ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM:
THE 'ASEAN WAY' STALLING ITS PROCESS?

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ABSTRACT

In a small attempt, this paper sought to assess the impact of the 'ASEAN Way' on the ARF process. Much had been written on the ARF process but there has been little academic discourse on the impact of socialization within the confine of the 'ASEAN Way' on the ARF process. In a nutshell, the 'ASEAN Way' promotes socialization among the ARF participants. In the course of implementing the various confidence building measures, the comfort level among the ARF participants have increased and this has to a certain extent raised the level of transparency and thereby diffuse suspicions. With an increase comfort level, the cooperative behaviour of the participants helps to mitigate the security uncertainties in the Asia Pacific region.
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