**Panel Proposal for EuroSEAS conference 2024**

1. **Title of Panel:**

***Indonesian Migrants & Migration in Indonesia***

1. **Convener:**
* Retno Widyastuti (Ph.D cand.), *Universität Bonn* (DE), retno.widyastuti14@gmail.com
* Prof. Dr. Alexander Loch – *Hochschule für öffentliche Verwaltung & Finanzen, Ludwigsburg* (DE), alexander.loch@hs-ludwigsburg.de
1. **Brief description and explanation of the chosen format**
* The format chosen is a classical panel with four paper 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.
1. **Brief description of the panel**

Increasing mobility and migration are megatrends that also have social and economic impacts on Indonesia: Approximately 4.382.000 *Pekerja Migran Indonesia* (PMI) or Indonesian Migrant Workers (IMWs) are recorded in the *Indonesian Overseas Workers Protection Board* (BP2MI, 2021); six years ago, the Worldbank (2017) estimated that up to nine million IMWs were working in 150 countries. At the same time, safe orderly and regular migration to Indonesia and mobility within the ASEAN region is on the rise (ASEAN Secretariat, 2022) and transmigration phenomena have long been a concern of Asian, developmental and migration studies (Bastia & Skeldon, 2020; Antweiler, 2005).

Transnational labour migration from Indonesia has been promoted, encouraged, and institutionalized by the state since the 1980s as a pathway to rural and national economic development. Most Indonesian migrants in work low-skilled jobs 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. Furthermore Australia and, more recently, Germany have been trying to attract Indonesian skilled workers (such as health care professionals) to compensate their shortage of skilled workers due to demographic change.

The panel aims at discussing experiences of Indonesian migrant workers and migrants in Indonesia during the migration-cycle in an interdisciplinary way: from the psychogenesis of the decision to move, the economic dimension of (social) remittances, political efforts of involving the Indonesian diaspora, up to questions of migration management of refugees from primarily Islamic countries within Indonesia. Case studies and international scholars, who like to join our panel, welcome!

**5) Format**

* Single session (1 x 90 minutes) with 4 presenters.
* The presenters and topic are:
1. Retno’s PhD research (on *migrants’ return*);
2. Alex facilitates the panel discussion and may present one individual paper (on *Indonesian nurses migrating to Germany*)
3. Open (call for participant)
4. Open (call for participant)