



EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA
BELGRADE, REPUBLIC
OF SERBIA

my.Belgrade
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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**BELGRADE
INTERNATIONAL
TOURISM FAIR 2020**

Malaysia's tourism was presented through the collaboration with Turkish Airlines and the Turisticki Svet Magazine

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**VISIT BY THE BELGRADE
LAW FACULTY
STUDENTS FORUM**

The Embassy's yearly held Open Day aims to provide an avenue in learning more about Malaysia to its participants

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**CONTRIBUTION TO THE
SERBIAN SEPAKTAKRAW
FEDERATION**

Part of the Embassy's effort to promote this popular South East Asian sport in the Balkan region



MALAYSIA BEATS BRUTAL COVID-19 EXPECTATIONS

Sourced from: East Asia Forum

As part of the preventive measures in response to the outbreak of COVID-19, Malaysia has implemented the Movement Control Order (MCO) on 18 March 2020.

Other measures taken in the scope of the Government's strategic and well-coordinated response included extensive contact tracing, full sample population testing, strict

implementation of social distancing, pragmatic and humane approach to foreign nationals, as well as close coordination with Malaysia's ASEAN partners and civil society.

Thanks to relentless effort by the frontliners and cooperation of its citizens, Malaysia managed to stay on track, not just to flatten the curve, but to defeat COVID-19 entirely.



WINNERS FOR THE "MALAYSIA: LAND OF MEMORIES" PHOTO COMPETITION

The winners of the photography competition were announced in June 2020. Opened to Serbians who had travelled to Malaysia last year, the Embassy received many interesting

photos capturing the beauty of Malaysia - from its unique culture, delectable cuisines to the warmest of its people. Congratulations to all the winners!

FOREWORD



“A good half of the art of living is resilience.” – Alain de Botton

The COVID-19 pandemic shook us up with the realisation of how things can change instantaneously. We, as collective and as individuals, were forced to slow down and look at things differently. If we care enough to have an honest reflection on what we could learnt from this “long-haulers”, we would derive that:

Our health is the most precious thing, yet one of the most fragile

Good health is the real wealth. Every part of our life relies on us having good health. While modernity brings with it abundance of advantages, the contemporary lifestyle also puts our health under constant threat. To recall, as the saying goes “You don’t know what you’ve got ’til it’s gone”.

Conscious living

Many would attest that most of us have been jolted out of our “autopilot mode” during this pandemic. As humans, we have the tendencies to do things because they were part of the routine, trend or simply because it was what everyone was doing. I believe that now would be the right time for us to reflect, reassess and determine the things that are of importance to us. Moving forward, we should also recognize the imperative need to transition to a world of selflessness.

Making the most of our circumstances

Not being able to move freely like we used to, limitations in

gathering and many imposed restrictions can be very unpleasant or even dreadful to some. Nonetheless, life has to go on. We can either choose to defy the situations or instead, begin to embrace this new world that we are living in. The fact remains that life must move on and we should seek new opportunities in the existing circumstances, be it in consuming, connecting or collaborating.

(On the side note, undeterred by the current situation, we had our first ever photo exhibition in a digital form. Please refer to page 10 for viewing.)

While things are not completely back to normal and COVID-19 is still very much a looming threat worldwide, with our collective efforts towards the greater good for all, we will emerge stronger and better in the post corona world. It might have been a time of distress, but also a time of profound meaning.

To our Serbian friends and partners, *Ambasada želi da uputi izraze najdublje zahvalnosti svima za pomoć i podršku koja nam je pružena, bilo neposredno ili posredno, u ovim teškim vremenima...*

Stay well and stay safe.

Nik Ady Arman Nik Mohd Kamil
Chargé d’Affaires





BELGRADE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM FAIR 2020

Collaborating with its two long term partners, the Embassy promoted Malaysia's diverse tourism offers during this year's International Tourism Fair in Belgrade.

