



**ASEAN SOGIE
CAUCUS**

**ASEAN
SOGIE
CAUCUS**

**2023
ANNUAL
REPORT**

Image credit to Alexandra Koch from Pixabay.



**ASEAN
SOGIE
CAUCUS**

**2023
ANNUAL
REPORT**

CONTENTS

About ASC	4
History of ASC	5
Foreword	6
Supporting Local Activism in the Context of ASEAN Advocacy	8
South-South Solidarity	14
Queering ASEAN Civil Society	25
Queering Narratives	29
Engaging with Regional and Global HR Mechanisms	34
The Year 2023 in Figures	39
Financial Report	40
Our Team	41
Acknowledgments	42

ABOUT ASC

VISION

An ASEAN Community that respects the human rights of all people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).

MISSION

ASC is a regional network that dynamically engages diverse actors to collectively advocate for the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer people, non-binary and gender-diverse persons in Southeast Asia.

GOALS

ASC works towards the following goals:

- All human rights mechanisms impacting the ASEAN region adopt and implement frameworks and plans of action that promote and protect the rights of LGBTIQ, non-binary, and gender-diverse persons.
- Domestic laws, policies, and programs in Southeast Asian countries include the protection and promotion of the rights of LGBTIQ, non-binary and gender-diverse persons.
- LGBTIQ, non-binary, and gender-diverse civil society are empowered to engage state and non-state actors to adhere to human rights standards.

HISTORY OF ASC

ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC) is a network of human rights activists from Southeast Asia that works for the inclusion of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) into the human rights work in ASEAN. Advocating for the human rights of all persons regardless of SOGIESC is at the heart of ASC's mission.

Our roots go back to the courageous action of activists from eight (8) ASEAN countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Our founders ensured the visibility and meaningful engagement of LGBTIQ voices in ASEAN civil society spaces, especially the annual ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ ASEAN People's Forum (ACSC/APF). Since 2010, our founders ensured that LGBTIQ issues are addressed in the ASEAN civil society actions and recommendations reflected in outcome documents.

In 2011, ASC was formally established during a meeting of LGBTIQ activists held in Jakarta, Indonesia in preparation for the ACSC/APF of that year. This meeting was organized jointly by Arus Pelangi, Indonesia for Humans, and iSEE. ASC recognizes that its birth and evolution occurred alongside the expanding spaces for regional civil society's engagement with ASEAN.

In 2014, ASC began setting up its Secretariat in Quezon City, Philippines and eventually gained legal registration as a non-stock, non-profit organization the following year. Since then, we have pushed for LGBTIQ human rights through engagements in civil society platforms and human rights mechanisms; supported local LGBTIQ activists through mentorship, technical assistance, and relationship-building; and reimagined activism as a creative process anchored on a vision of South-South solidarity.

In 2021, ASC was granted a Special Consultative Status by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

FOREWORD

Welcome to the ASC 2024 Annual Report!

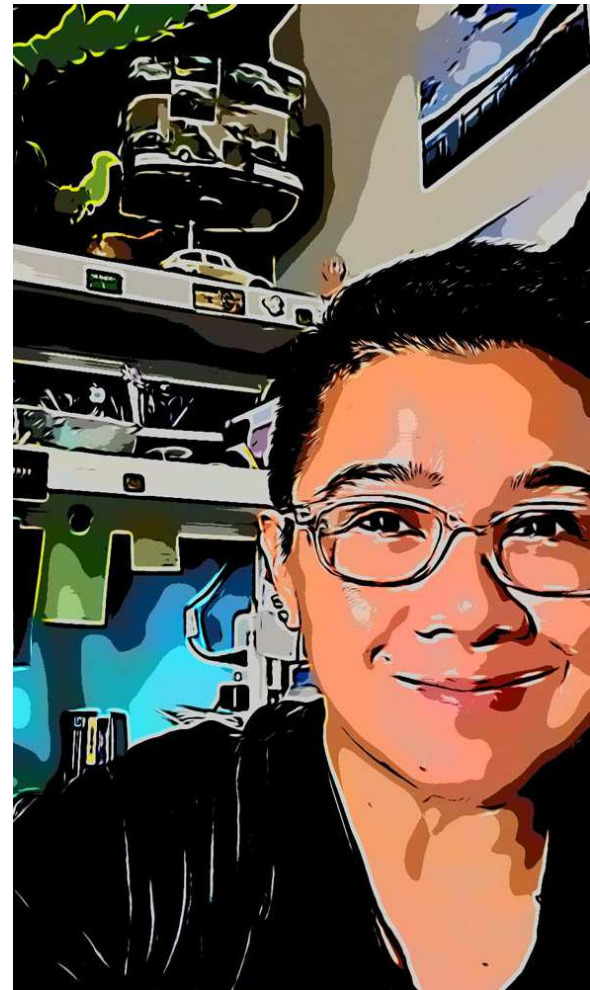
It has been a tradition of ASC to celebrate wins, however small or large they may be. We take stock of the hard work, resilience, and commitment we put into our advocacy in pushing forward the agenda of equitable inclusion to ensure that everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristic (SOGIESC) will be given the opportunity to reach for their dreams to live a life with dignity.

As we reflect on our journey at ASC, it's essential to recognize both the challenges we face and the opportunities that lie ahead in our commitment to sustainability in the region. We face head on the challenges of the ever-limiting space for LGBTIQ rights and how environmental, socio-political, and economic constraints have further compounded issues of exclusion and vulnerability.

These challenges only further our hunger for equality and inclusion as we maximize opportunities to put forward our equality agenda in the coming months. Strategic partnership will always be a priority as we believe that we can only be as strong as our partners are. We will continue collaborations with the government, other civil society organizations, and the private sector because together we can amplify our impact and leverage resources more effectively. The need for education and awareness has never been more important in this day and age where misinformation has not only maintained animosity and exclusion but further fueled hatred and indifference. ASC will continue leading educational initiatives, capacitating individuals and organizations to participate in sustainable practices and amplify our mission.

Gone are the times of striving to be the best. It has been replaced by the need to work together to reach for the best situation for all people.

As ASC moves forward, we will remain committed to adaptability and collaboration. Together, we can navigate challenges and leverage opportunities to enhance ASC's sustainability efforts in the region. I personally take pride in the work of ASC in this report. I hope it will inspire others as well to continue the fight for equal rights for all! Happy reading.



- Ging Cristobal,
Chairperson,
ASEAN SOGIE Caucus

SUPPORTING LOCAL ACTIVISM IN THE CONTEXT OF ASEAN

LGBTQIAN+ activism remains challenging in a complex context characterized by the existence of criminal laws and social stigma, the growing influence of right-wing and conservative actors, and the shrinking democratic spaces. Up to the present, none of the countries in ASEAN have national legislation protecting LGBTQIAN+ persons from discrimination, allowing anti-LGBTQIAN+ groups to run rampant, using child rights framework, protection of freedom of belief and religion, and gender-critical feminism to instill a moral panic and delegitimize LGBTQIAN+ movements.



In this difficult backdrop, the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC) remains a key player in supporting and enriching local activism to be agile and resilient to the changing landscapes of our region through the following initiatives:

ASEAN QUEER LEARNING PROGRAM (AQLP)

The ASEAN Queer Learning Program (AQLP) is an online learning program tailored toward developing highly specialized skills for queer activists to undertake interdisciplinary approaches in influencing ASEAN Human Rights institutions. It includes self-paced course modules, synchronous online discussions with experts on human rights, international relations, and civil society, and dedicated mentoring with mentors with whom the participants can connect from time to time. Twenty (20) participants from partner

organizations from Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia came to learn together how to better engage in regional human rights advocacy.

HOLISTIC SECURITY STAFF TRAINING

Following the serious threat we experienced in July 2023 during the preparations for the ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week (AAW), ASC held a **Holistic Security Training** for its staff in October 2023, to ensure the safety and well-being of our team and those we engage with, and mitigate similar events from happening in the future. ASC remains committed to improving security procedures to enhance the overall safety and security of ASC team, the members, and individuals involved in ASC's mission.

Jakarta, September 1-3, 2023

Joint Statement

ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ ASEAN People's Forum 2023: Reclaiming Safe Space, Restoring Democracy, and Equity in Southeast Asia



Read our Joint Statement here:

tinyurl.com/JSACSCAPF2023



@aseansogiecaucus



@aseansogie



ASEAN SOGIE Caucus

ASEAN CIVIL SOCIETY CONFERENCE/ ASEAN PEOPLE'S FORUM (2023)

ASC joined forces with ASC member Arus Pelangi and the coalition under Free To Be Me project from Indonesia and the Philippines and brought in 55 Southeast Asian queer human rights defenders to the 2023 ACSC/APF conference held in September in Jakarta, Indonesia, with the theme, 'Reclaiming safe spaces, restoring democracy in Southeast Asia.'

We were among the 800 participants from a diverse civil society contingent. Prior to the conference, we had one full day of consultation to discuss our emerging issues as well as recommendations to push for at the conference.

