

⑨ - Too much detail
- give us more opinion.

Essay1: ASEAN: Origin, Evolution , and Economy

ASEAN was established in 1967 by Southeastern countries to build relations between neighboring countries. ASEAN works mainly in two areas : Regional cooperation and stability. In year 1967 Bangkok declaration, there were five countries starting the cooperation: Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Philippines.

There have been a lot of changes in the cooperation since 1967 , especially in economic cooperation. Since the beginning of ASEAN, economic integration has been established to liberalize trade between the member countries, to decrease the import tax on selective items and then established AFTA to compete with other non-ASEAN countries and Free trade became the important objective. During AFTA (1992-2002), there was a huge increase of trade between member countries but the reason of AFTA was to maintain ASEAN's competitiveness in attracting FDI from external sources and from within the ASEAN. During 2003-2015, ASEAN developed ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), the objective of AEC was to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) after Asian financial crisis and the rise of China. The target of AEC is to have greater trade between member countries, mobility between population, and competitiveness.

Professor gave the lecture about AEC Vision stating about the free flow of goods and service, free flow of investment and capital and free flow of skilled labor to build the single market and production base to attract FDI to the region. ASEAN has seen the rapid growth during two decades, the average GDP is about 5.1% , USD. 2.57 trillion which is almost doubled from what in 2007, mostly from intra-trade between ASEAN countries. Main products of ASEAN are service, manufacturing and agriculture respectively.

Looking into each country, there is some difference in key products and services. Indonesia's products are petroleum, mining, rubber and palm oil with GDP of USD 3872. Malaysia's products are petroleum, food, electrical and electronic products, base chemicals, iron , rubber and plastic with GDP of USD 9899. Philippines' products are food, electrical and electronics products, electrical machinery, garment and mining with GDP of USD. 2992. Brunei's product is petroleum with GDP of USD. 28,986. Thailand's products are electrical and electronic products, automotive, food, rubber and petrochemicals with GDP of USD. 6736. Singapore's products are service on trade, financial , information and communication, biomedical product, electronic, high-tech component with GDP of USD.57,722. Vietnam's products are food, pet food, textiles and apparels, footwear with GDP of USD 2390. Cambodia's products are textiles and apparels, tobacco and construction with GDP of USD. 1421. Laos' products are electricity, garments, mining with GDP of USD. 2531. Myanmar's products are petroleum, precious stone, mining and wood furniture with GDP of USD. 1229.

Looking into ASEAN trade in global market, besides trading with ASEAN member countries, China is the greatest trade partner, followed by EU, USA, Japan, Korea. ASEAN has most of its FDI from extra-ASEAN (China, Korea, Japan, India, Australia and New Zealand).

ASEAN labor, there is a huge workforce of labor in ASEAN especially in CLMV (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam) and the wage rate is still low. Labor in ASEAN speaks own languages and English. Foreign workers in Thailand are provided healthcare and education. The lowest minimum wage is in Myanmar of only USD3.29 per day. ASEAN labor has improved literacy rate since 2000, in 2016, the literacy rate is more than 80% in

every country.

ASEAN Communication, ASEAN has rapid growth in using internet both in social media and emails.

I learned the history of ASEAN and the importance of it. Thailand is one of ASEAN countries which have potential in all aspects. Lately, Thailand is a host for 34th ASEAN Summit. So After this summit, there will be agreement with other countries and negotiation in many topics which we will see changes in future of Thailand.

⑧ - provide more related content
- provide more opinion & reason

Essay 2: Cambodia economy

There was a guest speaker from Cambodia, who works in the embassy in Bangkok. The speaker told us about a brief history of Cambodia, and other on-going situations and data. There has been a good relationship between Thailand and Cambodia : traveling, education, labor. There are about 16 million people in Cambodia with increasing GDP of at least 7%. Thailand has helped Cambodia in education , Thai government gave scholarship to needed students. Many Cambodian come to work in Thailand especially those who live near Thai border, accounted for 46,000 workers last year.

The opportunities for Thailand in dealing with Cambodia are in many fields such as consumer products, entertainment product, education business and tourism. Since Cambodian people prefer to consume Thai products because of better quality. They also like to watch Thai drama as we can see from fan club of Thai actors and actress in Cambodia. Thailand could boost up the amount of trade in exchange of licensed labor since Thailand is shortage of unskilled labor and there is huge work force in Cambodia. During these five years, the conflict along the border is in peace so border trade can be promoted too.

The economic cooperation in ASEAN can be in term of labor force movement, eco-tourism and automobile manufacturing as ASEAN is still cheaper skilled labor comparing to

other regions, that is why US or EU investors feel that ASEAN is attractive investing hub.

I learned the overview of Cambodia relationship with Thailand and understand about some interesting insights and facts which are very useful and informative for me.