

About the Authors

JONAS BAGAS

Jonas Bagas is the National Coordinator of AKBAYAN, the youth wing of the partylist group AKBAYAN Citizen's Action Party. He obtained his bachelor's degree in Political Science in the University of the Philippines in Diliman in 1998 and was active in organizations both inside and outside of the university. He is the Asia-Pacific Vice-President of International Union of Socialist Youth, a movement of socialist, social democratic, and labor youth groups worldwide. He is also the co-Secretary General of the Lesbian and Gay Legislative Advocacy Network (LAGABLAB), a Philippine-based lobby network of lesbian and gay activist groups and individuals.

JOANNE BARRIGA

Joanne Carmela Barriga works as project coordinator of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Philippine Office. She completed Master of Arts in International Studies at Miriam College where she also obtained undergraduate degree in International Studies in 2000. Her exposure to research and advocacy includes internships at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Center for Migration and Health (ICMH) in Geneva, Switzerland, and as project assistant to the Women And Gender Institute (WAGI). She also taught at the International Studies Department of Miriam College.

RUHAN SHAHRIR BIN ABDUL HALIM

Ruhan Shahrir bin Abdul Halim, also called by his shorter name "Koy," is active in several organizing efforts among university students and young people. He was involved in coordinating the Young People's Forum where students discuss and debate on issues, and helped set up the Universiti Bangsar Utama (UBU) Students and Community Centre and the new group called PRODEM (Progressive Democratic Youth Movement) in Malaysia. Koy was also involved in developing programs for the urban poor sector, such as the Free Education Program for urban poor children, and in using street theatre for consciousness-raising activities among young people and students. He was the Project Coordinator for the National Dialogue of Informal Economic Sector and received the United Nations Development Programme – The Urban Governance Initiative (UNDP-TUGI) Young Leadership Award for this. Koy was also a researcher on Ethnic Conflict and Civil Society at the Asia-Europe Institute of the University of Malaya. His experience with TV3 Malaysia Berhad, Radio 68H, Radioradio.com and as a freelance Assistant TV/Film Director highlights his interest and background in media work.

AUGUSTUS CERDEÑA

Augustus Cerdeña works with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Philippine Office, since 2002, as Assistant Programme Coordinator. Previously, he has worked for a number years as a development worker in urban poor communities, as trainer-facilitator on progressive politics, gender sensitivity sessions for men, adolescent reproductive health and sexuality and early childhood care and development programs. Briefly, he was also resource person for the training program of gender focal points among the legislative staff in the Philippine House of Representatives and worked as project officer in the Asia-Pacific regional secretariat of women in politics. He studied political science at the University of the Philippines-Diliman.

SARA FRANZ

Sara Franz was intern at the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Philippine Office from September 2004 until February 2005. Her previous internships include Berliner Festspiele, Landesverband of the Social Democratic Party in Berlin, Youth Organisation of the Social Democratic Party Berlin and JazzRadio und Verlag GmbH. She is currently completing her studies at the University of Applied Sciences for Engineering and Economy (FHTW) and at the University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and Legal Affairs (FHVR) in Berlin, Germany.

KIM ENG YONG

Kim Eng Yong is the President of the Khmer Youth Association (KYA) since 1994. He is also a Trainer for the Cambodian Committee for Free and Fair Elections (COMFREL), where he also worked as the Chief of the Network Group and a member of the Board of Directors before. Kim Eng Yong was member of the Board of Directors of the Youth for Peace and the Open Forum of Cambodia. Kim Eng Yong attended the Regional Pedagogical School of Battambang, finished his Bachelor of Arts at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and obtained his Diploma at the Royal School of Administration (ERA) in Cambodia.

ANJA KÖHLER

Anja Köhler is Southeast Asian Scientist. She studied at the University of Bonn, Germany, and the State University of Malang, Indonesia, and graduated from the University of Bonn in 2004. After graduation she first worked at the Center for Development Research in Bonn before she started to work for the Regional Gender Project Southeast Asia of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in 2005.

BEATE MARTIN

Beate Martin is currently the Resident Representative of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in Manila, Philippines. She joined FES in 1988, serving as a project assistant for the FES in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Then she became a project director in the FES New Delhi office from 1991 to 1995. From 1995 until 1998, she was posted in the headquarters of FES in Bonn to work in the Latin America Department in charge of FES offices in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. In the year 1998, she was assigned to be the Resident Representative of FES office in Montevideo, Uruguay until 2000. From 2000 until 2002, she joined the *Training Centre for Regional Integration* (CEFIR) as a program coordinator based in Montevideo, Uruguay. By the end of 2002, she was transferred to Asia again to work as Resident Representative for the FES in Manila, Philippines. She is also in charge of the FES Regional Gender Project in Southeast Asia. Beate Martin holds a degree in Sociology from the Free University of Berlin. She participated in the Postgraduate Course of the German Development Institute.

