

# Reflecting on ASEAN's Contributions to the Region and the World



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# Outline

- Partnering for Change
  - Attaining peace and stability in Southeast Asia
  - Facilitating national and regional economic development
  - Improving the lives of the peoples in the region
- Engaging the World
  - Facilitating regional dialogue and cooperation
- Conclusion





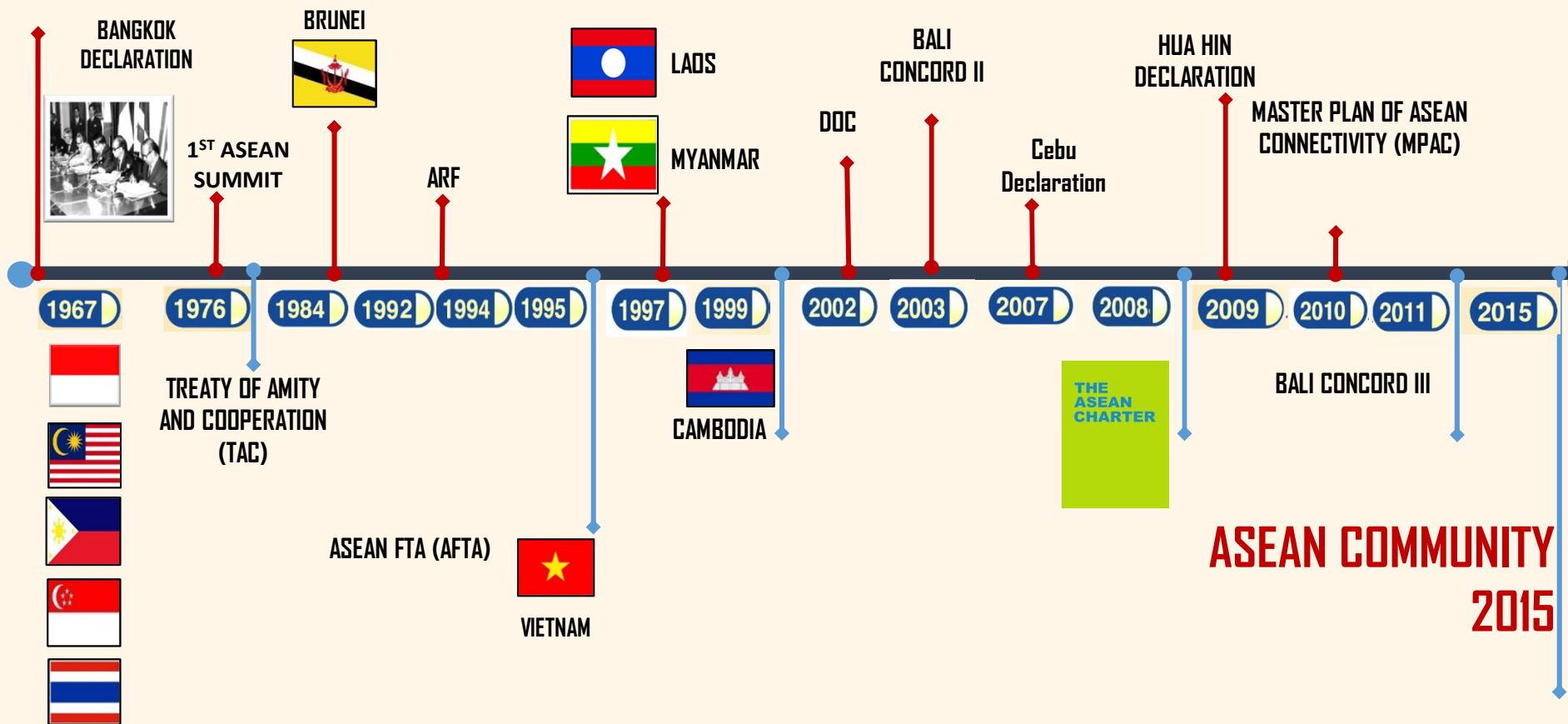
The story of ASEAN is captured by the 2017 theme "*Partnering for Change, Engaging the World*". For the past 50 years, ASEAN has brought positive changes to the peoples of Southeast Asia and has actively contributed to regional and global peace and stability.





# ASEAN TIMELINE

ONE VISION, ONE IDENTITY, ONE COMMUNITY





- Attaining peace and stability in Southeast Asia

- General absence of an armed conflict in Southeast Asia as ASEAN's most important contribution
- Role of ASEAN principles and the ASEAN Way
- ASEAN Member States' history of resolving disputes peacefully and with respect for the rule of law





- Facilitating national and regional economic development

- The absence of armed conflict has provided an environment conducive to economic growth and development
- ASEAN economic integration has opened opportunities and has also allowed other members to catch up and become connected to the regional and global economy.





- Improving the lives of the peoples of the region

- ASEAN as a people-oriented and people-centered region that puts the lives and welfare of the peoples as a priority.

