

# Cambridge Elements

Elements in Politics and Society in Southeast Asia

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## MEDIA AND POWER IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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## Media and Power in Southeast Asia

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**Abstract:** This study of Southeast Asian media and politics explores issues of global relevance pertaining to journalism's relationship with political power. It argues that the development of free, independent, and plural media has been complicated by trends towards commercialisation, digital platforms, and identity-based politics. These forces interact with state power in complex ways, opening up political space and pluralising discourse, but without necessarily producing structural change. The Element has sections on the democratic transitions of Indonesia, Myanmar and Malaysia; authoritarian resilience in Singapore; media ownership patterns in non-communist Southeast Asia; intolerance in Indonesia and Myanmar; and digital disruptions in Vietnam and Malaysia.

**Keywords:** news media, journalism, political communication, politics, Internet

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