

### **Call for Papers**

Editorial deadline: 29.02.2016

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### **Thematical focus: Refugees**

Hardly another topic has provoked similar media coverage in the past few months. Also most controversial social and political debate has arisen over it, not only in Germany, all around the globe. According to the *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees* (UNHCR) more than 60 million people are currently forced to flee their homes, the highest number ever reported by the UNHCR.

The people are searching for a better place to live because of the severe social, economic and political conditions in their home countries. Though, most states refrain from openly welcoming refugees. The probably most noted case from Southeast Asia in this context might have been the mass exodus of Rohingya from Myanmar through the Andaman Sea. For weeks, boats with more than thousand refugees of the endangered ethnic group were floating near the coastlines of Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, but at first restricted from landing. Only under international pressure and financial promise (from Qatar), Malaysia and Indonesia granted asylum for the displaced. However, the basis of those pledges was only meant temporarily.

Another example from Southeast Asia clearly reveals the absurdity of international refugee policy: In 2014 the Australian government concluded an agreement with Cambodia, which provided that rejected asylum seekers from Australia are deported to Cambodia.

Such and similar cases will be thematically focused in *südostasien 2/2016*. But we are explicitly looking for articles which display less prominent incidents throughout the region as well. Furthermore, we would like to narrow the broad topic with the following central questions and emphases:

#### **1) Reasons for becoming refugees / Situation of refugees**

In which countries throughout Southeast Asia are people currently forced to flee of misery, fear or political oppression (e.g. for ethnic persecution – the Rohingya in Myanmar, the Hmong in Laos or the Montagnards in Vietnam etc. – and political persecution, cf. incident of lese majeste in Thailand)? What do refugees experience when they flee their homes, especially during their flight? Do refugees return after reasons for flight have vanished (if not, why they refrain to return)? What is the situation of refugees at their new places of living?

#### **2) Refugee policy**

What's the content/What are the specific details of immigration laws of host countries (in Southeast Asia and neighboring countries of the region)? How refugees are treated in neighboring countries – keywords: welcome culture, refugee camps, work and educational perspectives, exploitation, rights, asylum legislation, borders

### 3) Refugee aid

Introduction of refugee initiatives in Southeast Asia

Articles should be 1 page (up to 3,800 characters including spaces), 2 pages (up to 6,900 characters including spaces) or 3 pages (up to 11,000 characters including spaces) and, if possible, should include commented photographs (please clarify copyright issues before handing in articles) as well as short self introductions of the authors. Please do not use any text formatting. Authors from Southeast Asia are most welcome. Please submit articles by **29th February 2016**.