In this forum, we advocated for SOGIESC inclusion in the broader civil society movement which can be seen in the conference outcome document.¹

1 ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, 2023. "Reclaiming Safe Space, Restoring Democracy, And Equity In Southeast Asia." Retrieved from <https://aseansogiecaucus.org/statements/asc-statements/206-reclaiming-safe-space-restoring-democracy-and-equity-in-southeast-asia>

ACSC/APF 2023

People-to-People Alternative Regionalism

Convergence Space on
Alternative Regionalism

1-2 September 2023
Atma Jaya Catholic University, Jakarta



photo credit to Ryan Martinez, MASSA

We also aimed toward strengthening regional alternatives and regional solidarity, especially in continuing the discourse around the socio-economic justice that affects the LGBTQIAN+ community in the ASEAN. To this end, ASC co-organized the sessions **Beyond Bias: Building Inclusive Economies for a Brighter Future**, **Dismantling Digital Dictatorship: Safeguarding Rights in the Online Arena**, and **Feminist Approaches in Alternative Regionalism: Embedding Intersectionality to Advance Gender Equality in ASEAN**.

For the first time in this forum, ASC member Arus Pelangi served as one of the co-chairs in the national organizing committee; ASC itself has directly maintained presence and influence as part of the regional program and steering committees as can be seen in the outcome documents. This direct engagement ensured that the LGBTQIAN+ community not only participated but was able to set the tone for the conference, bringing in the queer feminist lens in this intersectional space.

Also for the first time, ACSC/APF 2023 opened with a plenary session featuring an all-women panel of speakers. This session was led and moderated by Lini Zurlia, an Indonesian queer activist and ASC Advocacy Officer.

“

Throughout 2024, the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC) has been one of the significant supporters of Nonbinary Thailand with its activism advocating for Non-binary and gender-diverse people in Thailand and Southeast Asia.

I truly hold a positive and appreciative view of ASC thanks to much invaluable experience of being a part of several projects Nonbinary Thailand collaborating with ASC. ASC also supported the first-ever Nonbinary-led march “Nonbinary Rising” on 14th July along with its side event, the first Nonbinary ASEAN Workshop writing “NON-BINARY SEA Rising Manifesto,” highlighting our common demands for the Nonbinary community. These events produced fruitful social impacts on the LGBTQIAN+N+ community, and has not just empowered non-binary people in Thailand but also across Southeast Asia. It has given us much delight that ASC has recognized the importance of this document as much as we do and proceeds to further promote our efforts.

I have witnessed how ASC values accessibility of SOGIESC resources by promoting the talented translating and editing team at Nonbinary Thailand to proceed with the translation of the ASEAN QUEER Imagining Volume 2 Thai version. Being involved in producing this translated book empowered the non-binary community in Thailand and gave financial opportunities to our community. Similarly, the ASEAN Queer Learning + also advanced the accessibility of ASEAN and SOGIE education, directly involving the LGBTQIAN+N+ people from Thai and Laos.

I would like to congratulate you on all the success in SOGIESC activism and express my gratitude for how the organization takes importance in the Nonbinary rights advocacy by providing the resources for us Nonbinary activists of SEA region to begin establishing our network drawing a strong path into a hopeful future.

I truly wish for the organization to grow even more in the years to come, being one of the leading forces in expanding the LGBTQIAN+N+ and gender-diverse activism to include greater diverse ranges of people. It would be a great honor for me and everyone at Nonbinary Thailand to continue to be a part of the journey of creating a safe and supportive world for gender-diverse people.

”



- Tawan, Non-Binary Thailand

SOUTH-SOUTH SOLIDARITY

CREATING SPACES FOR CROSS-MOVEMENT AND INTERSECTIONAL LGBTIQ ADVOCACIES

One of our key wins in 2023 is influencing the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of the Government of Australia to allocate a significant amount of resources for support to LGBTQIAN+ movements in Asia and the Pacific. This was a joint call we did together with regional groups, namely APCOM, APTN, Intersex Asia, ILGA Asia.² In these meetings, ASC was also able to assert the need for core and flexible funding for LGBTQIAN+ organizations in the region. Such support enables LGBTQIAN+ persons and activists to continue the meaningful work that they do, as well as allows for more space for groups to explore more innovative and inclusive approaches to activism.

² Knott, M. (2023, February 20). Australia to advocate for LGBTQ rights in Asia-Pacific (smh.com.au). The Sydney Morning Herald. Retrieved from <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/australia-to-advocate-for-lgbtq-rights-in-asia-pacific-20230226-p5cnor.html>



Regional and global LGBTQIA+ organizations together with Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong during the Sydney World Pride. (Photo courtesy of Equality Australia)

To this end, ASC continues to provide platforms for diverse LGBTQIAN+ advocates to connect across movements, strengthening intersectional collaboration in our region through the following programs:

ASEAN QUEER ADVOCACY WEEK (AAW)

The ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week is a civil society-led initiative to create space for LGBTQIAN+ activists from eleven (11) countries in Southeast Asia to meet, learn about the ASEAN institution, to generate common advocacy agenda, and to have conversations with relevant stakeholders in ASEAN such as the diplomatic community. Previous iterations of this program have been done in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2016, 2018, and 2021 in an online setting amidst travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For 2023, the AAW was co-organized by Arus Pelangi, a local LGBTQIAN+ organization, and FORUM Asia, a regional human rights organization.

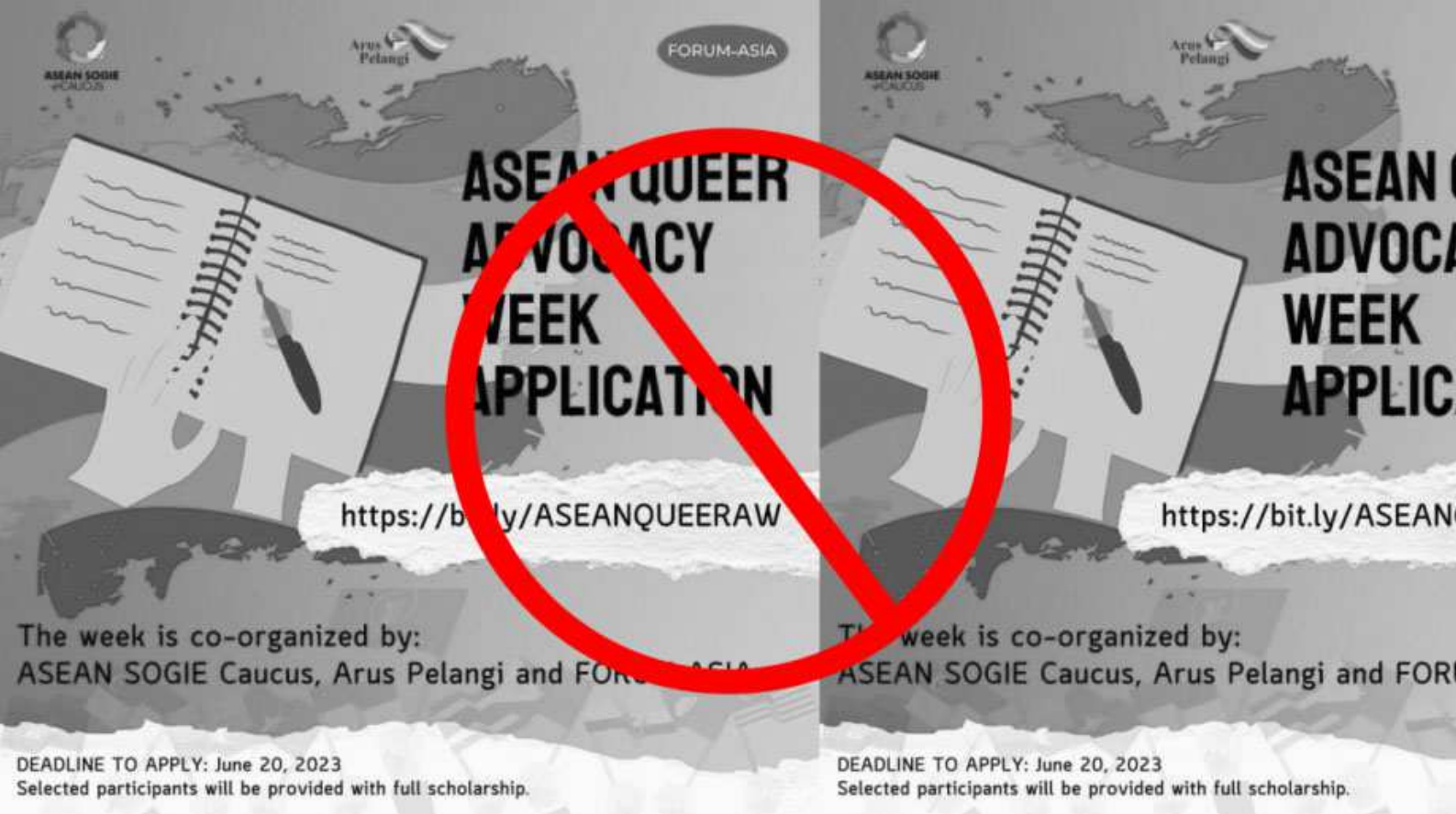


image credit to Petisionline.com]

Unfortunately, the program had to be canceled in 2023 resulting from severe online threats, and in consideration of the safety of participants and organizers. Days before the start of the AAW, an open call for participants posted on the ASC social media platforms began to go viral as it was picked up by Indonesian conservative influencers and online media news outlets. Soon, a massive online campaign launched, calling to ban the event across social networking sites and online petitions with Change.org, zeroing in on the AAW organizers as targets of online harassment and violence. Offline, local law enforcement conducted surveillance of possible venues of the event and compelled hotel managers to report any similar activity that was going to be held on their premises.

