

We were honored to have Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen as our special lecturer for the topic of ASEAN Economic Integration in Theory and Practice at first Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen explain about today scope of knowledge that is ASEAN Economic Integration In Theory in this part has three minors topic first is ASEAN Integration Timeline, Second is Progress in goods, services/investment, capital, labor. Third is Comparisons with European Integration. Another one topic is ASEAN Economic Integration In Practice the minors topic is Border trade and Cross-border Payments and Remittances

First start by Four freedoms of economic integration Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen explain about Free movements of goods, Free movements of labour, Free movements of services and investment and Free movements of capital after that Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen explain about Levels of Economic Integration that related with Four freedoms the levels of economic integration has five levels First is free trade such as ASEAN or NAFTA, second is custom union that has common external tariffs, third common market that the product can move for free only member to member, forth is economic union that has tax rates and common monetary and fiscal policy, and lastly is political union. After that Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen teach in the knowledge that focus in ASEAN. Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen show the timeline and explain about develop of system in ASEAN between 1967 to 2015 and explain by use APSC, AEC and ASOC in same time to make more understand about ASEAN after that Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen use AEC and ASEAN diversity to explain about population and markets, income, development stages and economic infrastructure. After that study about Pillars of the ASEAN economic community the pillar 1 is single market and production base, pillar 2 is competitive economic region, pillar 3 is equitable economic development and last pillar is integration into the global economy. That benefit of AEC is tariffs are virtually eliminated, greater trade facilitation and trade more with non ASEAN partner. AEC labor

only 8 of skilled such as doctor, dentists, architect and accountants. The most migrant workers in ASEAN are non professionals. AEC capitals first is current account, second direct investment, third portfolio inflows, fourth portfolio outflows and last is loans

The Second topic ASEAN Economic Integration in practice. Start with Cross-border trade in good we have question that when we know the answer we will understand the cross border trade first “What is being traded ?” Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen show the example to student in next slide and show the analyze the graph and make me understand about trade between country. The second question is “What are the barriers to trade” the answer we need to understand tariff(generally zero), non tariff barriers(rules/regulations) and facilitation and logistic(conditions of roads, customs procedures) after that the services and investment Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen show the movement of people in next slide and explain in the same time to explain the student to understand more and Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen explain about payments motivation for digital financial services such as cost of domestic bank transfer, cost of a cross border bank remittance transfer, cost of cash management, tourist arrivals, migrant workers and QR code that is international payment in everyday life and cross-border payment and remittance that have interoperable QR code for retail payments and Innovative real-time remittance.

Lastly Aj. Pariwatn Kanithasen concluded the presentation for student that can easy to understand and easy to revise in key takeaways such as ASEAN economic integration consists of small yet progressive steps of negotiated economic agreements to foster free movement of goods, services, investment, capital and labor.

For the topic of 'Covid-19, labor, and CLMVT, we had Aj. Kiriya Kulkolkarn as our special lecturer in which she detailed the impacts of COVID-19 on the labor market relating to CLMV workers in Thailand. The lecturer clearly outlined 3 main topics covering Impact, Inequality, Gig and Policy.

The impact section began by analyzing the differences between the COVID-19 situation and other economic crises. On the process side, the economic turndown has been triggered by a spread of an adverse health situation and not by imbalances in the economic system. On the other hand, the size, speed, and shape is much bigger than other crises which caused a deeper and faster drop in economic activity and will not recover soon. I was pleased with how the economic impacts in Thailand were illustrated in graphs with statistics. For example, The GDP growth forecast for Thailand in 2020 was originally 3% in January but is now currently -5%. With lower businesses confidence, 12 million unemployment are expected to happen. A guest was also invited to speak in the lesson. She is a tourist guide in Chiangmai in which she described the impacts of the pandemic on tourism and her own experience. It was shocking to hear that 82 thousand tour guides were unemployed immediately after the lockdown. She described that she and her friends suffered from no income and many tour guides she knew of had to switch to simple careers such as selling things online, doing bakery and etc. The inclusion of a guest was very useful as she represented a real-life sample of the impact of the crisis on career.

The next topic: 'Inequality', focused on how different economic sectors were affected by different extents of impacts from the crisis. The lecturer represented this on a table displaying economic sectors from highest to lowest impacted. Another graph in this section also showed how informal economy workers were impacted and it can be depicted that these workers were impacted the most in lower-middle-income countries. The timeline in the presentation

also illustrated how relative poverty rates of informal workers are expected to rise and to how many percents in different countries with different incomes. For example, high-income countries were expected to have the highest rise. Another important note is that jobs with higher work location flexibility and physical proximity will be expected to receive a more mild impact.

The presentation also mentioned that due to the crisis, Gig workers (short-term jobs without contracts tied to a certain place are increasing as people are able to work from home which promotes social distancing and these jobs offer more freedom in types of jobs and work hours. Therefore, the solution for unemployed full-time workers from the pandemic can become a gig worker. Surveys have shown that 86% of Thai full-time workers want to quit their jobs and take up gigs. However, gig workers may lack workplace protection and income stability.

To end, the lecturer opened a discussion on policy recommendations. Where a student raised the idea that everyone above 18 years old should receive income from the government to aid their current situation. He countered the lecturer's statement that there will not be enough budget by suggesting that the amount of money the government gives to each person can be reduced instead and to be given to more people. However, in my opinion, I think that there will still not be enough budget to support the whole country and even so, the wealthier class will also receive this money which they do not need in which should be given to the people impacted more instead.