Euroseas panel proposal – Olomouc 2021

- (1) Panel title Convulsions and aftershock: Malaysian politics and culture after GE14
- (2) **Convener** Asmus Rungby , Phd Fellow; University of Copenhagen, Department of Anthropology Email: <u>Arr@anthro.ku.dk</u>

Co-convener – Dr. Filip Kraus, Palacký University Olomouc

(3) - Panel description:

After a momentous defeat of UMNO in 2018's GE14, the Pakatan Harapan took the reins of the federal state with strikingly little disorder. Despite the peaceful transfer of power, this event has been a major shock to the system and sociality of Malaysia's Elite-driven politics. A series of major convulsions have followed and continue to place Malaysian parliamentary politics in uncharted waters. Power struggles between Anwar and Mahathir, the Sheraton move, Muhyiddin's ascendancy, Saddiq's new party 'Muda', the prosecution of Najib and the Sabah elections are but the most prominent of the many upsets which have come through the events sparked by the results of GE 14.

This panel proposes we attend to the many and complicated reconfigurations of loyalties, alliances, power dynamics and goals that has emerged and continue to emerge as the ramifications of UMNO's loss of hegemony unfold. We encourage a wide diversity of approaches to help us think through both the backgrounds, prospects and ongoing dynamics of this important process. While the drama of parliamentary politics is clearly important and captivating, we encourage approaches which grasp the reverberations of these historical events from other social perspectives as well. Depictions in art, popular cultural responses, negotiations and dynamics in social movements to mention just a few.

Our ambition is to take a broad and inclusive view of these ongoing processes and attempt to understand what we can learn from them about Malaysian democracy, popular attitudes and political dynamics.

- (4) Panel format single panel (depending on interest)
- (5) Discussant no discussant