

## Abstract

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From the past until now, countries in Southeast Asia have had connection among one another in terms of politics, economy, social and culture. Such good connection or conflicts resulted from internal factors of each individual country and the influence of powerful countries in other regions including belief, value, and political ideal. These kinds of impact also exist in the relation between Thailand and neighboring countries in ASEAN community, and are disclosed for Thai society through variety of media. However, the major role is placed on text books which can be distributed widely and systematically under the core education system. Moreover, text books are written under the authorization of the government responsible in each period. That is to say the selected and categorized contents as well as the writers' attitudes affect the Thai society's perception of ASEAN community under the frame of nationalism to achieve the purpose of creating the affection of the nation and the pride of being Thai. This leads to various perspectives of Thais towards neighboring countries – combatant country such as Myanmar or invader resulting in the prominent persons including those keeping and reestablishing the independence of the nation. Furthermore, the perspectives of being inferior countries such as Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, and Vietnam exist due to the state of being colonized countries in imperial period while Thailand is still independent, and the request for assistance during various crises of these countries including the anti-role of countries in Indochina governed by Communism during cold war era. However, at the end of the political conflict, countries in Southeast Asia are aware of the importance of

regional cooperation. The ASEAN community was, therefore, established in 1967 during cold war by 5 nations and later the member countries doubled for mutual benefits leading to the agreement to become ONE community in 2015. Due to the change of foreign policies, text books provide more knowledge and facts about countries in Southeast Asia including general information about each country and the operation of ASEAN community.