For the 42nd Belgrade International Tourism Fair, the Embassy of Malaysia in Belgrade collaborated with the Turkish Airlines and Turisticki Svet, in promoting Malaysia as a favoured destination in view of the initially planned Visit Malaysia Year 2020.

As part of its destinations promotion for 2020, Turkish Airlines chose Malaysia as the destination for its lucky winners, while Turisticki Svet featured the best of Malaysia as a tourist destination at its booth and in its summer edition magazine.





VISIT BY THE BELGRADE LAW STUDENTS FORUM

For the Embassy of Malaysia in Belgrade's Open Day 2020, the Embassy welcomed the Law Students Forum of University of Belgrade. The Open Day is a platform to nurture the younger generation, as "future leaders", to the aspects of foreign relations between Malaysia and Serbia.

Members of the Law Students Forum of the University of Belgrade visited the Embassy of Malaysia on 27 February 2020 where they were hosted by the Chargé d' Affaires.

During the visit, the students were given a briefing by the Chargé d' Affaires on Malaysia, its history, culture, political, economic, legal structure and bilateral relations between Malaysia and Serbia. The students also showed deep interest on a number of issues on Malaysia during the interactive Q&A session.

The students were then given a tour of the Embassy as to provide an overview on the daily operations of an Embassy.



Highlights

"I believe our visit today has been very insightful. It has also provided us with a better understanding of Malaysia - its economic, political and social aspects. We would like to thank the Embassy of Malaysia for this rare opportunity and its hospitality and hope that more of such engagements could be held in the future."

*Aleksić Aleksa
Member of the
Law Students Forum*





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- Not older than 22 years of age on the date of admission
- Low household income
- Single marital status

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- Information Technology
- Co-Curriculum and Leadership
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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR FOUNDATION STUDIES (CFS)

The Centre for Foundation Studies offers a one-year pre-university programme that enriches students with quality education that imparts the cutting-edge knowledge, skills, and attitudes to undertake undergraduate studies in an international learning and teaching environment. Issues of leadership, social responsibility, scholarship, community involvement, ethical values and professionalism are also incorporated into the Centre's various courses, as well as their approach and delivery. In addition, the Centre has established an educational environment where students can broaden their worldview, develop the love for learning, and inculcate the 5As Core Values of Adab, Akhlak, Aqidah, Amanah and Amalan, in line with the Philosophy, Vision and Mission of AIU.

The one-year Foundation Studies is exclusive for AIU Undergraduate

FURTHER ENQUIRIES:

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Albukhary International University
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MALAYSIA BEATS BRUTAL COVID-19 EXPECTATIONS

As part of the preventive measures in response to the outbreak of COVID-19, Malaysia has implemented the Movement Control Order (MCO) on 18 March 2020. Together with other measures taken by the Government, relentless effort by the frontliners and cooperation of its citizens, Malaysia managed to stay on track, not just to flatten the curve, but to defeat COVID-19 entirely.

Malaysia's response deserves greater recognition as a meaningful example for countries that have insecure borders, significant mobile and vulnerable populations, larger households in denser living conditions and less than ideal political situations. Malaysia's surge in COVID-19 cases came just two weeks after a political crisis saw the government change hands outside of the election cycle.

Malaysia's efforts have been spearheaded by the reassuring leadership of Health Director-General Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, whose resume combines a depth of medical knowledge with formidable public policy experience. He and the frontline professionals at the Ministry of

Health have been supported by politicians to lead the response rather than being overshadowed by them.

Activities have been consistent and nationally synchronised and public messaging clear, factual and accessible across new and old media. A strong and well-resourced public service with depoliticised leadership is proving invaluable.

Aggressive contact tracing and strategic testing have also been central to recent success. Like others, Malaysia struggled to scale up and broaden testing at the beginning of the surge. Without optimal testing volumes, Malaysia has had to rely on extensive tracing to identify persons of interest and

was early to adopt random testing of cold and flu cases. Officials also approach persons of interest directly to compel screening.

