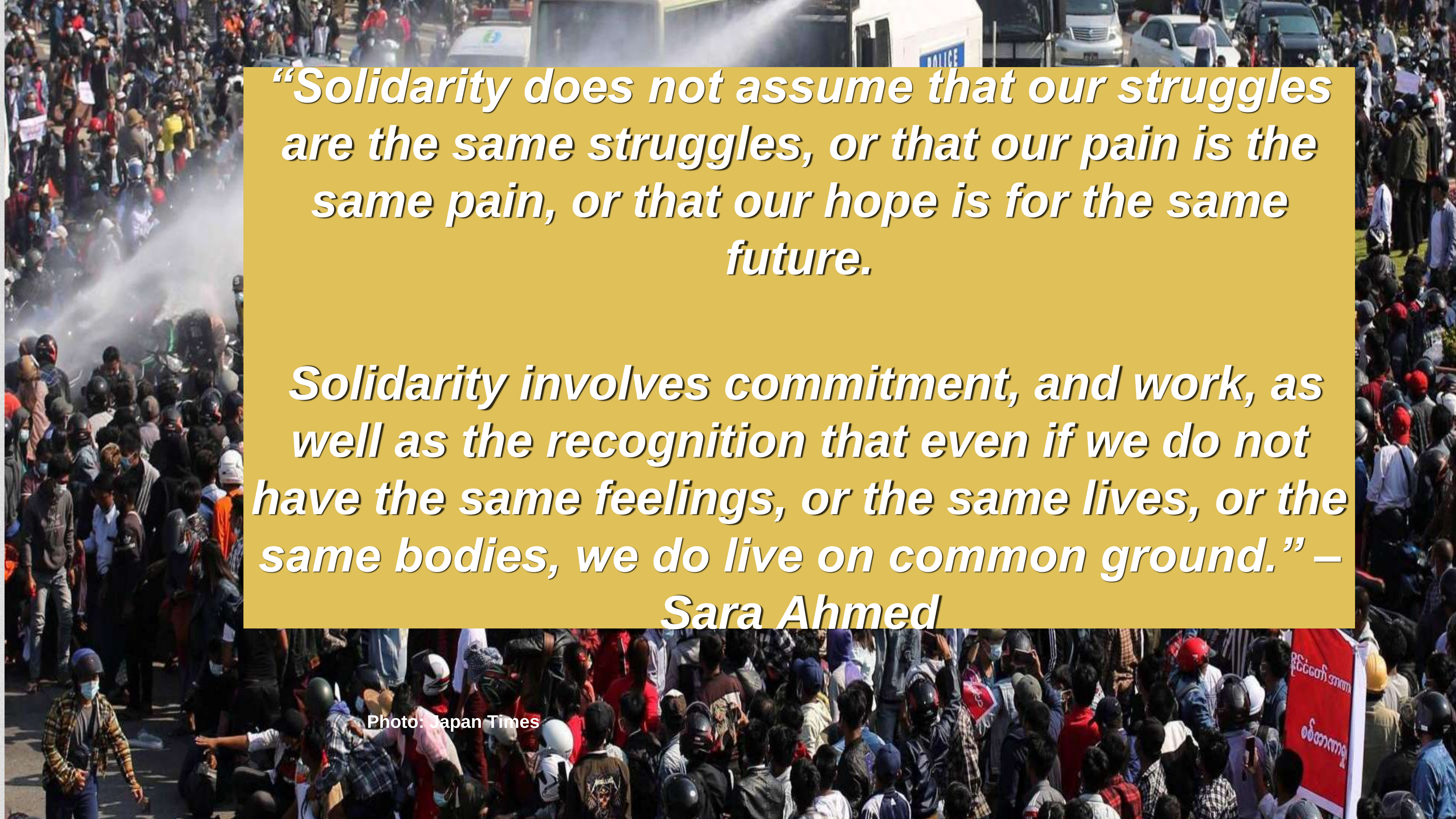




“Solidarity does not assume that our struggles are the same struggles, or that our pain is the same pain, or that our hope is for the same future.

