



Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs

Bünthe, Marco and David Camroux (2010),
From the Editor's Desk, in:
Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs, 29, 1, 3.
ISSN: 1868-4882 (online), ISSN: 1868-1034 (print)

The online version of this article can be found at:
<www.CurrentSoutheastAsianAffairs.org>

Published by
GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Institute of Asian Studies and
Hamburg University Press.

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From the Editor's Desk

Marco Bunte and David Camroux

This issue of the *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs* marks the beginning of another transition on our way to becoming a fully refereed academic journal. We have undertaken some further reforms which we are sure will further enhance the academic quality of our journal.

We are pleased to announce that David Camroux has accepted our invitation to become the new co-editor of the *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*. David Camroux is a senior research fellow at the Centre for International Studies and Research (CERI) at Sciences Po, Paris. He brings to the journal not only his keen understanding, as a political scientist, of Southeast Asia but also a network of contacts and teaching experience in the region. We are proud to have him on as co-editor.

From this issue onwards, the *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs* will publish in English only. Research articles, commentaries and review articles, and reviews will henceforth only be accepted if they are written in English.

As a first step in transforming the *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs* into a fully fledged academic journal we have decided to significantly expand the journal's editorial board. We have sought to internationalize the journal by involving scholars from a variety of disciplines who are located in Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Europe, North America and Australia. We have also sought to encourage the "rising stars" of the academic world to come together with more established scholars. Finally, we have attempted to have a more equitable gender balance on the board. All board members have agreed to take on a referee role for the journal and to encourage their colleagues and graduate students to see it as a vehicle for publication.

In re-launching the journal as one of the four journals in the GIGA Journal Family, available online and free of charge through Hamburg University Press, we hope to be able to reach a wide audience in Southeast Asia, as well as to encourage young scholars both in the region and elsewhere to publish within our pages. A number of established scholars have indicated to us that the free online format is also one that they find attractive as part of a commitment to the equitable dissemination of scientific knowledge. Our goal is to have the journal included within the major citation indices within five years.

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