

RCAPS Current Research Seminar

**October 24 (Wed) 2nd Period
@RCAPS Conference Room A (B bldg. 2F)**

The Role of Political Leaders in the Institutionalization of ASEAN Plus Three

Most of previous studies have attributed the creation of ASEAN Plus Three (ASEAN+3), which brings together ten Southeast Asian countries, Japan, China, and South Korea, to the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997-98 and an emerged East Asian identity. However, it was political leaders who proposed the concept of East Asia and various initiatives which were said to become ASEAN+3. Existing literature, however, has neglected their influence. This research aims at filling the gaps by examining the roles of political leaders in the institution-building process of ASEAN+3. In doing so, it develops an analytical framework using Foreign Policy Analysis theories and employs process-tracing to elucidate the grouping's formation and institutionalization.



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