Amidst the backlash and barrage of online attacks, many civil society organizations, both LGBTQIAN+ and non-LGBTQIAN+, stood fiercely in solidarity with the AAW organizers and vehemently condemned these violent crackdowns on LGBTQIAN+ events. FORUM-ASIA along with 36 civil society organizations across Asia³ released a joint statement condemning the failure of the Indonesian Government to protect the freedom of peaceful assembly by supporting the cancelation of the AAW and urged the government to publicly condemn the systematic attack and stigma against LGBTQIAN+ individuals and organisations.

3 FORUM-ASIA, 2023. “[Joint Statement] Indonesia: International Civil Society must monitor systematic attacks against LGBTIQ+ community.” Retrieved from <https://forum-asia.org/joint-statement-indonesia-international-civil-society-must-monitor-systematic-attacks-against-lgbtqi-community/>



SOLIDARITY MESSAGE FOR ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS AND THE INDOONESIAN LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

We are a government of laws, and not of men. As such, it is but right and just that the government should be the frontline in supporting and protecting the welfare of the people.

We from the MUJER LGBT ORGANIZATION Inc., and all our network-partners stand in solidarity with the people behind the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus in this trying time.

We stand against government oppression, and we fully stress the importance of championing human rights for the community, regardless of whatever religious or traditional hindrances there are.

More importantly, we rally behind the Indonesian LGBT community. We are behind you in this outcry for equality and humane treatment.



WE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH

ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS



“ TOGETHER WE STAND

You are not alone

With the recent attacks and threats to LGBTQIA+ activists to the ASEAN Queer Awareness Week event in Indonesia, We strongly condemn in the strongest terms these violent acts and a clear offense to human life, dignity and rights of LGBTQIA+ people .

CURLS invoke all human rights agencies, mechanisms and actors in the region for immediate interventions of the situation by ensuring their safety and security from the hostilities of Anti-LGBTQIA+ groups.

We call the Indonesian Government's obligations on Human Rights to Protect Lives of Citizens including LGBTQIA+ Indonesians.

Together we stand with our fellow rainbow defenders of ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and Arus Pelangi in these trying times. You are not alone in the struggle.



STAND WITH ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS

HANDS OFF LGBTQIA+ ACTIVISTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA!

Youth LEAD stands in solidarity with the **ASEAN SOGIE Caucus**, their partners, and the broader LGBTQIA+ community in Indonesia. We call for an end to the threats and harassment against LGBTQIA+ activists and organizations. In light of recent events leading up to postponement of the ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week - including a wave of disinformation, hate speech, and profiling of LGBTQIA+ persons on social media - civil society organizations across the ASEAN region must stand together and hold the line against discrimination and violence.

We call on the ASEAN Secretariat and Governments to uphold the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, which affirms the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Decisive action must be taken to protect the human rights and freedoms of LGBTQIA+ people and activists in Indonesia to create a just and equal society and achieve sustainable and inclusive development.

Youth LEAD

STAND WITH ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS! HANDS OFF LGBTQIA+ ACTIVISTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA!



The ASEAN SOGIE Caucus has always been supportive and giving us, BAAA, ANOAQA & Asexual Pride Asia, guidance and learning opportunities since the very beginning of our advocacy journey.

WE ARE SADDENED TO LEARN THAT THE ASEAN QUEER ADVOCACY WEEK IS POSTPONED AFTER RECEIVING THREATS, HARASSMENT, AND DISINFORMATION FROM LOCAL ANTI-LGBT GROUPS.

Stop the attacks against the queer community in Indonesia and civil society organizations in Southeast Asia!

ANOAQA

WE STAND WITH ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS AND LGBTQIA+ ACTIVISTS



The Philippine LGBT Chamber of Commerce (PLCC) is one with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC) in safeguarding and advancing the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons not just in the Philippines but in the region.

Just as PLCC has initiated the LGBT+ Asian Business (LAB) Network, an alliance of enterprises and allied organizations to advance DEI in Asia, ASC has, for many years, organized the ASEAN Awareness Week (AAW) to convene, and generate a common advocacy agenda for, relevant ASEAN organizations and other stakeholders.

PLCC is saddened to learn that AAW 2023, scheduled for this month in Jakarta, Indonesia, has been postponed due to harassment, hacking, doxing, and threats against the organizers made by local anti-LGBT groups, with complicity from the local police. This emphasizes the need for greater collaboration among regional stakeholders -- non-government organizations, business enterprises, and the diplomatic community -- to push governments in the region to protect advocates and the LGBTQIA+ community at large in conformity with international human rights law.

PLCC supports ASC's decision to suspend the AAW until the safety of all attendees is ensured.



STANDING AS ONE FOR

EQUALITY, JUSTICE, and DIGNITY

GALANG Philippines and the Philippine Communities of (CoA) under Yayasan Hivos' **FREE TO BE ME Program** strongly condemn the attacks, harassment, and threats against the ASEAN Queer Awareness Week (AAW), its organizers, participants, and all LGBTQIA+ persons in Indonesia. These depraved acts are not only an affront to the Indonesian LGBTQIA+ community but to every one of us fighting for **equality, justice, and dignity**.

We urge the Indonesian government to **uphold human dignity and ensure the protection of the LGBTQIA+ community** from any further attacks, harassment, and threats, which are clearly stated under the UN Declaration of Human Rights. We also urge the Indonesian government to de-escalate the situation to prevent human rights violations against the LGBTQIA+ community.

We stand in solidarity with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, all other civil society organizations, and individuals who defend the human rights of persons discriminated against or persecuted on the basis of their SOGIESC.

Youth Voices Count (YVC), Inc. is in solidarity with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC) and all other partners in the Asia-Pacific Region to uphold and advance the rule of law, the protection of human rights, and the dignity of people of diverse SOGIESC.

YVC is one with ASC and all other partners in the Asia-Pacific region working in underlining the full realization of human rights and freedoms for all peoples regardless of any political, social or religious convictions. We firmly believe that oppression, intimidation and abuse have no place in a just and humane society.

We fully support the postponement of the ASEAN Awareness Week (AAW) until the safety and security of all participants and organizers are ensured.

SOLIDARITY MESSAGE TO ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS AND ITS PARTNER ALLIES

LADLAD LGBTQ+ Party strongly condemns the aggressive attacks made by anti-LGBT groups against the ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The event, organized by ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS (ASC) and its partner allies have visions of advancing LGBTQ+ human rights by collaborating and encouraging open discussions among human rights groups in the Asian region.

We are deeply concerned about the security of our fellow LGBTQIA+ Rights and Causes Activists and we support their call for an immediate action from the governments to ensure the safety of everyone and hope they understand that these gatherings do not promote hate, which the opponents obviously are against.

Milk Tea Alliance Friends of Myanmar Statement

Statement of Solidarity with LGBTQIA+ Allies in Southeast Asia amidst threats to their Personal Safety and Human Rights

#MilkTeaAlliance
#SOGIESC
#Indonesia

The contribution of ASEAN SOGIE Caucus in championing LGBTQIA+ rights and gender equality across the ASEAN region has been integral to LGBTQIA+ liberation, inclusion, and societal acceptance.

Pride PH stands in solidarity with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC) in the face of recent attacks perpetrated against them by anti-LGBT groups in Indonesia.

We strongly condemn these acts of harassment, intimidation, threats, and doxing against ASC. This does not only undermine the fundamental values of inclusivity and respect for human rights but it also threatens the work and progress done by ASEAN SOGIE Caucus in advancing the rights of everyone regardless of their SOGIESC in the ASEAN region.

We call upon our fellow advocates, civil society organizations, and other regional stakeholders to show support and solidarity to ASC in these trying times. It is only through our collective efforts and a unified voice that we can truly defeat discrimination, transphobia, and homophobia.

Statement in Solidarity: Supporting ASEAN SOGIE Caucus for LGBTQIA+ Rights in Asia

The Asia Democracy Network and its members across Asia stand in solidarity with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and their partners and condemn the harassment, disinformation, and threats they experienced during the 2023 ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week.