Solidarity involves commitment, and work, as well as the recognition that even if we do not have the same feelings, or the same lives, or the same bodies, we do live on common ground.” –
Sara Ahmed

Photo: Japan Times

**ASEAN and EU:
Challenges, and Opportunities amid a Pandemic of the Oppressed**

**Joel Mark Barredo
Executive Director
SHAPE-SEA**



Strengthening Human Rights and Peace Research Education in ASEAN/Southeast Asia (SHAPE-SEA)



a collaboration program between Mahidol University and SiDA;
initiated by the ASEAN University Network-Human Rights
Education Theme (AUN-HRE) and the Southeast Asian Human
Rights and Peace Studies Network (SEAHRN)



Overall Aim: To contribute to the improvement of the human rights and peace in ASEAN/ Southeast Asia through applied research and education.

It focuses on supporting research on innovative and critical projects on human rights and peace, and in exploring ways in which this knowledge is made accessible to university students throughout ASEAN/SEA **through human rights and peace education.**

Supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) at the University of Oslo.

INTERNALIZING human Rights and democracy



Southeast Asia in a Snapshot: “Unity in Diversity”



Eleven Countries

Mainland/Mekong: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam

Maritime: Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Brunei Darussalam, Timor Leste*

Neighbors: China, Taiwan, India, Australia, US

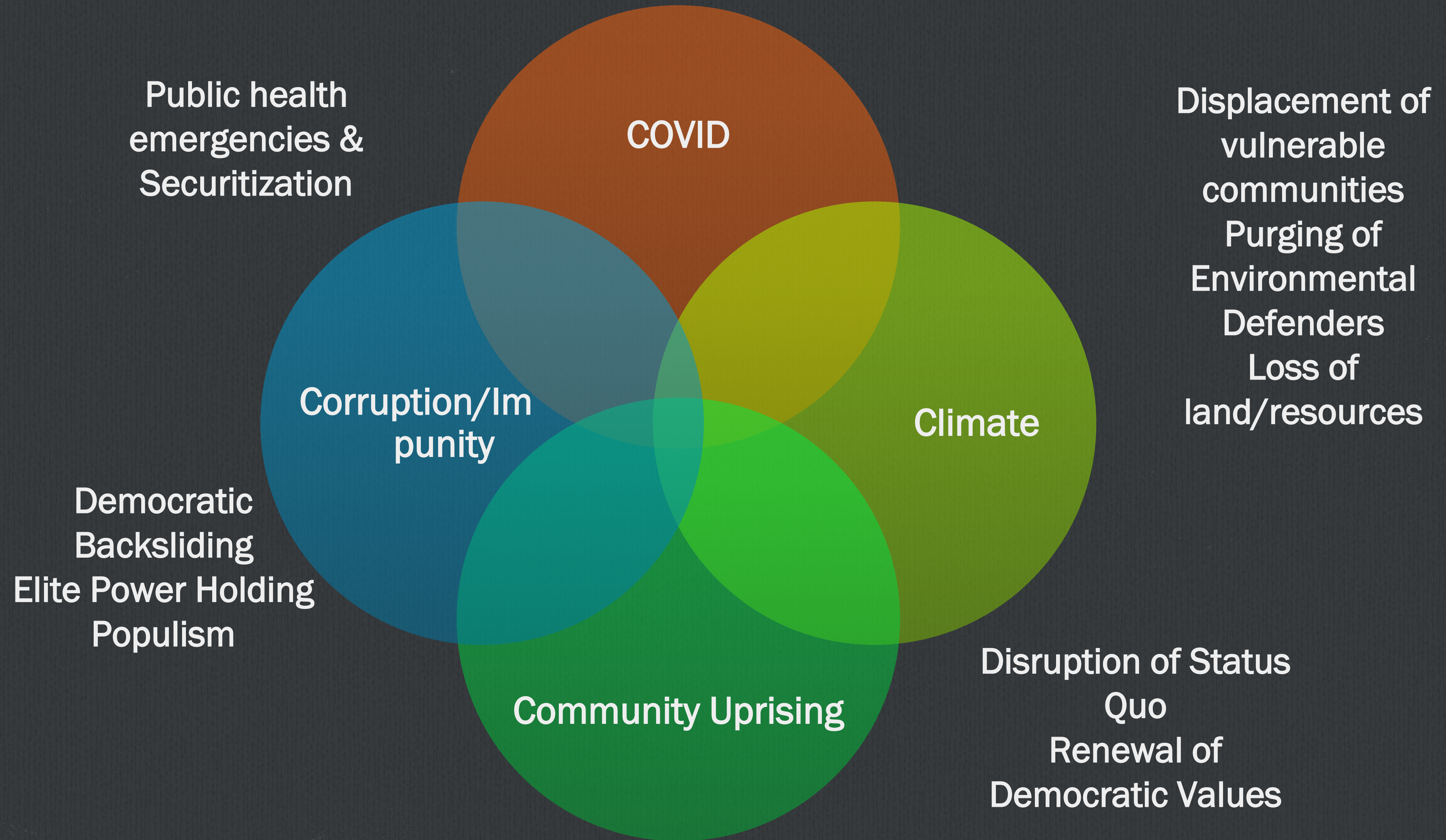
Interesting Facts

Economic Divide: Home to both most developed (Singapore) and least developed countries (Lao PDR, Myanmar); 4th largest economy as a regional body - 800M pax

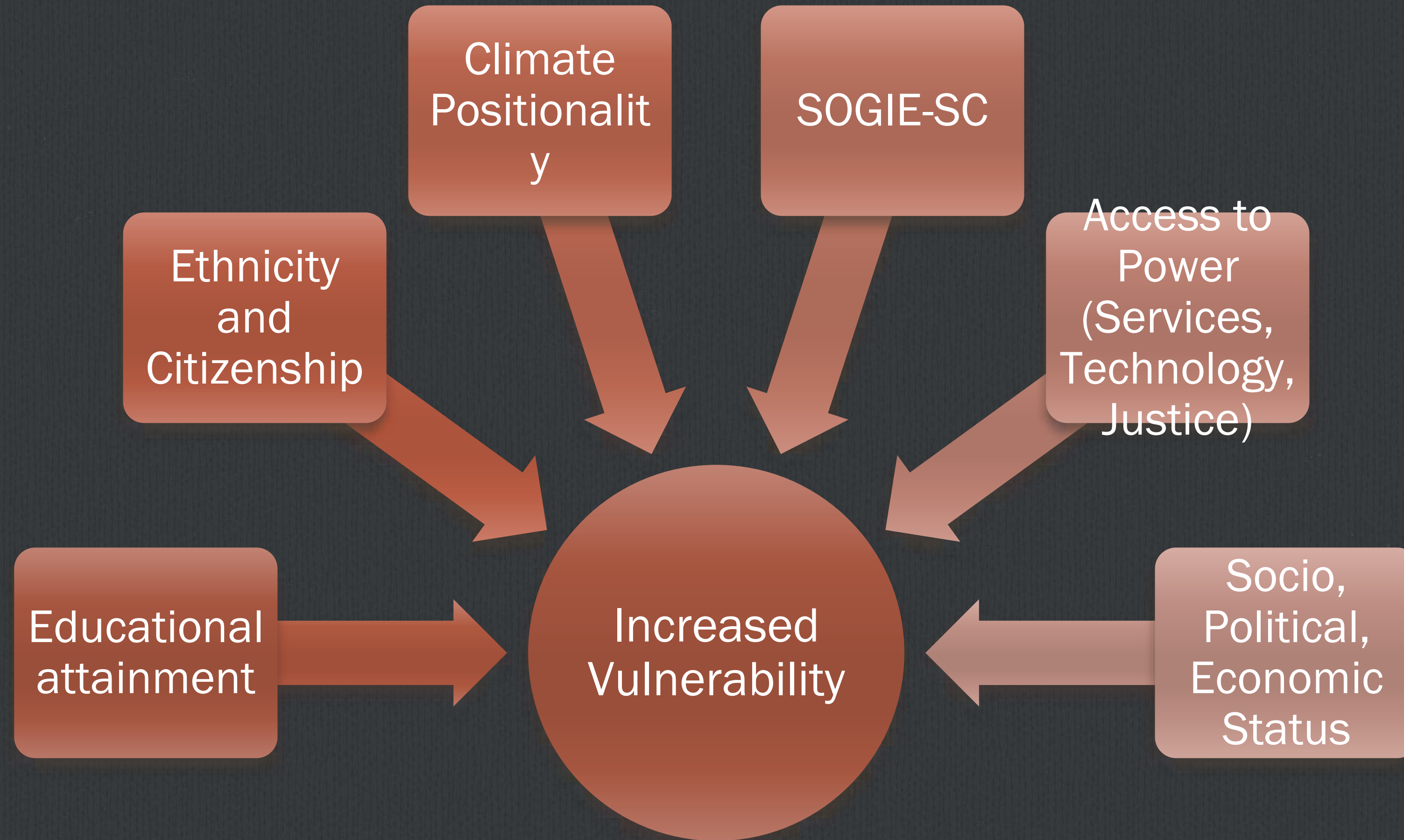
Colonial Past: over five hundred centuries of socio-political, economic occupation: Spain, Portugal, Netherlands, UK, USA, Japan

