



THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION : CONTEMPORARY TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Proceedings of The Second International Conference On International Studies (ICIS) 2008

Edited by
Mohd Azizuddin Mohd Sani,
Abubakar Eby Hara and Shahrudin Hassim

4-6 December 2008
JOINTLY ORGANISED BY
UUM COLLEGE OF LAW, GOVERNMENT AND
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Murdoch
UNIVERSITY

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DIRECTOR'S REMARK

The theme of the second International Conference on International Studies or ICIS (2008) is "The Asia Pacific Region: Contemporary Trends and Challenges". The international environment of the 21st century is beset by a plethora of issues – political, social and economic that states have to deal with. What were once issues with clear boundaries have now become intertwined, giving rise to a multitude of problems. While the traditional political and security issues have always been in the forefront of human concern, now non-traditional issues such as climate change and environmental problems, which are often man made in nature, are of greater concern to states especially for those in the Asia Pacific region.

Globalization is often held responsible for many of these issues. How far this is true is something debatable. Hence, the conference provides an avenue for scholars, policy makers, practitioners and the public to expound such contemporary issues, to highlight the challenges and identify the opportunities available in addressing these issues. This proceeding features all the papers presented during the conference and I believed it has succeeded to unravel research questions as well as provide suggestions to all the above-mentioned issues to be shared by all parties.

I am indebted to Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) Malaysia, Murdoch University, Australia and other sponsors for their generous financial support. Without their help and generosity, this conference would not have been possible. Finally, I would like to acknowledge my profound gratitude to all committee members. Throughout the conference, editing and production of the proceeding, they maintained their good humor and offered exceptional support.

Dr. Ahmad Bashawir Abdul Ghani
Director ICIS 2008
University Utara Malaysia

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