

**Compliance with, and Effective Implementation of A Multilateral Environmental Agreement: Looking Back at the Transboundary Haze Pollution Problem in the ASEAN Region\***

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*Abstract*

“Smoke haze” is a transboundary pollution problem which severely affected the Southeast Asian region during its most devastating occurrence in 1997-1998. As a response, the ASEAN implemented its *Regional Haze Action Plan* in 1997 backed up by a legal framework called *ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution* which took effect in 2003. Looking back, this paper will attempt to explain the regulatory ability of the ASEAN to solve the problem by investigating the compliance of four countries (i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines) with the regional anti-haze pollution measures, and their implementation of domestic laws to stop forest fires. (number of words = 100)

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\* Read in the 2014 EROPA Conference on “Public Administration and Governance in the Context of Regional and Global Integration” held at the Viet Nam National Convention Center, Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 19-24 October 2014.

Also read in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on “ASEAN Connectivity: Current Issues and Future Prospects Towards ASEAN Community” held at the College of Politics and Governance, Mahasarakham University, Mahasarakham Province, Thailand on 17 November 2014.

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