And since late March, virus hotspots have been quarantined under enhanced lockdowns and mobile testing has been deployed to test all residents regardless of symptoms. All positive cases are hospitalised to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among households and communities, with makeshift hospitals erected to increase surge capacity. These measures respond to the testing and containment challenges facing Malaysia.

Malaysia arguably has a clearer picture of community transmission and overall virus spread than Australia, despite appearing to have tested less. This is a result of expanded testing at the height of the recent infection surge and testing full sample populations. With increasing global evidence of widespread asymptomatic transmission and 80 per cent of all infections presenting symptoms less severe than a common cold, testing biased by self-selection based on symptom presentation creates dangerous underestimations of potential outbreaks.

The swift and firm move into lockdown on 18 March has been



Social distancing in public transportation

critical to limiting the spread of COVID-19 and isolating cases. Authorities were criticised for the uncertainty created by the sudden move. With the benefit of hindsight, Malaysia should have taken steps to prevent the mass migration from cities to hometowns. But finetuning details under lockdown was safer than delaying it.

Conveying the seriousness of the situation has encouraged cooperation among residents regarding social distancing. Malaysia has fewer overall cases than Australia and much of its population has virtually no financial buffer to economic hardship, yet there is widespread support among citizens for the continuation of lockdown measures.

The lockdown in Malaysia is comparatively strict, prohibiting all movements other than for employment or consumption in a narrow range of essential sectors. Outdoor exercise is banned, with joggers among over 20,000 arrested for movement violations. An extensive police and army deployment are enforcing compliance, though unlike in places like the Philippines, they are restricted from carrying or using weapons. Selfish panic buying has largely been avoided and residents were quick to volunteer support for the most vulnerable.

Malaysia's approach to foreign citizens affected by the lockdown has been pragmatic and humane. It has encouraged undocumented immigrants to be tested and obtain healthcare without recrimination, a promise backed by the Health Ministry and the shutdown of the Immigration Department. It has reassured all temporary visa holders that they can remain throughout the lockdown and



In March 2020, Malaysia had 3 times more COVID-19 cases than any country in South East Asia. Now Malaysia is one of the safest countries in the world. An incredible story that needs to be talked about more! Check out Malaysia's COVID-19 incredible success story through this video released by the "Other Side of the Truth"

apply to extend expired visas once restrictions are lifted, rather than encouraging dangerous repatriations.

It is also working with foreign missions, NGOs and universities to feed people trapped by lockdown measures. The government has avoided unnecessary rhetoric around sovereignty and citizenship, despite these being features of the ordinary political narrative in Malaysia and a major part of COVID-19 rhetoric in other nations.

And at a time where the world needs to unite against a common threat, Malaysia is working closely with China, South Korea, the UAE and its ASEAN neighbours to reinforce supply chains delivering essential goods and services. It has not completely refrained from protectionist measures and the lockdown has disrupted production, but its approach to international engagement remains cooperative and critical of selfish nationalism.

Collaboration within ASEAN is essential to sustained virus suppression with fragile borders an ever-present risk.

Like every country tackling the crisis, Malaysia has been learning on the fly and its handling has not always hit the right notes. Its firm prioritisation of health appears to have suppressed the outbreak but is as yet unproven in the face of mounting and sustained economic disruption.

While the adequacy of economic support requires further appraisal, Malaysia's health response deserves credit for limiting the spread of the virus and minimising avoidable deaths, of which there have been 99 as at 28 April 2020. Its effectiveness in the absence of critical advantages and extensive resources offers guidance for the developing world and developed countries at risk of complacency.