We call on governments and ASEAN to protect the freedom of expression, association, and assembly of the LGBTQIA+ community. We also extend our support to the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, their partners, and the good work they have been doing to advance and defend the fundamental rights of the LGBTQIA+ community in the region.

BAHAGHARI STANDS WITH ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS! HANDS OFF LGBTQIA+ ACTIVISTS!

Bahaghari, the national alliance of Filipino LGBTQIA+ organizations, stands in solidarity with allies in the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and other LGBTQIA+ advocacy groups across Southeast Asia in condemning the relentless wave of disinformation, threats, and harassment against LGBTQIA+ activists, particularly during the 2023 ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week (AAW).

SOLIDARITY STATEMENT

Stop the attacks against the LGBTQIA+ community in Indonesia!

The Movement for Alternatives and Solidarity in Southeast Asia strongly condemns the discrimination, hate speech, and security threats faced by the ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week and the broader LGBTQIA+ community.

We call upon governments, regional institutions, civil society organizations, and international supporters to take decisive action to protect the rights and safety of LGBTQIA+ communities.

Solidarity Statement

ILGA Asia

Solidarity with ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and Condemnation of Ongoing Attacks

Solidarity Statement

Follow us on TWT & IG

Swipe Left



ILOILO PRIDE TEAM

We Stand with

ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS

ILOILO PRIDE TEAM STANDS WITH THE ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS (ASC) AND FULLY SUPPORTS THEIR DECISION TO POSTPONE THEIR EVENT UNTIL THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE ORGANIZERS, PARTNERS, PARTICIPANTS, AND EVERYONE INVOLVED ARE ENSURED.

THE TEAM IS IN SOLIDARITY WITH ASC AS THEY ADVOCATE FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF PEOPLE OF DIVERSE SOGIES AND ARE ONE IN THE FIGHT FOR EQUALITY WITH OUR INDONESIAN LGBTQIA+ SIBLINGS.

IT IS SADDENING THAT AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF PROTESTING FOR OUR PRIDE, GENDER ADVOCACY IS STILL REGARDED UNDER NEGATIVE LIGHT DESPITE IT BEING A MOVEMENT THAT AMPLIFIES THE RIGHTS OF THOSE OPPRESSED, MARGINALIZED, AND DISCRIMINATED. WITH REGARDS TO THE INHUMANE ATTACKS MADE TOWARDS LINI ZURLIA, THE TEAM IS APPALLED WITH HOW THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY OF SOMEONE IS BREACHED WHENEVER THEY ADVOCATE FOR A CAUSE THAT OTHERS DO NOT WHOLE-HEARTEDLY SUPPORT WHICH IS IN THIS CASE GENDER EQUALITY.

WE STAND WITH THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS LOCAL AND REGIONAL IN CONDEMNING THE DOXXING AND ATTACKS AGAINST THE ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS AND LINI ZURLIA.

AS YOUR SIBLINGS BY ADVOCACY, WE ARE WITH YOU IN THIS FIGHT FOR FREEDOM TO LOVE IN ANY WAY, IN ALL WAYS, ALWAYS.



Side B Philippines supports the Asean SOGIE Caucus, an organization that is dedicated to regional LGBT+ advocacy in the ASEAN. They work towards improving the lives of LGBT+ persons through many channels, one of which is providing resources and guidance to various organizations in the region.

Side B PH stands in solidarity with ASC in these difficult times. While there is support and advancement in this advocacy, being an LGBT+ advocate is never easy, and is also constantly under threat from different sides.

We also stand with our Indonesian LGBT+ activists, advocates, and allies and wish them all safety from danger and harm.



MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY

WE STAND WITH ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS

The ASEAN queer Advocacy Week (AAW) was to hold on the 17th of July in Jakarta, Indonesia. The event aims to advance knowledge for Southeast Asian queer advocacy, provide safe spaces, and develop capacity and solidarity actions in Southeast Asia and beyond.

We are saddened to learn that the ASEAN queer Advocacy Week is postponed after receiving threats, harassment, and disinformation from local anti-LGBT groups.

We condemn the discrimination, hate speech, and all forms of harassment towards the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, its partner organizations of the ASEAN queer Advocacy Week, and the Indonesian LGBTQIAN+ community.

We call for all related stakeholders to ensure the safety and protection of the LGBTQIAN+ communities all across Southeast Asia and neighboring regions.



Non-binary Thailand is in solidarity with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus (ASC). ASC has been an important partner of Non-binary Thailand, supporting our non-binary movement not only in Thailand but also across SEA.

Non-binary Thailand is disturbed by the disruptions that caused the postponement of the ASEAN Advocacy Week (AAW) in Jakarta, Indonesia, due to the anti-rights movement in Indonesia. We strongly condemn discrimination, harassment, and hate perpetrated by anti-rights groups towards the organizers, participants, and broader LGBTQIAN Indonesian communities.

We also stand in solidarity with our enby and queer siblings in Indonesia amidst intense queerphobia across the country. No matter where our non-binary/queer siblings are, our thoughts are with you.

"Kami, Non-binary Thailand, bersolidaritas dengan teman-teman non-biner dan queerbling Indonesia."

Bangkok, Thailand, 17th July 2023



REPUBLICA BARUG UBAN SA

ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS!

Stand With ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS!

SOLIDARITY STATEMENT OF MINDANAO PRIDE FOR ASEAN SOGIE CAUCUS AND INDONESIA LGBTQIA+ ACTIVISTS ON THE CANCELLATION OF ASEAN QUEER ADVOCACY WEEK DUE TO SECURITY THREATS

Mindanao Pride



SOLIDARITY MESSAGE of Filipino LGBT Europe for the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and Arus Pelangi

The Filipino LGBT Europe (FLE) strongly condemns the pugnacious attack by anti-LGBT groups that seek to demonize the "ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week" organized by the Philippine-based ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and the Indonesian-based Arus Pelangi in Jakarta, Indonesia.

We understand why our colleagues and fellow LGBT human rights advocate have to cancel the "ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week" due to threats against the organizers' and the Indonesian LGBT community from conservative/religious groups. Jakarta was set to host the said event from July 17 to bring in LGBT advocates across the Southeast Asian region.

We call on the European Parliament and European governments for immediate action in condemning the threats against our fellow LGBTQ+ Human Rights advocates in the ASEAN Region, and for them to put pressure on the Indonesian government to ensure the safety of everyone.

We, the members of the Filipino LGBT Europe, stand in solidarity with the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus and Arus Pelangi.

SHAPE SEA IN SOLIDARITY

The ASEAN SOGIE Caucus is a champion of the LGBTQIA+ rights and fundamental freedoms. It continues to serve as a safe and brave platform and movement to advance critical issues and lived experiences of queer peoples throughout Southeast Asia and beyond.

For many years now, The ASEAN Awareness Week (AAW) has provided opportunities for learning and engagement between SOGIE-SC activists and regional stakeholders.

SHAPE-SEA is disturbed by disruptions causing the postponement AAW 2023, which could have potentially achieved milestones in the lives of ASEAN queer peoples. We strongly condemn the harassment and hate instigated by anti-LGBTQIA+ groups towards its proponents and participants.

SHAPE-SEA will continue to be a formidable ally of ASC, and of every queer person in ASEAN/Southeast Asia. It is about time that we witness and live in a regional community that fully accepts and embraces SOGIE-SC.

Pernyataan Sikap dan Solidaritas Lintas Feminis Jakarta

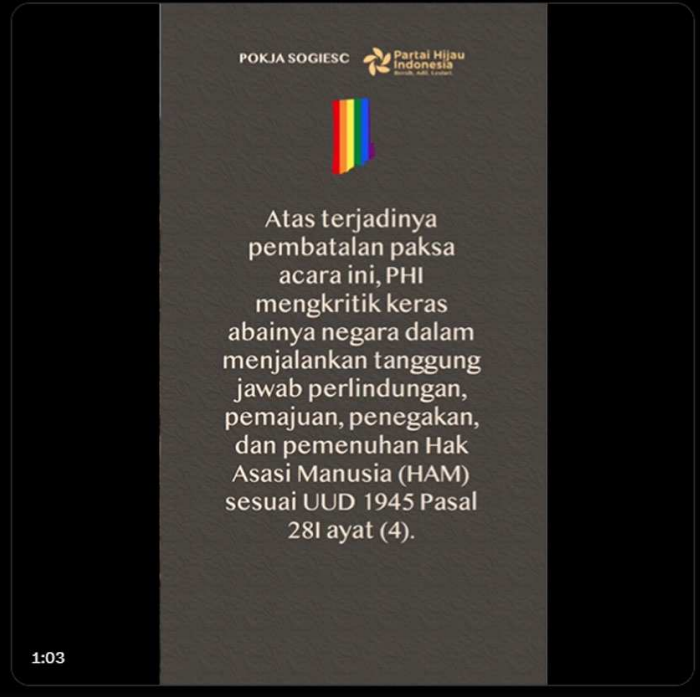
Pembatalan The ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week, Ancaman bagi Demokrasi di Indonesia

Lintas Feminis Jakarta turut mengecam keras serangan dan ancaman sistematis terhadap penyelenggara "The ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week". Upaya pembungkaman ini adalah ancaman serius terhadap demokrasi dan keberagaman.



