

Panel Proposal for EuroSEAS 2022

1) Title of Panel:

The Life Cycle of Indonesian Migrant Workers: From Pre-Departure to Reintegration

2) Convener:

- Convener : Retno Widyastuti, BIGS OAS – Bonn University, Germany
- Co-convener : Nawawi, Ph.D. – Director of Research Center for Population, National Research and Innovation Agency (PRK BRIN), Indonesia

3) Brief description and explanation of the chosen format

The format chosen is a panel with four presenters. Each presenter will present for a maximum of 15 minutes, and the rest of 30 minutes will be used for open discussion with the audience.

4) Brief description of the panel

Transnational labor migration from Indonesia has been promoted, encouraged, and institutionalized by the state since the 1980s as a pathway to rural and national economic development. There are approximately 4 to 9 million Indonesian Migrant Workers abroad, mainly low-skilled, working in the informal sector, and contractual based varies between 2-3 years per contract. Most Indonesian migrants work in Middle Eastern, Southeast Asian, and East Asian countries. However, in the last decade, there has been a shift in the working destination countries, from the Gulf areas to Asia, such as Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea, due to a better assurance of legal certainty and migrant workers' protection. In addition, the Indonesian government is committed to achieving zero growth in sending unskilled workers and increasing the protection of Indonesian migrant workers.

To ensure the protection of migrant workers in all stages, from pre-departure, departure, working (in the destination country), return, and reintegration, it is essential to have a more comprehensive and better understanding of the migrant worker's life cycle. It is clear that each stage has its dynamics and challenges, equal importance, and influences each process. The panel aims at discussing the experience of Indonesian migrant workers, from the pre-departure until the reintegration stage, with various case studies in Indonesia and destination countries.

5) Format:

Double session (2 x 90 min.) with 6 presenters. The presenters are:

- 1) Yusy Widarahesty from Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto – Japan and Al-Azhar University, Jakarta - Indonesia
- 2) Yuherina Gusman from National Chengchi University, Taipei – Taiwan and Al-Azhar University, Jakarta - Indonesia
- 3) Rita Pawestri Setyaningsih from National Research and Innovation Agency/ BRIN, Jakarta - Indonesia) and Ardila Putri from Pertamina University, Jakarta – Indonesia
- 4) Retno Widyastuti from Bonn University, Bonn - Germany
- 5) Nawawi, Ph.D from National Research and Innovation Agency, Jakarta – Indonesia
- 6) Dr. Muhammad Iqbal (Assoc Prof.) from University of Mercubuana, Jakarta – Indonesia