

The East Asian Integration Process Myths and Reality

Ein Vortrag mit anschließender Diskussion von und mit
Farizal Rizalli und ***Hideki Kawamura***



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In 1991, then Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad proposed an East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) in order to accelerate the East Asian integration process. According to Mahathir Japan should play a leading role in promoting East Asian integration. However, not only Washington and certain East Asian governments but also Tokio responded with scepticism.

In their presentation, Farizal Razalli and Hideki Kawamura will discuss 1. the motives behind Mahathir`s proposal; 2.) how the idea was received in the 1990s in East Asia and the Western world; and 3.) the perspectives of the Southeast and East Asian integration project. Finally, some of the myths and realities of the entire East Asian integration process will be discussed.

Farizal Rizalli und Kawamura Hideki are Erasmus Mundus students from Malaysia and Japan respectively who are currently writing their Master thesis on issues of the East Asian integration process.

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