NEXT →

Atas dasar nilai-nilai kemanusiaan & keadilan.
[Translate post](#)



FORUM-ASIA

HOME ABOUT FORUM-ASIA RESOURCES IN FOCUS MEMBERS' CORNER CONTACT US



Featured Stories Interviews Statements Campaigns Publications


SOLIDARITY STATEMENT

ACFA stands in solidarity with LGBTQIA+ community in Indonesia

We condemn all forms of discrimination, threats and violation against ASEAN Queer Advocacy Week and the broader LGBTQIA+ community in Indonesia.

We call on the governments, regional institutions and stakeholders to **take necessary actions to protect the fundamental human rights to peaceful assembly, expression and association of LGBTQIA+ community in Indonesia and make them be able to safely and openly enjoy practicing their rights** to gather together.

July 15, 2023



Subscribe Our Monthly E-Newsletter

your email address

Subscribe

FORUM-ASIA

[Joint Statement] Indonesia: International Civil Society must monitor systematic attacks against LGBTQIA+ community

August 3, 2023 11:47 am Featured, Joint Statements, Statements

ASIA PACIFIC TRANSGENDER NETWORK

ABOUT ISSUES RESOURCES SPECIAL PROJECTS NEWS SUPPORT US

Purnili ng Wika

APTN Condemn the Harassment and Violence Against Indonesia's LGBTQIA+ Community

The Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTN) hereby makes this solidarity statement to express our unwavering support for the LGBTQIA+ community in Indonesia. We condemn the alarming levels of harassment, violence, and discrimination that continue to target local activists and community members.

Indonesia emerged as an independent nation founded on the principles of

APTN Condemn the Harassment and Violence Against Indonesia's LGBTQIA+ Community

SOLIDARITY STATEMENT

aptn

PUBLISHED July 18, 2023

← Post

30 All Indonesia #TolakRUUPolri @AJIIndonesia

Kawan2, mimin akan cuitkan siaran pers bersama koalisi NGO Indonesia.

Polisi Wajib Usut dan Tindak Pelaku Ujaran Kebencian terhadap LGBTIQ

SIARAN PERS
Koalisi NGO Indonesia



POLISI WAJIB USUT DAN TINDAK PELAKU UJARAN KEBENCIAN TERHADAP LGBTIQ

12:09 PM · Jul 16, 2023 · 11.1K Views

WITH AND FOR WHOM DO WE PRACTICE INTERSECTIONALITY?

Principle 4: We practice intersectionality with and for our structurally-excluded communities



Women, children & youth, LGBTQIA+ individuals, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and other groups of people who are marginalized. No one should be left behind.

Principle 5: We do this for future generations.



HOW DO WE PRACTICE INTERSECTIONALITY?

Principle 6: We use intersectional movements and strategies for transformative advocacy to challenge multiple systems of oppression.



Principle 7: We continuously educate ourselves by engaging, researching, and documenting our intersectional and alternative practices that are caring and not extractive.

Principle 8: We prioritize the amplification of diverse voices. We foster awareness of intersectionality through collaborative efforts between communities and government entities, aiming for systemic changes that fulfill justice and equity.



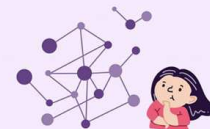
Principle 9: We follow the principle of "do no harm." We ensure that we do not destroy the environment and we do not contribute to the marginalization of our communities.

DRAFTED BY THE PHILIPPINE NETWORK OF FORGING INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST FUTURES



WHY DO WE PRACTICE INTERSECTIONALITY?

Principle 1: We hope to tackle multiple issues holistically and inclusively.



Principle 2: We can forge connections between diverse advocacy interests by identifying shared values and common goals.

Principle 3: We do this for the physical and mental well-being of our communities.



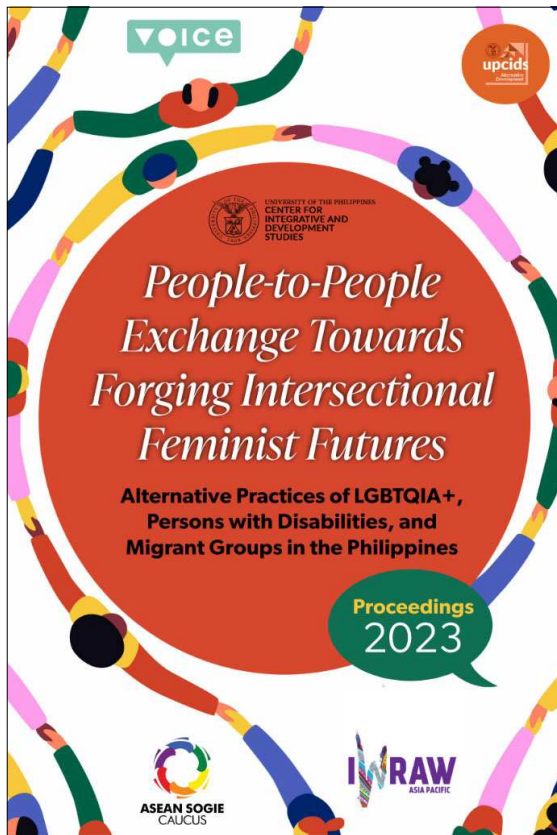
DRAFTED BY THE PHILIPPINE NETWORK OF FORGING INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST FUTURES



FORGING INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST FUTURES (FIFF)

ASC has taken a more conscious effort to prioritize well-being. Through the FIFF, the partners initiated the project, "FIF Community of Care" which has three fundamental steps in achieving its identified goals: (1) development, adoption, translation, and cascading of Guiding Principles of Intersectionality, (2) development of research on intersectional care, and intersectional care needs assessment and database, and (3) generation of greater public awareness on the concept of community care itself, the guiding principles, and the research and the database through an online campaign.

The FIFF community also designed the **Intersectional Care Needs Assessment Tool (ICNAT)** and has used it to evaluate the situation of thirty-five (35) human rights defenders of sixteen (16) organizations in the FIFF network in the Philippines. The research paper will be available in 2024.



Alternative Development (AltDev), one of our partners from the University of the Philippines Center for Integrative and Development Studies (UP CIDS), helped document and publish the alternative and intersectional practices ⁴ of our other partners working on the rights of children, LGBTQIAN+ individuals, persons with disabilities, sex workers, persons living with HIV, and migrants.

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESPONSES

ASC remains actively involved in regional advocacy responses in light of challenging circumstances in the region:

INDONESIA

The KAMI BERANI coalition, which consists of 24 civil society organizations (CSOs) including ASC, drafted a statement ⁵ on February 2023 expressing regret on the widespread encouragement of discriminatory policies in the form of anti-LGBT regional regulations (Perda) in various regions in Indonesia and demand to stop all forms hatred and intolerance towards minority and vulnerable groups including LGBTQIAN+ as a form of commitment to fulfilling human rights.

On March 21, 2023, the Coalition of Indonesian Civil Society Organizations for UPR ⁶ issued a joint statement ⁷ concerning the Indonesian government's

4 UP CIDS, 2023. "People-to-People Exchange Towards Forging Intersectional Feminist Futures | Proceedings." Retrieved from https://cids.up.edu.ph/download/forging-intersectional-feminist-futures-proceedings/?fbclid=IwAR06jG4khEKjqg_1h3cuj7_W7e6xjm2M9IUzyUv6fMMJc1q5V-MT_5z7VPNs

5 ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, 2023. "Press Release Kami Berani Coalition: Discourse on Intolerant Regional Regulation (Raperda): Fostering Intolerance, Allowing Human Rights Violations in Indonesia." Retrieved from <https://aseansogiecaucus.org/news/external-news/198-press-release-kami-berani-coalition-discourse-on-intolerant-regional-regulation-raperda-fostering-intolerance-allowing-human-rights-violations-in-indonesia>

6 consisting of Amnesty International Indonesia, ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, Arus Pelangi, KontraS, KIKA, Indonesia FreeToBeMe (FTBM) Coalition, SAFEnet, Transmen Indonesia

7 ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, 2023. "[Press Release]: Coalition of Indonesian Civil Society Organizations for UPR". Retrieved from https://www.facebook.com/aseansogie/posts/pfbid0tArPA2STq38XcUbQ1M7r_CZtiuLw1j32xG1xeaFB5nWNWh9op3mtC83WytZvnYPvQl

rejection of several recommendations contained in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 4th Cycle, pertaining to the respect, protection, and fulfillment of the rights to freedom of opinion, association and peaceful assembly, as well as the right to defend human rights and protect human rights defenders.

MYANMAR

ASC joined the Milk Tea Alliance Friends of Myanmar, which urged the UN & ASEAN to charge the Myanmar junta accountable for crimes against humanity.

