

24th Lecture on Lao PDR's ASEAN Chairmanship 2024

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Outlines

- I. Importance of ASEAN to the Lao PDR
- II. State of global affairs in 2024
- III. Theme of the Lao PDR's ASEAN Chairmanship
- IV. Possible priority areas for 2024





Importance of ASEAN to the Lao PDR

- Lao PDR's foreign policy peace, independence, friendship and cooperation.
- Peace, stability, and regionalism/multilateralism-foundation for socio-economic development and prosperity.
- Lao PDR's accession to ASEAN on 23 July 1997;
- Lao PDR's previous ASEAN chairmanships: 2004-2005 and 2016.
- Next ASEAN chairmanship in 2024.





State of Global Affairs in 2024

- Growing competition between major powers.
- Situations in Europe, Middle East, South China Sea, Korean Peninsula and in Myanmar.
- Traditional and non-traditional security issues and other challenges, including climate change and natural disasters.
- Lingering economic and financial difficulties.
- Gradual global economic recovery, but still fragile.
- Many economies are still addressing issues related to the supply chain disruption and boosting trade, investment, tourism as well as people-to-people linkage.





Theme of the Lao PDR's ASEAN Chairmanship

"ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience"

•Connectivity:

- □Crucial role of connectivity in supporting an integrated ASEAN Community building process.
- □Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025.
- □ Transforming from a land-locked to land-linked country and connectivity hub.
- □Promote people-to-people exchange "Visit Laos Year 2024".



• Resilience:

- Resilience amidst current fast-changing, complex and unpredictable geo-political and geo-economic landscapes as well as other multi-dimensional challenges.
- □ Enhancing resilience to promote ASEAN centrality and keep ASEAN relevant.
- Cooperation is key to build resilience to overcome challenges, and maintain and peace, stability and development.





Possible Priority Areas for 2024

Possible priority areas are centred around 2 components: "enhancing connectivity" and "enhancing resilience"

- •Enhancing Connectivity: 4 Areas
- 1.Integrating and connecting economies.
- 2. Forging an inclusive and sustainable future.
- 3. Transforming for the digital future.
- 4. Culture and arts: promoting the role of ASEAN culture and the arts for inclusion and sustainability.





Possible Priority Areas for 2024 (cont.)

- Enhancing Resilience: 5 Areas
- 1. The development of strategic plans to implement the ASEAN Community Vision 2045.
- 2. Promoting ASEAN centrality.
- 3. Promoting environmental cooperation.
- 4. Women and children.
- 5. Health.





Thank you for kind attention

