikan Tuna Raya Pelabuhan Benoa, Denpasar, Bali

8. PT. Kelola Mina Laut  
Products: frozen fish, frozen cephalopod, crab meat, frozen shrimp, frozen block surimi, surimi based product  
Address: Jl. KIG Raya Selatan Kav. C-5, Kawasan Industry Gresik, Gresik 61121



# Calendar of Events 2018



18<sup>th</sup> ASIAN GAMES

## Jakarta Palembang 2018

### ASIAN GAMES

Indonesia currently holds the 2018 Asian Games, officially known as the 18th Asian Games. It was kick-started in the capital city Jakarta on 18 August 2018 and is scheduled to take place until 2 September 2018 in Jakarta and Palembang.

Previously, Indonesia hosted the Games for the first time in 1962. Events will be held in and around the two cities, including venues in Bandung and provinces of West Java and Banten. The opening and closing ceremonies of the Games will be held at Gelora Bung Karno Main Stadium in Jakarta

All 45 members of the Olympic Council of Asia are scheduled to participate in the games. It has also been agreed that North Korea and South Korea will compete as a unified team in some events, as they did at the 2018 Winter Olympics. To watch the match during Asian Games, visit the official site: [www.asian-games2018.id](http://www.asian-games2018.id), Youtube channel: 18th Asian Games 2018 and follow recent news through Instagram and twitter: @asian-games2018

### GENERAL ELECTION 2018

Indonesia will hold a direct presidential election in 9 April 2019.

The election will run simultaneously with the elections of members of the House of Representatives (DPR), the Regional Representative Council (DPD) and regional council (DPRD).

The General Elections Commission (KPU) declared that 15 political parties had qualified for the ballot, up from 10 parties in 2014.

President Joko Widodo and his 2014 opponent, Prabowo Subianto has registered for the next election. President Widodo picked Ma'aruf Amin as his running mate while Prabowo chose to partner with Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno.

### WORLD PARLIAMENTARY FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia invites parliamentarian from all over the world to take part in the World Parliamentary Forum on Sustainable Development, to be held on 12-13 September 2018 in Bali, Indonesia.

The Forum will carry out the vision to facilitate the sharing of policy analysis, experience, best practices from cross-country and cross-sectors, discuss preparedness and also deepen the understanding of parliament in each country of SDGs. For further information visit <http://ksap.dpr.go.id/pfsd2018>.



ANNUAL MEETINGS  
2018 | indonesia  
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND  
WORLD BANK GROUP

### IMF -WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING 2018

Indonesia has been selected as the host of the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings on October 2018 in Bali.

The event is one of the largest and influential events on finance and economy, bringing together Central Bank Governors and Ministers of Finance from 189 countries along with prominent persons from private sector, academics, NGO, and media.

In total, there will be approximately 15,000 participants in the said event.

Also featured are side events, such as seminars, investment forum, FGD, workshop, and cultural events.

Bali is chosen to be the venue this year as it is named 2017 Trip Advisor's best global destination. Surely Bali will surely leave a memorable experience for delegates of the Meetings.

The Meetings will showcase Indonesia and Asia as reformed, resilient, and progressive economies; along with higher engagement with IMF and WB.

To obtain the most current information about Annual Meetings events and logistics (registration, schedule, venues), visit [www.imfconnect.org/content/imf/en.html](http://www.imfconnect.org/content/imf/en.html) and [www.worldbank.org/en/meetings/splash](http://www.worldbank.org/en/meetings/splash).

**PARLIAMENTARY FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

6-7 September 2017

Kecak dance is a form of Balinese hindu dance and music drama that was developed in the 1930s in Bali, Indonesia. Since its creation it has been performed primarily by men. The dance mainly plays about the Ramayana and is traditionally performed in temples and villages across Bali.  
(Photo courtesy of Pinterest)

