RCEP: Trade in Services and Investment

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China: New superpower seeking economic opportunities. BRI 2012

Bay of Bengal: Emerging economy with high growth

ASEAN: Investors who control RVCs

Japan: Establish international norms and standards

Indian Ocean: US Forward Defense Ring

Global Value Chains (GVCs)

Dynamic Disruptions
Slow Recovery GVCs
The Great Decoupling
Supply Chain Resiliency
Anti-Globalization Security Driven
Friend-Shoring Investment

2049 Chinese Dream of National Rejuvenation
1. Strong China: Economically/ Politically/ Diplomatically/ Science/ Military
2. Civilised China: Equity and Fairness/ Rich Culture/ High Moral
3. Harmonious China: Amity among diverse classes and social segments
4. Beautiful China: Healthy Environment/ Low Pollution/ Attractive Cities/ Innovative/ Arts

Value of trade that continues to expand with ASEAN but contracted with China
Trade value stabilized

USA: The End of American World Order

European Union: Establish international norms and standards

Bay of Bengal: Emerging economy with high growth

USA: The End of American World Order

Indian Ocean: US Forward Defense Ring

Global Value Chains (GVCs)


Geo-Politics
Geo-Economics
Geo-Strategies

1. Free and Open
2. Connected
3. Prosperous
4. Secure
5. Resilient

Biden's Indo-Pacific Strategy
1. Fair & Resilient Trade
2. Supply Chain Resiliency
3. Infrastructure, Clean Energy and Decarbonization
4. Tax and Anti-Corruption

RCEP

29.5%

15.9%

15.2%

18.7%

7%

9%
RCEP: Trade in Services

- Negative List Approach made at least 65% of RCEP countries’ services sector will be fully open, with greater transparency of regulations and measures. (with possible liberalisation on more sectors in future)

- The RCEP Chapter 8 also provides three specific annexes on financial services, telecommunications, and professional services, with commitments and frameworks for enhanced cooperation.

- New market access opportunities have been identified in a variety of sectors, including educational services, health services, computer related services, and other business services, in such countries as China, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

- **This is a good guarantee and a plea to the superpowers outside the region that Member States will still be able to make decisions about their economic activities without being too concerned about security and supply chain resiliency issues.**

- However, negotiations to determine the timing/schedule of the market opening commitments and the establishment of mutual recognition standards and common trade facilities are still urgent to build a strong Regional Value Chain.
RCEP: Trade in Investment

- Greater Areas (Negative List Approach) of Investment Liberalisation
- TRIMs+ (performance requirements on investors as conditions for entering, expanding or operating in RCEP countries are prohibited)
- These 2 factors will attract investment flows into the region, especially into ASEAN member countries, amidst trade war and the great decoupling situation.

- Further negotiation on ISDS to ensure greater security and assurance for investor is in needed.
Dr. Piti Srisangnam holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Melbourne (Australia), and an M.A. degree in International Economics and Finance from Chulalongkorn University (Thailand). He has been teaching International Economics and Microeconomics for bachelor and master degree students at Chulalongkorn University since 2002.

- 2019 Royal Thai Government Scholarships Award: Rising Star
- 2021 Peking University Dongfang Scholarships
- He has been Deputy Director for Academic Affairs of the Centre for European Studies from 2010 to 2012 and Deputy Director for Academic Affairs on the ASEAN Studies Center in 2012, both at Chulalongkorn University, before he became Director of the Center in 2013.
- He has published several papers in journals, e.g. on the economic development in Southeast Asia, on trade in services among ASEAN member states, on regional economic integration of ASEAN and of the European Union, and on the economic reform and SME development in Thailand.
- Apart from academic works, he also hosts 3 radio programs related to current issues in ASEAN.