- The ASEAN Community Vision and Blueprints encourage Member States to adopt national policies and programs toward the attainment of regional objectives and commitments

- ASEAN facilitates capacity building and technical assistance for Member States





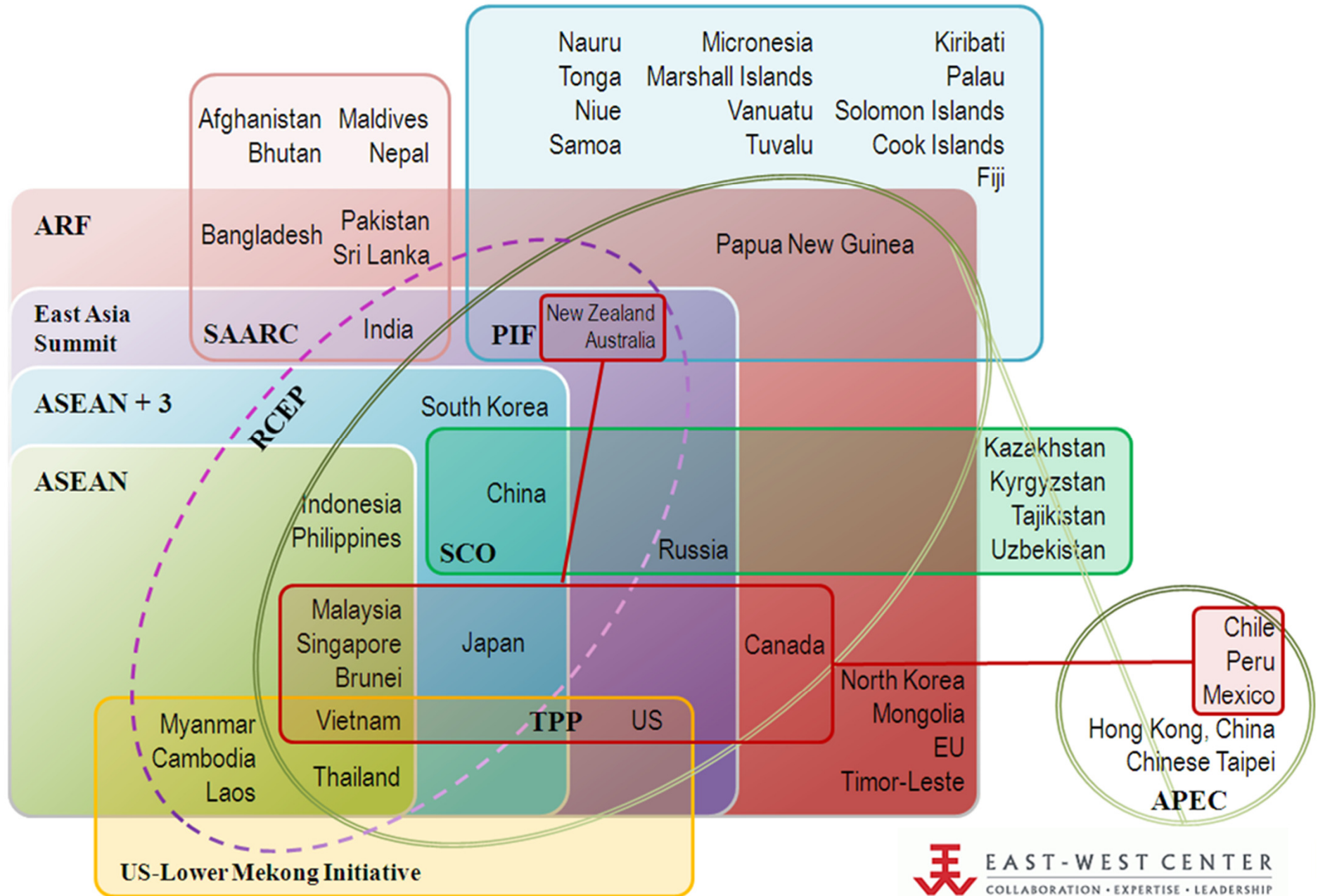
- Facilitator of regional dialogue and cooperation