PHILIPPINES

ASC, together with student councils, LGBTQI+ organizations, and allies for equality, drafted a Unity Statement for Pride Month 2023 to denounce any and all forms of SOGIESC-based discrimination and human rights violations and demand the SOGIE Equality Bill.

OUTSIDE THE REGION

On Emergency Global Day of Action (25 April 2023), ASC drafted a solidarity statement with LGBTQIAN+ Siblings in Uganda. The statement called on Uganda President Yoweri Museveni to stop Uganda's anti-LGBTQ+ Bill from being legislated into law. This law criminalizes same-sex conduct and subjects LGBT persons in Uganda to life in prison and even the death penalty⁸ for "aggravated homosexuality."

8 The 2023 Anti-Homosexuality Act was passed into on May 29, 2023.

“

BDEV Child Protection is very grateful to have partnered ASEAN SOGIE Caucus in the Forging Intersectional Feminist Futures. ASEAN SOGIE had opened our awareness on the issues and concerns that the different vulnerable and minority sectors have that are sometimes not visible and seen only after some critical discussion. It broadened our advocacies, more define scope of areas of considerations and deepened our commitment to our target community partners, the children. The experiences we have as partner of FIFF had substantiated and affirmed further our values as an organization.

We wish that the seeds and efforts exerted by ASC in carrying out the FIFF will continue and flourish. We wish that the FIFF will bear fruits as it embarks from one project to another in upholding the community of care. We wish for ASC more years in existing as a Regional NGO and assist more individuals and groups in the different aspects of the personality as a human being.



- Tina Lomoljo, Executive Director,
BDEV Child Protection

”

QUEERING ASEAN CIVIL SOCIETY

ASC places a premium on the triumphs gained through cross-movement and solidarity work with broader social justice and democratic movements. As such, we aspire to achieve great strides by prioritizing actions and strategies toward mainstreaming SOGIESC across civil society in ASEAN.



FEMINIST PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH (FPAR)

ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, in partnership with Jaringan Transgender Indonesia (JTID), Legal Dignity - Malaysia, GALANG - Philippines, and Arco Iris - Timor Leste, is developing feminist evidence-based advocacy as a tool to undertake regional advocacy work. Feminist evidence-based advocacy uses feminist participatory research (FPAR) as an approach to documenting and producing evidence.

After holding a series of learning sessions in June-October 2022, ASC and partners finally gathered in person in 2023 for the follow-up workshop on Developing Research Agenda facilitated by Lorna Israel and Ryan Sylverio. The research agenda will be used as a baseline for ASC and partners to undertake national research and documentation.

The workshop was also a space to share experiences and learn from each other. There were critiquing sessions in which participants collectively reviewed, enriched, and sharpened each other's agenda and ideas.



The workshop also provided space for Tama and Farah to present their scoping study, *"Mapping of the LGBTIQ and SOGIESC-inclusive Studies Using Feminist Participatory Approach in Southeast Asia particularly Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor Leste, the Philippines, Laos, and Cambodia"* and get feedback from facilitators and partners. The study itself is currently in the finalization stage.

Some reflections on the workshop:

"As someone who doesn't see myself as a researcher, I think I can do it." – Fir (Malaysia)

"This whole workshop and learning process is a manifestation of the Feminist Participatory Research itself. Our experiences are acknowledged. We learned from and strengthened each other. Furthermore, we even defined the FPAR values that will be carried out in our next steps." – Lini (ASC)

EXPLORATORY REPORT ON THE INTERSECTION OF SOGIESC

Southeast Asia stands out as a particularly vulnerable region among those most affected by climate change. With a population totaling 640 million, it faces various hazards, including severe weather events and the escalating threat of sea-level rise. Recognizing the intersectionality of climate change impacts and the chronic deterioration of climate conditions, urgent actions must be taken to address these issues. To jumpstart ASC's engagement in this area, it was important to first understand how the issues of climate crises and SOGIESC are interlinked and how LGBTQIAN+ people's lives are impacted by them.

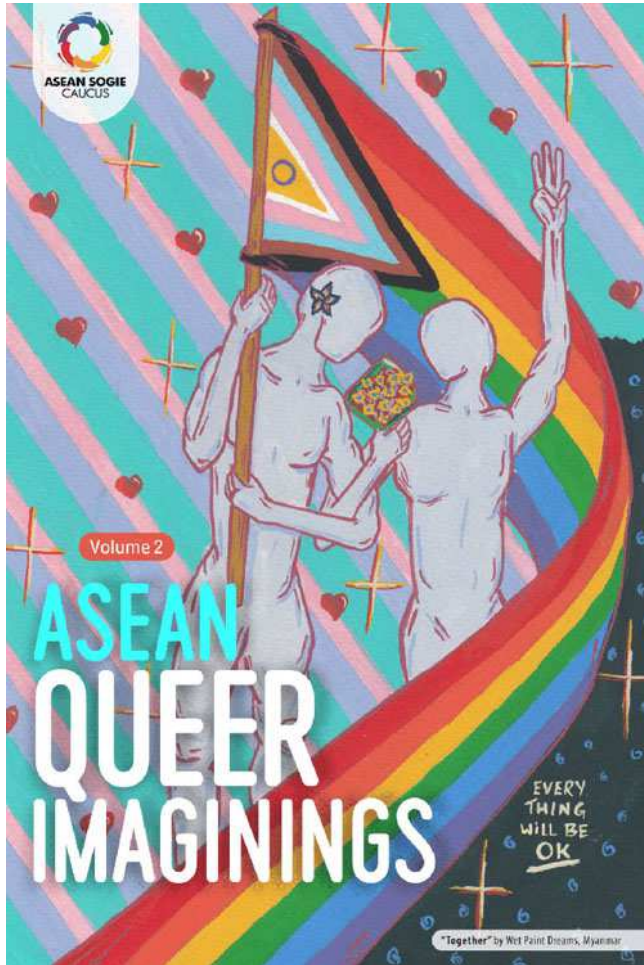
Thus, the conduct of the Exploratory Report On Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, And Expression And Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC) And Climate Justice In Southeast Asia⁹ and the succeeding webinar which aimed to further explore and discuss the complex ways in which climate change and environmental issues disproportionately impact LGBTIQ+ individuals and communities in the ASEAN SEA region. This marks the first of a series of actions toward locating our work in charting a more inclusive and equitable approach to addressing climate change.

9 ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, 2023. "Exploratory Report On Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, And Expression And Sex Characteristics (Sogiesc) And Climate Justice In Southeast Asia."

QUEERING NARRATIVES

LEVERAGING THE POWER OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN ADVANCING LGBTQIAN+ RIGHTS

ASEAN SOGIE Caucus continues its tradition of activism, encouraging creative expression as powerful tools for advocacy and social change. Integrating art into activism ensures that the movement remains vibrant, engaging, and impactful, tapping into the rich cultures and imaginings of the ASEAN, and resonating deeply across the region and beyond.



ASEAN QUEER IMAGININGS (AQI) VOL. 2

ASC published ASEAN Queer Imagining Volume 2. This year's theme is **"Queering Sustainable Activism"** motivated by the rise of conservatism, shrinking civic spaces, and recovering from the pandemic which significantly impacted queer activism in SEA. This book provides a space for thought leadership for thirteen (13) LGBTQIA+ activists who come from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Thailand. This volume showcased more non-binary, trans, and cis-queer women authors and also represented queerblings with intersectional identities such as neurodiverse non-binary people and a former Rohingya refugee. Moreover, the Foreword of the publication was written by Aung Myo Min, the Minister for Human Rights of the National Unity Government of Myanmar.



AQI Vol. 2 was soft-launched in December in Manila, which drew around 50 attendees. Aishia Castellano and Paul Joshua Morante, both AQI contributors based in Manila, were also present to talk about their work.



**Rainbow Earth:
Navigating Malaysia's Environmental
and Queer Landscape**



**Aidil
Youth Climate Activist**



aseansogiecaucus



Hear Queer Stories



ASEAN SOGIE Caucus



HEAR QUEER STORIES

Hear Queer Stories is ASC's podcast platform, dedicated to amplifying and celebrating LGBTIQ narratives from Southeast Asia since 2020. In 2022, ASC collaborated once more with young queer activists from Indonesia to produce four (4) more episodes of the podcast series, this time entitled, **"Intersecting Rainbows: Progress, challenges, and solidarity within the queer movements."**¹⁰

Some episodes in this series:

In the episode, **'Timor-Leste Pride, what's next on the ride?'** Laura, a human rights activist from Timor-Leste, talks about the importance of continuing to fight for LGBTIQ+ rights in Timor-Leste, even after the Pride Parade. She unfolds the next steps for the LGBTIQ+ movement in the country and the journey towards a brighter future

Bloom Siriwattakanon, a Queer International Development worker HIV advocate and Non-binary THL founder, talks about their roles with other activists in the episode, **'Breaking Barriers: The Evolution of Thailand's LGBT Political Movement.'** He further delves into the challenges faced by the LGBTIQ+ movement in Thailand, as well as the progress that has been achieved.

