

Call for Papers

**G20 INDONESIAN PRESIDENCY:
Global and National Meanings, Challenges and Perspectives**

A panel in the conference "THE RISE OF ASIA IN GLOBAL HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVE: Covid-19 from Asia to the world: what assessment and what perspective for a common future?" organised by the University Le Havre Normandy, France, February 9-11, 2022

The roundtable is open to individual and group paper presentations. Those willing to present their papers are invited to submit online their 200-300 word abstracts until December 31, 2021. The introduction and the guidelines to submit proposal are available online at <https://bandungspirit.org/>

The year 2022 marks an important milestone for Indonesia's role in the Group of 20 (G20). For the first time ever, Indonesia will act as the group's president, set the core issues, and host a series of ministerial meetings, culminating in the Head of States' summit towards the end of 2022. Against the backdrop of a (post) pandemic world, Indonesia adopts the theme *Recover Together, Recover Stronger* and introduces three priority areas: global health architecture, digital transformation, and sustainable energy transition.¹

Historically, the G20 was created – and later expanded – in response to global economic crises, demonstrating its strong ties and capabilities to navigate multiple crises.² However, during the Covid-19 crisis, G20 was criticised for lack of response and failure to take a prominent role in overcoming it.³ The G20 countries – for example – were accused of lacking the ability to include private creditors to take part in the debt suspension of lower-income countries.⁴ As a group of countries that covers 60% of the world population, 75% of global exports and more than 80% of global GDP,⁵ G20 is largely influential and holds tremendous power to shape global outcomes and yet, is also often criticised as being exclusive, lacking transparency and accountability to the general public.^{6 7}

Observing these criticisms, Indonesia's presidency is expected to be challenging, both for the group of nations and Indonesia. For G20, it will test the group's relevance and capabilities to handle the recovery process following Covid-19. Of main importance is how G20 will play a crucial role in the global health architecture and whether it will continue to do so. For Indonesia, its central role in G20 will be a litmus test on its global outlook, particularly

1 Ministry of Communication and Informatics of the Republic of Indonesia, "G20 Pres. Indones."

2 Kirton, John, *G20 Governance for a Globalized World*.

3 Bernes, "Covid-19: The Failure of G20."

4 Jain, "Fault Lines at the G20."

5 Ministry of Communication and Informatics of the Republic of Indonesia, "G20 Pres. Indones."

6 Hermawan, "Legitimasi, Efektivitas Dan Akuntabilitas G-20 Sebagai Klub Eksklusif Dalam Pembentukan Tata Kelola Ekonomi Global."

7 Soren and Schwab, "Towards a More Accountable G20? Accountability Mechanisms of the G20 and the New Challenges Posed to Them by the 2030 Agenda."

considering that since President Joko Widodo's era, Indonesia tends to have a more inward-looking foreign policy, although this seems to have shifted following the pandemic.⁸

As a developing country and member of the Global South, Indonesia is expected to represent the interests of developing and least-developed economies in the global arena, particularly regarding economic recovery and global health governance. Indonesia has a strategic role due to its position as a middle power country and bridge-builder for several core economic issues.⁹ Currently, Indonesia is also the co-chair of the COVAX Facility Advanced Market Commitment Engagement Group (AMC-EG), which seeks to ensure equitable vaccine access globally. Thus, it is worth observing whether Indonesia's leadership role in G20 can bring about changes within the group and whether it has an effect on global governance as a whole.

Building on this background, this panel seeks to elaborate on Indonesia's G20 presidency and invite original articles addressing questions such as:

- MEANINGS

- *What does Indonesia's presidency mean for G7, E7, G20, developing countries, the world in general and in global economic architecture in particular?*
- *In what sense the G20 Indonesian presidency a rupture and/or a continuity of Bandung Spirit-based movements of states and/or civil society?*
- *May the G20 Indonesian presidency be perceived as a hope or a threat for the empowerment of developing and least developed world?*

- CHALLENGES

- *What challenges to be faced by Indonesia according to different global geopolitical actors: North, South, Western alliance, China, Russia, ASEAN...*
- *Does a post-pandemic world create more challenges or opportunities for Indonesia's G20 presidency?*
- *How are these challenges and/or opportunities different from previous G20 presidencies?*

- PERSPECTIVES

- *What risks and what opportunities of the G20 Indonesian presidency for a global future?*
- *What strategies to be taken by Indonesia to ensure that G20 contributes to creating a more stable, resilient, equitable, sustainable, inclusive, and better global economy for all?*
- *Will Indonesia's G20 presidency alter the role and conceptions of developing economies, the global south, middle powers, and/or (Southeast) Asian countries in general?*

Panel Conveners:

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⁸ Suoneto, "How Does Jokowi See Indonesia in the Post-Pandemic World?"

⁹ Karim, "When Trade and Foreign Policy Collide: Indonesia in Doha Development Round."