

## THE FRINGE, MARGINS AND MARGINALITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

**Marie Aberdam**, PhD Candidate in History, University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (marie.aberdam@hotmail.fr)

**Téphanie Sieng**, PhD Candidate in Geography, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilisations  
(tephanie.sieng@inalco.fr)

Southeast Asian societies are being subjected to economic development processes which are as rapid as they are unbalanced (Vienne: 1998). The entry into an increasingly globalized world and the rise of market liberalism is bringing about a dual phenomenon: the weakening of some crucial areas and the emergence of new supranational political limits to sovereignty (Grasland & Van Hamme: 2010). The traditional functions ascribed to the concept of “margins” are being transformed or transferred to broader scales (Goldblum & Franck: 2007). Hence, they have become more complex and can only be understood from a multifunctional, multi-level perspective (Grasland: 2012). The structure of territorial hierarchies thus calls for a reanalysis of the power balances which split the political landscape in Southeast Asia into centres and fringes. The decentralisation of state power has thus long been at the heart of governance practices, to the point of challenging the palace centres and the integrity of national territories (Bourderie: 2005). The elite networks which direct the economic and political processes have used exclusive association systems (Mietzner: 2013), and the social and territorial marginalisations stemming therefrom can be considered. As interface logic lies at the heart of the strategic positioning of Asian economies, how do these fringes engage in the global dynamics, thanks to - or because of - the "frontier effect" they are facing. The panel seeks contributions about margins and marginalities from a transdisciplinary perspective focusing on the issues of territorial, social and cultural "frontier effects" in Southeast Asian societies.

**Keywords:** Margins, marginal, outsiders, marginalisation, frontier, border, global, networks, societies.

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