Asian Values: Community over the individual, Authoritarian legacies, “rice over rights”,

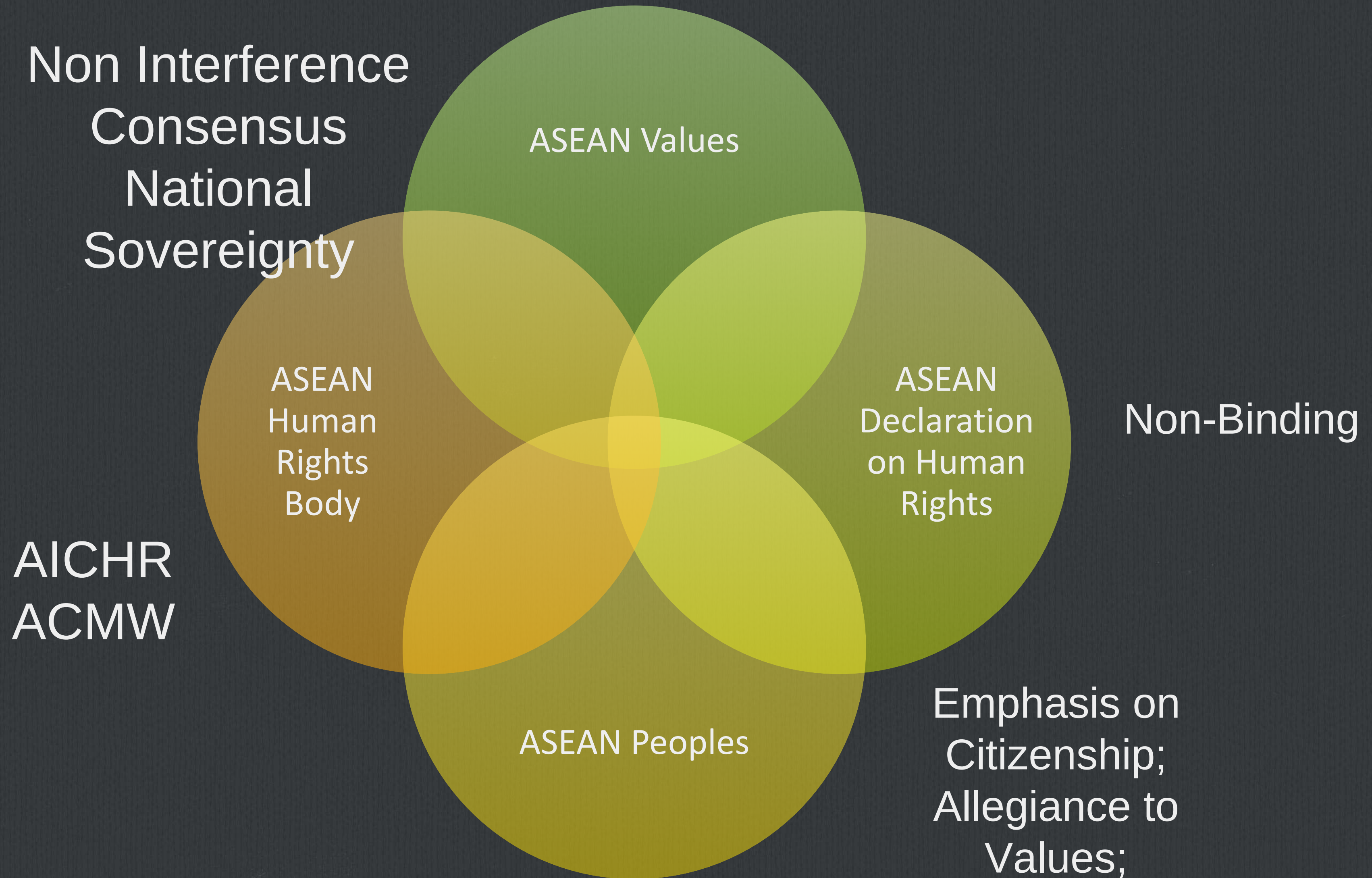