*Sourced from: East Asia Forum
Published on: 30 April 2020*

Heartiest Congratulations on the Appointments



YB DATO' SERI HISHAMMUDDIN
TUN HUSSEIN
Minister of Foreign Affairs

YAB TAN SRI DATO' HAJI MUHYIDDIN
HAJI MOHD. YASSIN
Malaysia's 8th Prime Minister

YB DATO' KAMARUDIN
JAFFAR
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs



Dirgahayu Tuanku

**HARI KEPUTERAAN
SERI PADUKA BAGINDA
YANG DIPERTUAN AGONG XVI**

“MALAYSIA: LAND OF MEMORIES” PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Announcing the winners of the “Malaysia: Land of Memories” photography competition and showcasing the winning photographs through a virtual photo exhibition.

The photography competition “Malaysia: Land of Memories” was concluded on 31 December 2019, when it was initially planned for the winning photos to be displayed in an exhibition at the Belgrade’s city center in March 2020. However, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, this plan had to be postponed with the format of an exhibition changed to a virtual one.

Nonetheless, we are grateful for all of the amazing and heartwarming photos of Malaysia that we received – from its colourful culture, tasty food, attractive sceneries and beautiful smiles of its people.



**FIRST
PRIZE**

“Breathtaking views of Borneo’s highest peak.”
Location: Mount Kinabalu, Sabah

PHOTOGRAPHER: VESNA MITROVIC





 **SECOND PRIZE**

"Paradise on Earth."
 Location: Perhentian Islands, Terengganu
 PHOTOGRAPHER: ANA MIRKOVIC



"We hope that these collections of wonderful photos of experiences in Malaysia would serve as a beacon of hope for brighter times ahead. Rest assured we are looking forward to welcome you again in Malaysia!"

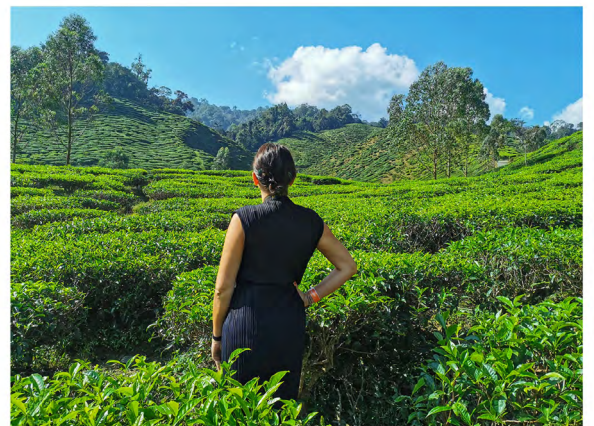
*Chargé d'Affaires
 Nik Ady Arman*

**Congratulations
 to all the
 winners!**



 **THIRD PRIZE**

"Come for the view or the 272 colourful steps."
 Location: Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur
 PHOTOGRAPHER: MIRELA MRKIC



 **CONSOLATION PRIZE**

"Immense yourself at Malaysia's famous BOH tea plantation."
 Location: BOH plantation, Cameron Highland
 PHOTOGRAPHER: HELENA KASAVKA



 **CONSOLATION PRIZE**

"Durian – either you love it or you don't. Anyway, it is a must-try!"
 Location: You can find durian in most parts of Malaysia
 PHOTOGRAPHER: ANA ANDEJKOVIC



SPECIAL FEATURES

“MALAYSIA: LAND OF MEMORIES” PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION - SPECIAL FEATURES

Given that in any competition we can only have a selected number of main winners, the Embassy nonetheless received many photos that managed to capture the spirit and essence of Malaysia, and as such, these photos deserve a special feature for this competition. All 37 photographs can be viewed through the Embassy’s Facebook page.

(Please click on the images to view the full gallery)



SPECIAL FEATURE

“Reaching High.”
Location: KL Tower, Kuala Lumpur

PHOTOGRAPHER: MILADEN MIKLSKI



SPECIAL FEATURE

“Viewing sunset by the beach is one of the beautiful things that life has to offer.”

Location: Tanjung Aru Beach, Kota Kinabalu

PHOTOGRAPHER: ANA ANDJELKOVIC



SPECIAL FEATURE

“You have seen it from below, why not from the most top?”

