

Call for papers

Transforming toward a united and just Southeast Asia

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung is one of six major political foundations in the Federal Republic of Germany. Affiliated with the German Left party, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung nurtures and promotes democratic socialism. We are striving to develop alternative approaches for transforming society toward a more united and just one. With this approach, we are facilitating political analysis, education, and dialogues, both in Germany and worldwide. We are also providing support for young scholars to pursue their studies in related fields.

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung has 26 offices worldwide. In over 80 countries, we are working with partners, including state agencies, academic institutions, and civil society organizations. From our office in Hanoi, we are working in four countries - Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar - on the topics of Social Justice, Social-Ecological Transformation and a broader view of the ASEAN region. To better understand developments within the ASEAN region and to support this process, we have opened a new office in Manila with a focus on the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

To explore new political viewpoints and to facilitate sharing processes in the ASEAN region, we are calling for papers on the themes: (i) Economic and trade policy; (ii) Social justice; (iii) Agricultural and food policy / (Focus: Food Sovereignty); (iv) Climate and energy policy (Focus: Climate Justice); and (v) Feminism. Please see the below sections for more information. Papers are expected to provide analysis of political struggles and potential solutions for overcoming current challenges in the above themes. The papers may focus on - but are not limited to - any countries within the Southeast Asian region.

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Southeast Asia will support the editing and publishing of papers that are relevant for our themes and approaches. The paper should be in English and range between 2,500 and 5000 words. Authors possibly will be invited for presentation at our annually-organized international conferences. We will also provide a small allowance (200 - 500 EUR, depending on quality and length) for each paper that is selected for publication.

Papers can be submitted at any time via e-mail TranThiThanh.Thuy@rosalux.org

If you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the above e-mail address.

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Southeast Asia – Hanoi Office



1. Economic & trade policy:

Economic and trade policies play an important role in shaping the development of countries. The current hegemonic capitalist model of production and consumption encourages unlimited economic growth through all sectors. By competing with low wages in international markets, this often creates a “race to the bottom”. Economic recession and environmental degradation are visible consequences. As many studies have shown, economic and trade growth does not bring equal benefit to different actors in the society. In many high-income countries, inequality is increasing as a result of improper development strategy. In addition, unsustainable industries are exacerbating environmental degradation and social inequality.

To address current challenges, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung is working with interested actors to develop alternative economic development approaches that reduce dependencies from international markets to ensure ecological sustainability, human rights, and fair benefit-sharing on an international level.

2. Social rights:

The Southeast Asian region has gained impressive economic growth in recent years. However, this development comes with an increasing income gap and rising social inequality. Marginalized groups are rarely benefiting from this development. Their participation in decision-making processes is mostly limited. Stemming from its progressive and emancipatory convictions, RLS SEA is determined to support partners in improving the situation of disadvantaged social groups - especially ethnic minorities, women, informal workers, migrant workers and people with disabilities.

To that end, RLS SEA is working in cooperation with its partners to strengthen the capacity of marginalized groups’ to be involved in decision-making processes. RLS SEA creates opportunities for exchange and dialogue between academics, civil society, political decision-makers, and target groups to foster the political impact of the latter.



3. Agricultural and food policy:

Agriculture is a primary production sector, as it serves human’s basic needs and ensures global food security. Therefore, it is a key area for reforming the economy and society. Currently, the agricultural sector is exposed to many issues, such as environmental degradation, carbon dioxide emission, over-production, and unsustainable consumption. In the agricultural sector, big corporations are exercising their dominance by selling seeds (including GMOs), fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. Since these actors strongly influence global agricultural and food policy, major public concern for small-scale producers and sustainability has been raised.

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung promotes agriculture that respects nature and human rights. Led by the principle of food sovereignty, we are working with the agricultural sector. This means that individuals, collectives, and states should have the right to determine their own food system through democratic and sustainable principles. Progressive farmer organizations, agricultural trade unions, and other collective-based organizations should be empowered to shape agricultural and food policies themselves.



4. Feminism

Feminist movements are an essential part of the global left. In many societies, women and LGBTIQ* are still politically, economically, and socially disadvantaged. Although in recent years, interest in women's political representation has increased in Southeast Asia, women remain under-represented in the region's political institutions. Furthermore, in almost Southeast Asian countries, LGBTIQ* rights have not been recognized and legalized.

For Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, the recognition of reproductive and care work is crucial for ensuring Global Social Rights. A feminist perspective must be included as a cross-cutting theme in all social analysis and political work. Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung also supports feminist actors in shaping public debates on women and LGBTIQ* rights.

5. Climate and energy policy

Globally, the severity of climate change is dramatically increasing: extreme weather, hurricanes, floods, landslides, and droughts. In terms of climate change exposure, developing countries are much more vulnerable, although they contribute a much smaller proportion of global carbon dioxide emissions. To address climate change efficiently, therefore all nations need to work together in solidarity. For emission reduction, the energy sector needs to be reformed towards lower emission. Fundamental socio-ecological transformation is needed concerning the global production model and people's lifestyles. In addition, resources must be distributed to help climate change-affected communities, especially in vulnerable countries.

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung's work is based on climate justice. This means that industrialized nations need to take responsibility for climate change consequences in vulnerable countries following polluter-pay principles. In addition, democratic participation, gender justice, and human rights (including rights of climate refugees) must be ensured within climate change mitigation and adaptation processes. At any time, the interest of affected communities must be taken into account, when climate and energy policies are made. With this approach, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung is supporting political analysis, international dialogues, and movements toward climate justice.

For further information, please contact

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Southeast Asia - Hanoi Office

Phone: +84-24-37185836 / 105 | Fax: +84-24-37185834

72 Xuân Diệu | Tây Hồ | Hà Nội | Việt Nam