#WhatIsHappeninginSEA



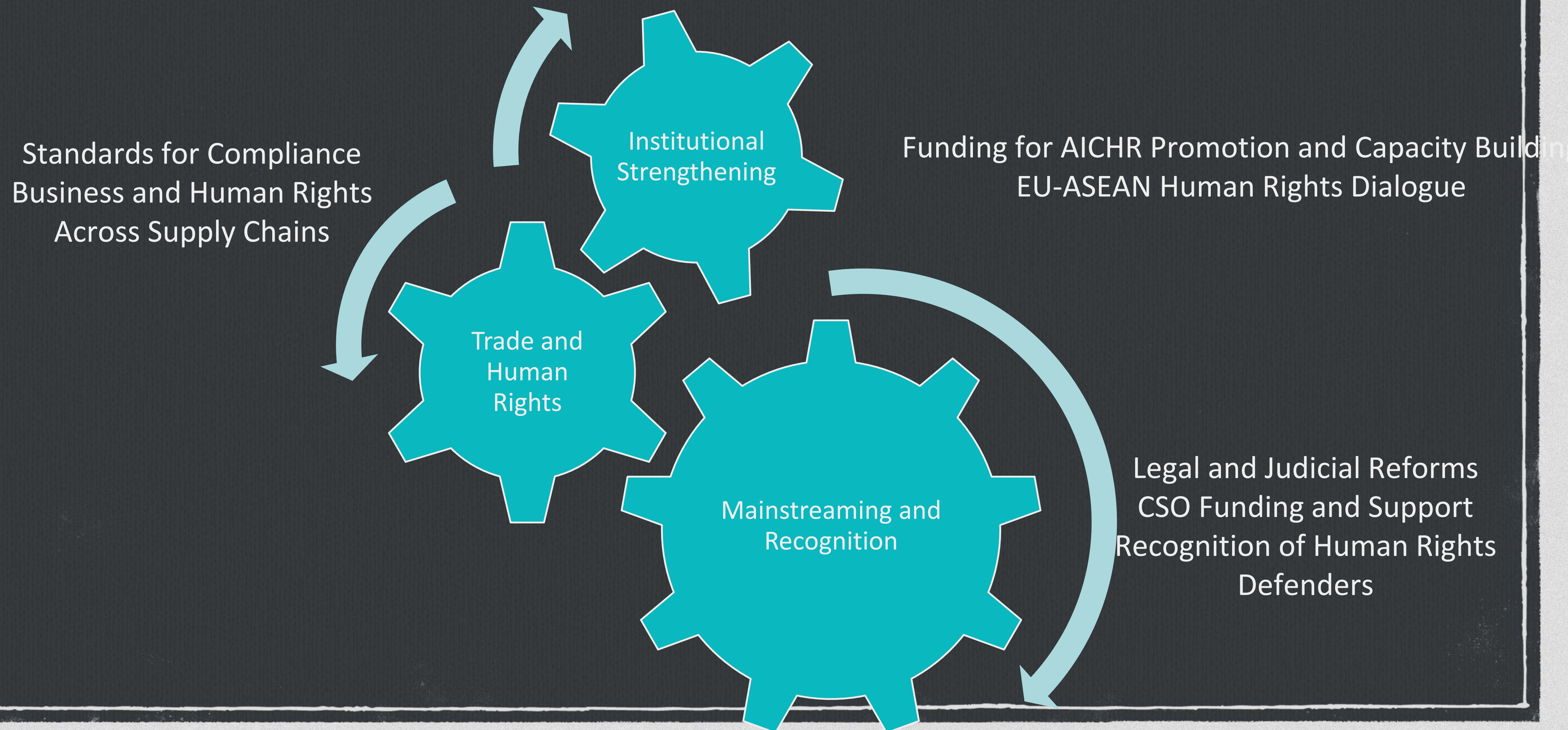
Pandemic of the Oppressed: Protracted Marginalization