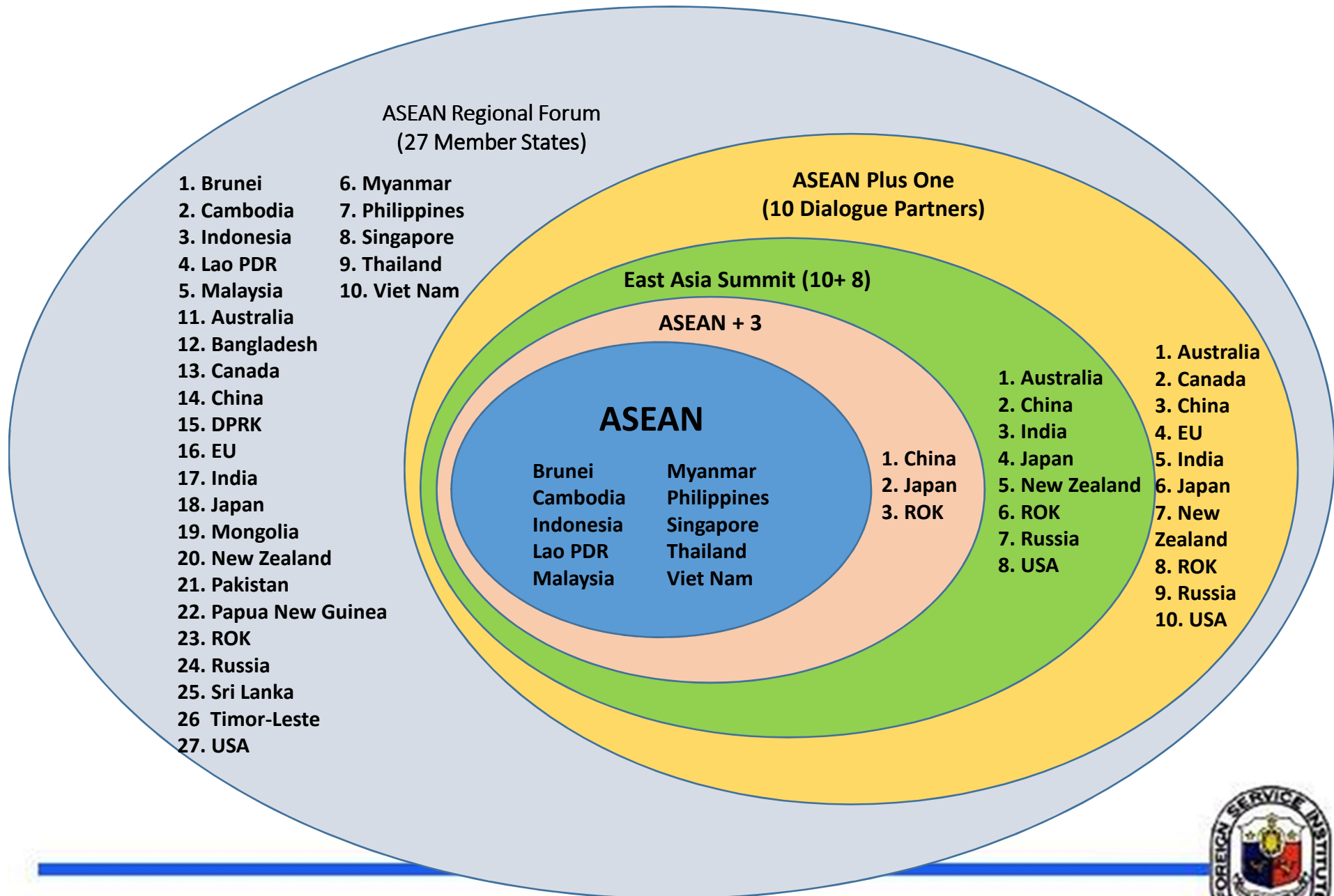
- ASEAN has managed to engage all regional players through a web of bilateral and multilateral mechanisms
- ASEAN as a 'driving force' of regionalism by encouraging external powers to subscribe to the same ASEAN norms and principles





# Asia-Pacific Multilateralism

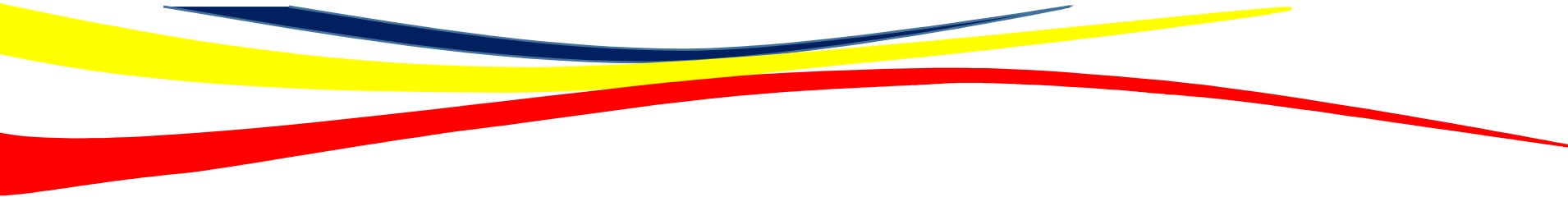




# Challenges

- Coping with the evolving regional security architecture
- Responding to non-traditional security concerns vis-à-vis ASEAN Way
- Institutionalization: form over substance?
- Addressing bilateral tensions
- Building national resilience and addressing development gaps
- Building an ASEAN identity: less top-down approach





A retrospect of ASEAN's journey in the past five decades reflects its positive contributions to the region and to its people. However, the next phase of ASEAN's narrative is about building on the successes, addressing and learning from shortcomings, and becoming even more proactive and united in the face of new regional and global developments.





# Thank you!



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