HASOLOAN PAHALA MARTIN YUDI MANURUNG

Martin Manurung is the Deputy Secretary General of Pergerakan Indonesia (Indonesia Movement) and a Senior Associate of PT Intermatrix Communications, a public relations consultancy firm. He is and was involved in various political, social and youth movements aside from the Pergerakan Indonesia, like the Indonesian-Chinese Association (Perhimpunan Indonesia-Tionghoa), the *Forum Indonesia Damai* (FID, *Indonesian Peace Forum*) — an organization that promotes peaceful resolution to conflicts, the *Warga Peduli* (Council of Concerned Citizens), the Christian Students Solidarity for Indonesian Reform, among others. As a student, Martin was active in the University of Indonesia's student movement (KBUI), which was at the forefront of the Reform Movement ("Reformasi") in 1998.

METHA MATKHAO

Metha Matkhao was formerly the secretary-general of the Student Federation of Thailand in 2001. He has been working with the Campaign for Popular Democracy (CPD) since 2003 and is currently the Program Coordinator of Thai Working Group on Human Rights Defenders (HRD-TH). He is also the Chairperson of the Young People for Democracy Coordination Center (YDCC).

YANUAR NUGROHO

Yanuar Nugroho is currently taking up his Ph.D. studies at the PREST (Policy Research in Engineering, Science & Technology) at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. He is also the Director of The Business Watch Indonesia/BWI, the Secretary General of the Uni Sosial Demokrat Jakarta and a guest lecturer at several universities in Indonesia. He was formally trained as Industrial Engineer from the Institute of Technology Bandung (ITB) in Bandung, Indonesia and obtained his Master of Science on Information Systems Engineering at the University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology (UMIST). Yanuar Nugroho is a prolific writer and has published various books and articles that cover a wide range of themes—from topics like information technology and development, democratization of market power, and the social responsibility of businesses sector to those on democracy, globalization and neo-liberalization and electoral politics.

SIWAWONG SOOKTAWEE

Siwawong Sooktawee is currently the Officer for the Campaign for Popular Media Reform (CPMR) where he is also Editor in Chief of the Hydepark Magazine and Coordinator of the Community Radio Supporting Project. He completed his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, majoring in International Relations, at the Ramkhamheang University, Thailand. He also has a Diploma in Electronic Research and Publishing from the Journalism and Mass Communication Department of the University of Stockholm, Sweden. In 1998-2000, Siwawong Sooktawee worked in the Thai Volunteer Service Foundation (TVS) where he was in charge of the Political and Media Reform Project. Until 2004, he was the Officer of the Campaign for Popular Democracy (CPD) in Thailand.

ADELINE M. TUMENGGUNG

Adeline M. Tumenggung is a writer, a journalist, and a filmmaker. She is the founder of MINIMA Media Center for Public Education. Before setting up MINIMA, she worked as a journalist for ANGKASA Aviation-Aerospace Magazine. She was also the Information and Media Officer of the Democratic Social Union - Jakarta. Adeline has produced several films and news documentaries. Among those she produced through MINIMA are “Democracy: the Art of Living Together” (educational documentary on democracy in a pluralistic country such as Indonesia, MINIMA & Friedrich Ebert Stiftung), January 2005, “Vote for Your Life” (news documentary on the general elections in Aceh), 2004, “Children of War” (a short documentary on children’s involvement in armed conflicts in Aceh), 2004,

“Anywhere but Fear” (on the Aceh Martial Law), 2004, “Weaving Democracy, Fighting Corruption” (on the Larantuka East Nusa Tenggara case), 2004, “People’s Wheel” (documentary on becak drivers of Jakarta), 2002, and “Killing the Days” (a documentary on a forced eviction case in Jakarta), 2002. The last was nominated as best documentary in the 2003 Jakarta International Film Festival. She wrote a book *Laba-Laba Media: Hidup dalam Galaksi Informasi Manuel Castells* (The Media Spider: Life in Manuel Castells’ Information Galaxy, LSPP) 2005. Adeline also writes for opinion pages in some publications as well as short stories and poetry in Indonesian newspapers and magazines.

DJORINA VELASCO

Djorina Velasco currently heads the Democracy Watch Department of the Manila-based Institute for Popular Democracy (IPD), a political research and advocacy organization. Djorina has been working as a Research Associate at the IPD since 1999 and, before that time, worked as Project Assistant in the Philippine Office of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) and as Youth Coordinator for Amnesty International Pilipinas. She obtained her Master of Arts degree in Sociology from the Ateneo de Manila University.