

Today waterways. in addition, the landlocked yunna

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Today China and US play as the most influential and powerful role in the world. The US standing as the world leading icon since 1890 according to its economic productivity and military power. On the other hand, China, since its economic reforms in 1978, also emerges as a one of superpower countries. In 2000s, the rapid growth of Chinese economy enhances its political power within the global arena.

During the last quarter of the twentieth century, most Asian developing countries have the experiences of transformations in political and economic sectors. The rapid growth of Chinese economic power affected on the politics and economy of these developing countries, especially Southeast Asia countries. Meanwhile, the world leading power, the U. S emerged to balance Chinese power in Asia and Southeast Asia. The Southeast Asia countries have intended to expand its economic and political reforms through the power balance of the world powers, the U. S and China.

This paper will explain about the role of Southeast Asian countries between the China and U. S, how can the power balance of these two economic effects on the regional economic and political sectors. 2. The importance of The Southeast Asia Region The Southeast Asian countries, playing as the vital role, were colonized by European countries since 17th centuries because its maritime access between Western and Eastern world, and rich in natural resource. After the World War II, the maritime route of the Southeast Asian countries plays the most important role in the expansion of the world trade. Therefore, their roles became transformation into economic hub. 1 The location of Southeast Asia countries create to play a pivotal among the

internationaleconomic rivalry. Myanmar, Laos andVietnam can connect China through not only the Asian Highways but also inlandwaterways.

In addition, the landlocked Yunna of China can connect to the IndianOcean through the west costal exist in Myanmar. The SoutheastAsia contries' strategic location and rich in natural resources create thedesire for this China and the U. S. 3. China's concerns about the SoutheastAsia Region Since 1970s, DengXiaoping's open door policy introduced a market-oriented economic system to reform the China economy. The construction of Special Economic Zones alongChina's southern coastline to increase foreign trade is the first step of itsnewly economic policy. 2After that, China opened its economic investment around the world throughinternational trade. In order to gain Chinese economic policygoals, the Southeast Asian countries play as a crucial role for China.

As thelarge portion of oil imports are from Africa and West Asia through the IndianOcean, Southeast Asian countries are the main ports for China to meet theenergy security of its large populaion. Among the Southeast Asian countries, Myanmar is the only shortcut to the Indian Ocean through Yunan. ThroughKyaukphyu deep sea port, China could not only import oil and gas for its energy needs but also export its goods tothe west Asia and the middle east countires. 3 Through the connectons of ASEAN countriessuch as ASEAN Free Trade Area and Greater Maekong Subregions, China could meetboosts in domestic and international investment as its cheap goods can exportto Myanmar, Laos and Thailand.

The development of investment and trade between the Southeast Asian developing countries and China mutually benefited to their social and economic stabilities. 4 To engage the economic cooperations between China and ASEAN, the two parties signed the agreement to establish the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) on 1 January 2010. 5 Now a day, soft power plays an important role in international relations.

China gained international attentions by its soft power, “economy”. Today, China can stand on the list of world largest economy. According to the IMF data, China’s economy increase by 6% in 2016 while the U. S is 1.6%.

China has overcome United States and rated on the top of economic in International Monetary Fund based on purchasing power parity (PPP) of GDP indicator. It is the world’s second largest economy by normal GDP according of 2016 data. As China is now gain as world’s second largest economy, some also thought that BRIC Countries – Brazil, Russia, India and China will dominant the world in the future.

4. U. S’s concern about the Southeast Asia Region Since the end of the Cold War, the United State has stand standing as sole superpower. After the power expansion to middle east, though the U. S has met financial difficulties and that leads to decline in domestic economy, it still line in world largest economies.

US economy is still the foundation for the global financial system.

Development and possession of nuclear weapon can be also count on as a military power in this era. It has 11 aircrafts carriers and covered from two

ocean and two friendly neighbours Canada and Mexico. US spend 36% of world's military expenditure.

The world's military expenditure is estimate 1686 billion in 2016 (SIPRI Fact Sheet, 2017).