In the episode, **'Intersecting Rainbows - Lengger Dance: A Symphony of Reconciled Genders'**, Rianto, an enthusiastic Lengger dancer hailing from Indonesia, describes his captivating journey as a trailblazer in the realm of traditional Indonesian dance.

¹⁰ ASEAN SOGIE Caucus, 2023. Hear Queer Stories. [Podcast]. Retrieved from <https://open.spotify.com/show/06vPwMA03hdgxvO1QDOSxP?si=ed177a98406f4e9b&nd=1&dlsi=6e354b1274124cd4>

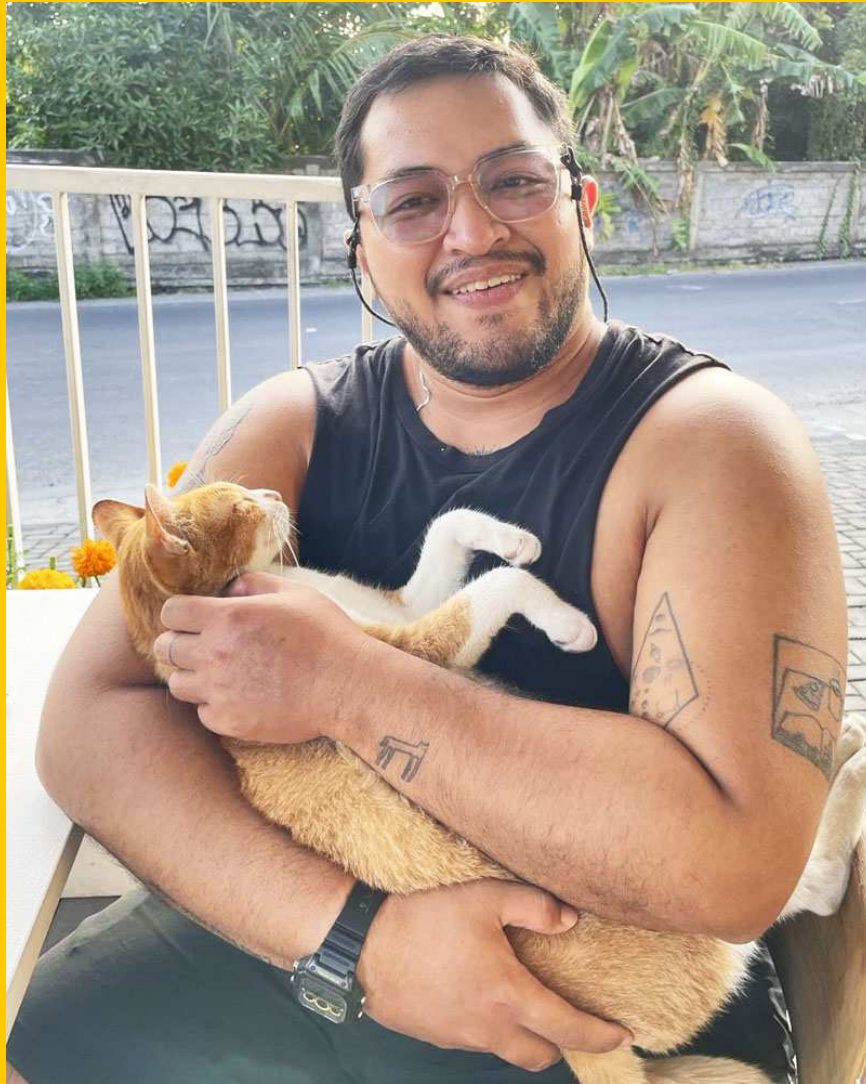
“

ASC as a regional organisation is really vocal about the rights of LGBTIQ people in SEA, and my encounter to ASC via Lini is quite unique ones. It is an organisation that can brought us SEA local organisations to meet each other and share stories, in which turns out very relatable and have cross cutting issues.

ASC has involving me in their FPAR learning project, and this open up my mind about our recent research practices, that might not as participative as it should be. And this helps me understand the reason why we have to do better for our community because we are part of the community and we have to involve our community too, not just made them as objects.

I wish that I can have another shot on working together again with ASC, even tho for now i'm no longer part of the organisation partner, and if there's something that i could help with my skills, experiences and perspectives, i would be gladly to!

Oh and i wish you the great success for the SEAQCF event !



- Marian Kevin, Jaringan Transmen Indonesia (JTID)

”

ENGAGING WITH REGIONAL AND GLOBAL HR MECHANISMS

ASC also continues to be actively engaged in various regional and global platforms and maintains its involvement in speaking engagements at conferences throughout the year. Here are some of the events we had significant inputs in:

UN WOMEN, with support from the Embassy of Japan, organized a **Regional Dialogue on COVID-19 Recovery: Building forward better with women's leadership and participation** in March 2023 held in Bangkok, Thailand. In this dialogue, some recommendations were put forward for ASC's future action, such as enhancing the gathering of gender data by looking at the leadership of LGBTQIAN+ in emergency responses, economic contributions of LGBTQIAN+ during the pandemic recovery, contribution of LGBTQIAN+ in care work, as well as continue strengthening digital

platforms for information sharing, learning, and mobilizing.

In the donor pre-conference **Resourcing LGBTQ+ Movements For Change** organized by Global Philanthropy Project and Equality Australia, ASC Advocacy Officer highlighted the impact of Indonesia's revised criminal code on LGBTQIAN+ organizing.

In a **joint meeting** organized by Women Fund Asia, Dignity Fund, Astrea, and various feminist funders, ASC stressed the need for flexible and institutional funding, as well as support for emergency response.



During the **67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women** at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, ASC Advocacy Officer moderated the session on anti-gender movement organized by the LGBTQ Caucus at the CSO Forum Parallel Sessions on feminist interventions in digital spaces in Asia led by WFA.

At the **Outright International Global Week of Advocacy** held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, ASC was able to have diplomatic engagements with the following missions: the UN LGBTI Core group, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, the United States, the European Union, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland, as well as a diplomatic meeting with the Philippines mission.

ASC representatives made presentations during the **Civic Innovation Fair 2023**, specifically on the intersection of democracy and SOGIESC, and on the situation of LGBTQIA+ rights in Indonesia. This event was organized by Innovation for Change - East Asia in Bangkok, Thailand.

The **Human Rights in Asia: Open and Closed Societies in a Post-Pandemic World** was held at the Sejong Institute and Global Asia in Seoul, South Korea organized by Sejong Institute. ASC's contribution to this project is the article **Advancing Rights for All Persons Regardless of Sexual and Gender Identity**.¹¹

The **Asia Democracy Assembly** held in Bangkok, Thailand centered around the theme of **"Fostering Democracy Movements: Building Strategic Partnerships and Sustainable Cooperation in Asia."** ASC designed and facilitated the huddle session on Enabling Inclusive Democracies and Movements, which was attended by 20 participants. Find the outcomes document [here](#).

The **10th Asian Regional Human Rights Defenders Forum** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia is a regional initiative led by Forum-Asia, Pusat KOMAS, and Suaram. ASC made two presentations during the conference: on the regional component of the work of ASC, and on the workshop on human rights research and documentation.

11 Global Asia, 2023. "Advancing Rights for All Persons Regardless of Sexual and Gender Identity." Retrieved from https://www.globalasia.org/v18no2/cover/advancing-rights-for-all-persons-regardless-of-sexual-and-gender-identity_lini-zurlia



We participated in the **EU-ASEAN CSO Forum** in Brussels, Belgium ahead of the EU-ASEAN Policy Dialogue on Human Rights (PDHR). The dialogue aimed at fostering partnerships and sharing knowledge and human rights recommendations with the EU and ASEAN representatives to address regional challenges collaboratively. However, a compromised closed-door meeting was held due to objections against Myanmar’s military presence and conveyed objections to elected representatives. Despite the challenges posed by political sensitivity, the dialogue enhanced collaboration between EU and ASEAN civil society on human rights, and was able to submit joint recommendations from the forum that were set to influence the PDHR.

The **Taiwan-Southeast Civil Society Week** organized by the Asia Citizen Future Association (ACFA), produced a report titled, “Exploring Taiwan’s Role Amid the Crisis of Shrinking Civic Space in Southeast Asia”, where insights and reflections of ASC were documented. ASC’s participation in the Taiwan-Southeast Asia Civil Society Week was covered by local Taiwanese media.¹²

12 The New Lens, 2023. 專訪東協多元性別小組執行長：東南亞LGBT+團體的困境與挑戰。
Retrieved from <https://www.thenewslens.com/article/191108?ref=acfa.tw>



ASC during the launching of report on freedom of association in Southeast Asia. (Photo courtesy by ACFA)

The **Consultation for National CSOs: Sustaining Momentum to Protect Migrant Workers' Rights in ASEAN** was organized by the Task Force On ASEAN Migrant Workers, supported by the International Organization for Migration held in Bangkok, Thailand. ASC Advocacy Officer spoke on governance gaps in addressing labor issues of migrant workers of diverse SOGIESC



THE YEAR 2023 IN FIGURES

6

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON

convenings that served as spaces for collaboration, dialogues, and cross-learning among LGBTQIAN+ activists

195
INDIVIDUALS

from the 11 Southeast Asian countries that we have reached through our local and regional online and in-person convenings, learning sessions, and workshops.

