

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**GREEN THEORY:
UNDERSTANDING THE
ENVIRONMENTAL TIES AMONG
ASEAN COUNTRIES**

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ABSTRACT

ASEAN region consist the important part of world as it hold three percent of the world land population and it is for ASEAN as the main regional organization to encourage its members to preserve their environment. The ASEAN region is endowed with rich natural resources that sustain essential life support systems both for the region and the world. Apart from providing water, food and energy, these natural resources play an important role in sustaining a wide range of economic activities and livelihoods. Recognizing the importance of environmental cooperation for sustainable development and regional integration, ASEAN has since 1977 cooperated closely in promoting environmental cooperation among its Member States. ASEAN cooperation on environment is currently guided by the ASCC Blueprint 2025 which envisions ‘an ASEAN Community that engages and benefits the peoples and is inclusive, sustainable, resilient, and dynamic’ (ASEAN, 2017). From all this effort, this study will try to understand further about the ASEAN environmental cooperation and try to understand it from the perspectives of the green political theorist in international relations by examining the strength of environmental cooperation among ASEAN members, analyzing the roles of ASEAN in cultivating the environmental cooperation, reviewing any action taken ASEAN member in order to show their full cooperation and examining any publicized action taken ASEAN member in order to show their commitment to the cooperation.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
EXAMINATION CERTIFICATE	iv
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	v
ABSTRACT	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	viii
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Preamble	1
1.2 Research Background	1
1.3 Problem Statement	4
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Objectives	7
1.6 Scope of the Study	7
1.7 Significance of the Study	8
1.8 Definition of terms	9
CHAPTER TWO: UNDERSTANDING GREEN THEORY	13
2.1 Introduction	13
2.2 Green Theory Perspectives	13
2.3 Environmental Determinism Theory	17
2.4 Green Theory Attributes	19
2.4.1 Ecological Responsibility	19
2.4.2 Social Justice	21
2.4.3 Non-Violence and Grass Root Democracy	22
2.5 Theoretical Framework	24

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble

This chapter provided the background of the study, problem statement, research objectives, research questions, significance of the study, and scope of the study and definition of the terms used in this study. Green theory are referred widely in this study in order to understand the uniqueness of multilateral integration among ASEAN Member States. Green theory is the best theory used in order to understand the important of environmental cooperation in the world and it is used in this study to understand the ASEAN environmental cooperation.

1.2 Background of the Study

Over the last six decades, Malaysia has undergone rapid economic, social and environmental development, this ongoing process still continue until today. In every developing country environment has become the prominent issue to discuss since the development of socio-economic will be accompanied with exploitation of natural resources. In the beginning the founding father of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) comes with the idea of regional integration to fight communisms in the region and when times flies ASEAN developed its missions and visions becomes wider and stronger for the betterment of the members. Nowadays the regional integration in ASEAN has growth and covered vast aspect economic, social and political and treaties on environment is one of the fruition from the strengthen cooperation among the member with the goals to improve the region environmental policies while pursuing for economic, social and political development.

ASEAN comprises of 3 per cent of the total land area of the world with 4, 46 million square kilometer and renowned for its large biological heritage and the famous country that are well-known for their mega biodiversity are Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines which together they represent 80 per cent of global biological diversity (ASEAN, 2017). This shows how important for the region to preserve and protect