ASEAN and Human Rights



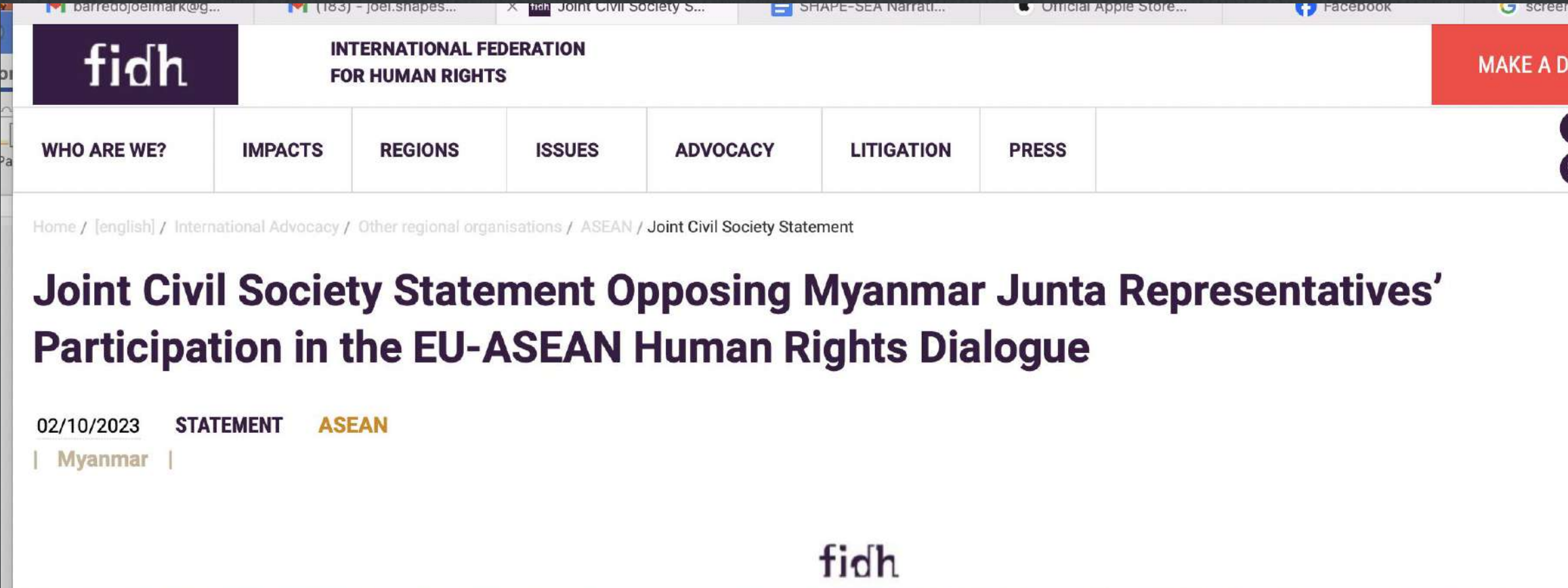
European Union's Positionality and Purpose on ASEAN Human Rights Regime



Too Good to be True?

- North-South Friction: Human Rights Values are perceived as an imposition of the “West”. “legitimizing” localized approaches to social issues by the powerful
- ASEAN’s Principle of Non-Interference: This principle can limit the EU's ability to directly influence human rights policies in individual ASEAN countries.
- Rise of Authoritarianism Protracted Violations: The human rights situations in ASEAN countries are diverse, with some states being more receptive to EU human rights policies than others. This requires the EU to tailor its approach to each country, which can dilute the overall impact.

Of Tokenism and Trouble



Navigating the Maze: Why NGOs Struggle to Access EU Funds

Article Written By Roberto Zanon

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role in addressing societal issues and driving positive change. However, despite their invaluable contributions, many NGOs encounter significant challenges when attempting to access funding from the European Union (EU). What are those main challenges? Here's our opinion.

Eliminating the Pandemic of the Oppressed: Action Points

Track 1: Regional Engagement	Mainstream Human Rights Values and Practices Capacity Building toward Championing Question ASEAN Values
Track 2: Inter Regional-Stakeholder	Ensure Spaces are Safe and Brave Meaningful Engagement in planning, implementation and monitoring Flexible Requirements for Engagements
Track 3: Intra-Stakeholder	Supporting Advocacy Knowledge Production Providing Spaces for Expression and Engagement Flexible Funding for Grassroots Organization

Maraming Salamat and Padayon!

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