25

LOCAL INITIATIVES

LGBTQIAN+ organizations supported. These include those supported through the Rainbow Reach Out, ASEAN Queer Leadership X. This also includes other forms of technical support extended to local LGBTQIAN+ organizations.

262

ONLINE CONTENT

produced such as podcasts, videos, graphics, and publications.

2

PUBLICATIONS

produced.

239.6K

TWITTER

Impressions

81.6K

FACEBOOK AUDIENCE

Reach

25.76K

INSTAGRAM

Reach

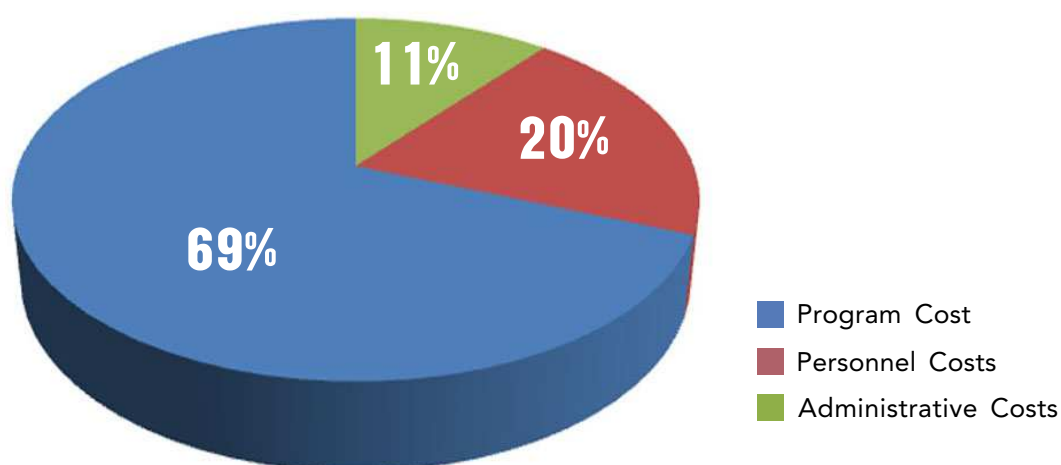
FINANCIAL REPORT

COMPARATIVE FINANCE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023 AND 2022

RECEIPTS IN PHP	2023	2022
Grant	27,648,004	18,314,850
Donations	142,025	257,789
Interest	2,319	59,588
Total	27,792,348	18,632,527

EXPENSES IN PHP	2023	2022
Program Cost	12,431,911	11,063,752
Personnel Costs	3,601,475	3,983,954
Administrative Costs	1,988,779	1,540,630
Foreign Exchange Loss	0	1,044,170
Total	18,022,165	17,632,506

TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2023



OUR TEAM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2023 TO 2026)

Ging Cristobal, CHAIRPERSON
Srun Sron, VICE CHAIRPERSON
Maria Nica Dumlao, SECRETARY
Ronald Emmanuel De Vera, TREASURER
King Oey, MEMBER

REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (2023 TO 2026)

Nicky Castillo, PHILIPPINES
Hla Myat Tun, MYANMAR
Vien Tanjung, INDONESIA
Thilaga Sulathireh, MALAYSIA
Yuli Rustinawati, INDONESIA

A. SECRETARIAT

Ryan Silverio, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Lini Zurlia, ADVOCACY OFFICER
Donna Nuñez, PROGRAM ASSOCIATE
Ham Pidor, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
Dali R., COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE
Genica Bucao, PROJECT OFFICER - FIFF
Mario Pratama, PROJECT
COORDINATOR- FPAR
Belinda Mirasol, FINANCE OFFICER
Juliet De Guzman, ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER
Carolina Advincola, ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

B. ASC MEMBERS

ASC is a membership organization composed of individual human rights defenders as well as LGBTQI+ focused organizations. We have members from eight (8) countries in the Southeast Asian region.

Our organizational members are:

- Arus Pelangi
- Arco Iris Timor Leste
- CamASEAN Youth's Future
- Colors Rainbow
- Iloilo Pride Team
- Indonesia for Humans
- Institute for the Study of Society, Economy and Environment (ISEE)
- Justice for Sisters
- Micro Rainbow International
- Outright Action International
- Sayoni
- Seksualiti Merdeka
- Togetherness for Equality and Action (TEA) Group

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ASC's collaborative way of working was made possible with the support of the following organizations, networks, and institutions:

AICHR Indonesia | AICHR Malaysia |
AICHR Thailand | AICHR Philippines

ALTSEAN Burma

APCOM Foundation

Arcolris Timor-Leste

ASEAN Civil Society Conference/
ASEAN Peoples' Forum (ACSC/APF)
2023

Asia Citizen Future Association (ACFA)

Asia-Pacific Resource & Research
Centre for Women-ARROW

Asia Democracy Network

Asian Network of A-Spec Queer
Activists (ANOQA)

Asia Pacific Transgender Network

ASEAN Youth Forum (AYF)

ASEAN Youth Conference on Violence
(YVC)

B-Dev

Cangkang Queer

Commission on Human Rights of the
Philippines

COC Netherlands

Department of Foreign Affairs and
Trade Australia

Edge Effect

Embassy of Canada in the Philippines

Embassy of Belgium in the Philippines

Embassy of Finland in the Philippines

Embassy of Netherlands in the
Philippines

Equal Asia Foundation

Equality Australia

ESBISQUET

FORUM ASIA

Free To Be Me (FTBM)

GALANG Philippines

Global Philanthropy Project

Hanoi Queer

Independent Expert on protection against
violence and discrimination based on
sexual orientation and gender identity
(SOGI)

ILGA Asia

ILGA World

Initiatives for International Dialogue

Innovation for Change East Asia Hub
(I4C-EA)

Intersex Asia

Intersex Philippines

Intersex Equality Rights Coalition UK

Inpride Bangkok

IWRAW Asia Pacific

Jaringan Transgender Indonesia (JTID)
Legal Dignity
Metro Manila Pride
Movement for Alternatives and Solidarity
in Southeast Asia (MASSA)
Milk Tea Alliance
MUJER LGBT Organization
Narasi Toleransi
Nationwide Organization of Visually-
IMpaired Empowered Ladies
(NOVEL)
Non-Binary Thailand
Office of the High Commissioner for
Human Rights
OutRight Action International
Panggung Minoritas
PanACEa / Asexuality Asia
Permanent Mission of Canada to
ASEAN
Permanent Mission of the United
States to ASEAN
Philippine LGBT Chamber of
Commerce
Plan International Asia Pacific Region
Pride PH
Queer Indonesia Archive
Rainbow Alliance
Rainbow Six
ROJALI
San Julian Pride
SHAPE-SEA
Side B Philippines
STRAP

SUHAKAM
Susuri Pelangi Podcast
TERPCAP
The Office of the High Commissioner
for Human Rights (UN Human
Rights), Regional Office for
Southeast Asia
UniGEN
UPCIDS Alternative Development
Program
Urgent Action Fund for Women - Asia
Pacific
Visayas LGBTQ Network
Women and Gender Institute, Miriam
College
Women's Legal and Human Rights
Bureau
Youth for YOUth
Youth Voices Count

We thank the following donors for their
continuous trust and confidence towards
ASC:
APCASO Foundation
GiveOut
Foundation Open Society Institute
(FOSI)
International Women's Rights Action
Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP-AP)
Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and
Intersex Rights (RFSL)
Women Fund Asia (WFA)

SUPPORT OUR WORK



SUPPORT QUEER ADVOCACY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Your donation will go a long way in supporting our mission. Together, let's strengthen LGBTIQ activism in Southeast Asia.



Contact Us

ASEAN SOGIE Caucus

E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines

EMAIL info@aseansogiecaucus.org

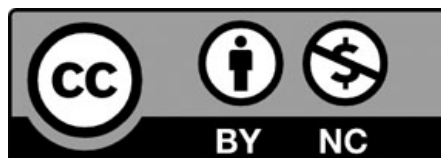
WEBSITE www.aseansogiecaucus.org

FACEBOOK facebook.com/aseansogie

TWITTER [@aseansogie](https://twitter.com/aseansogie)

INSTAGRAM [@aseansogiecaucus](https://instagram.com/aseansogiecaucus)

YOUTUBE bit.ly/ASEANSOGIECaucusYoutube



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License.

To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>
or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

Legally registered in the Philippines as Southeast Asia Sexual Orientation,
Gender Identity and Expression Caucus (ASC), Inc. (S.E.C. No. CN201516714)

COVER ART by Alexandra Koch from Pixabay



Image credit to Alexandra Koch from Pixabay