

Recent politico-legal change for the lives of labour migrants in Southeast Asia

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The multi-directional nature of labour migration flows around the globe has resulted in an increasing number of countries, including in Southeast Asia, having become both senders and receivers of migrants. But academic studies tend to identify countries according to a neat sending/receiving binary when in fact they are both. These states also tend to see themselves primarily as 'senders' and so prioritize policy development and implementation in response to the experience of outgoing migrants. In the process, these states often overlook legal obligations that they then have to incoming migrants, including migrant workers, refugees, international students and spouses. As part of an attempt to examine the phenomenon, this panel focuses on experiences in Southeast Asian countries. Papers will cover one or more of the following topics: migration patterns and related rights issues, regulatory frameworks for migration; and/or history of the sending/receiving binary's role in migration policy.

Convenor bios

Antje Missbach is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Social Sciences at Monash University, Australia. Her research interests include the socio-legal dimensions of forced migration in Southeast Asia, border regimes, asylum policies and refugee protection in the Asia-Pacific, as well as diaspora politics and long-distance nationalism. She is the author of *Troubled Transit: Asylum seekers stuck in Indonesia* (ISEAS, 2015) and *Politics and Conflict in Indonesia: The Role of the Acehese Diaspora* (Routledge, 2011).

Wayne Palmer is a lecturer in the Department of International Relations at Bina Nusantara University, Indonesia. His research projects focus on institutional capacity to enforce migrant rights, and to investigate, prosecute and punish human trafficking in Indonesia. He is author of *Indonesia's Overseas Migration Programme* (Brill, 2016), which provides the first detailed, critical analysis of the way in which the programme is managed and how it fits with other developments within the Indonesian government.

Double session