# GLOBALIZATION, REGIONALIZATION AND THE ASEAN





Regions are a group of countries located in the same geographically specified area or are an amalgamation of two regions or a combination of more than two regions organized to regulate and oversee flows and policy choices. (Claudio and Abinales, 2018)

The words "regionalization" and "regionalism" should not be interchanged.

Regionalization refers to the "regional concentration of economic flows".

(Claudio and Abinales, 2018)

Regionalism is "a political process characterized by economic policy cooperation and coordination among countries".

(Claudio and Abinales, 2018)

#### REGIONALISM

THE body of ideas, values and objectives that contribute to the creation, maintenance or modification of a particular region or type of world order. It is usually associated with a formal policy and project and often leads to institution building. (Soderbaum, 2012)

Ex. EU, ASEAN

# WHY DO COUNTRIES FORM REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS?

- Military defense. i.e. NATO
- To pool their resources, get better returns for their exports, as well as expand their leverage against trading partners. i.e. OPEC
- To protect their independence from the pressures of superpower politics. i.e. Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)
- To insulate themselves from the ill-effects of economic crisis. (Claudio and Abinales, 2018)

### **NON-STATE REGIONALISM**

# The "new regionalisms"

- Tiny associations that include no more than a few actors and focus on a single issue, or
- Huge continental unions that address a multitude of common problems from territorial defense to food security. (Claudio and Abinales, 2018)

# Contemporary Challenges to Regionalization

- Resurgence of militant nationalism
- Populism
- Continuing financial crises
- Disagreements over to what extent should a country would sacrifice their sovereignty for the sake of regional stability
- Differing visions of what regionalism should be for. (Claudio and Abinales, 2018)

### The ASEAN

Association of

Southeast

**Asian** 

**NATIONS** 

A geopolitical and economic organization of ten Southeast Asian countries.

#### Who is ASEAN?

- Indonesia (1967)
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Singapore
- Thailand
- Brunei (1984)
- Vietnam (1995)
- Laos (1997)
- Myanmar (1997)
- Cambodia (1999)

