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ASEAN NEWS



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(Photo Credit: BBC)

Rodrigo Duterte sworn in as Philippines President

Rodrigo Duterte, known as Asia's Donald Trump for his outspoken style and personality, was sworn in as the 16th President of the Republic of the Philippines, after a landslide election victory in May. His official six-year term has begun since 1 July 2016. Before becoming president, he was a long-serving Mayor of Davao City in southern Philippines.

(Credit: NBCNews and ASEAN Facebook Page)



(Photo Credit: Bangkok Post)

Recap of 2016 TIP Report in ASEAN

In ASEAN, Thailand has seen her ranking upgraded from Tier 3 to the Tier 2 Watch List in the TIP Report announced on Thursday. Elsewhere in the region, the Philippines enjoys the most favorable result as the country has been lifted to Tier 1, while Myanmar is the only country that witnesses the ranking downgraded to Tier 3. For the remaining ASEAN Member States, their rankings remain unchanged.



Image Credit: ASEAN Image via Shutterstock.com

Can Brexit be Repeated in ASEAN?

In the aftermath of the Brexit, one may wonder can and will it happen in ASEAN? The answer is “very unlikely in the near future”, due to the following reasons. Firstly, ASEAN is not seen as an important agenda in domestic politics. Secondly, ASEAN integration is still far away from what EU has achieved. An ordinary person in ASEAN will find it hard to notice any significant impact on his or her daily life. Thirdly, there is neither single supervisory mechanism nor legally binding regulations to pressure anyone in ASEAN. ASEAN agreements are reached through consensus and based on willingness and readiness of a member state. Finally, there is no provision for withdrawal in the ASEAN Charter. (Credit: the Diplomat)