Location: BKEC Twin Tower

PHOTOGRAPHER: JELENA KASAVICA



SPECIAL FEATURE

“Rain or shine, it is always a good time.”

Location: Kinabalu National Park, Sabah

PHOTOGRAPHER: SONJA LAPATANOV



(Please click on the images to view the full gallery)

SPECIAL FEATURES



SPECIAL FEATURE

"Fancy some fresh soya bean milk?"
Location: Penang
PHOTOGRAPHER: TATIANA ZIZIC



SPECIAL FEATURE

"Al fresco dining a la Malaysian."
Location: Jalan Alor, KL
PHOTOGRAPHER: JELENA KASAVICA



SPECIAL FEATURE

"Not for the faint of heart!"
Location: Sky Deck, KL Tower
PHOTOGRAPHER: JELENA KASAVICA



SPECIAL FEATURE

"From time to time, you'll get to enjoy a cultural showcase of the multi-racial Malaysian society."
Location: City of Ipoh, Perak
PHOTOGRAPHER: JELENA KASAVICA



SPECIAL FEATURE

"Big Bird!"
Location: Langkawi Island
PHOTOGRAPHER: DALIBOR KOKIC



PRIZE GIVING FOR THE WINNERS OF THE “MALAYSIA: LAND OF MEMORIES” PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The winners collected their prizes in a small yet sweet ceremony at the Embassy amidst the lifting up of the State of Emergency in Serbia.

The Embassy presented the prizes to the main winners for the “Malaysia: Land of Memories” photography competition on 17 June 2020.

In view of the current limitation on international travelling, the initial prizes of flight tickets were substituted with a gift voucher for a stay at the Hotel Izvor in Arandjelovac, vouchers for home appliances from Home Plus and hampers of Malaysian handicrafts. The special featured winners were also presented with vouchers from Lilly Drogerie.



Chargé d'Affaires presented a gift voucher for a stay at the Hotel Izvor, Arandjelovac to the first prize winner, Mrs Vesna Mitrovic



The competition runner-up, Mrs Ana Mirkovic and her daughter received a home appliances gift voucher for a heartwarming photo taken at a beach in Terengganu



Fourth and fifth ranked, Mrs Jelena Kasavica and Mrs Ana Andjelkovic, received hampers of Malaysian unique handicrafts and books



MEETING AT THE SERBIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The meeting was held in view of the formation of the new Malaysian Government, the COVID-19 situation and the overview of bilateral relations between Malaysia and Serbia.

During the meeting with Mr Radovan Stojanovic, Head of the Asia, Australia and the Pacific Department of the Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chargé d'Affaires informed about the new Malaysian Government and discussed the political situation in Malaysia and Serbia.

The Serbian side also expressed interest in expanding the bilateral relations with Malaysia, particularly in the fields of economy, education and youth and sports.

With both sides agreeing on the importance of high-level meetings, the Serbian side announced renewing its invitation for the Malaysian Foreign Minister to visit Serbia.



COVID-19 PROTECTION SUPPLIES UNDER THE MALAYSIA'S DIPLOMATIC STOCKPILE (MDES)

The shipment included facial masks, sanitizer liquid and handwash gels.



MDES is a charity initiative sponsored by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin on March 30 to allow individuals, groups and organisations to contribute essential equipment for Malaysian frontliners abroad.

The Embassy of Malaysia in Belgrade wishes to thank all contributors for the supplies received and also to Wisma Putra in helping us to stay healthy during the pandemic.



FIRST MALAYSIAN TO PLAY FOR THE RED STAR F.C.

Omar Raiyan Kama Azlan, 15, is the first Malaysian to play for the prestigious Red Star Belgrade Football Club.

We are proud to announce that Omar Raiyan Kama Azlan, 15, is the first

Malaysian that has been accepted to be part of the Red Star Belgrade youth football team.

Omar, a Malaysian born in Abu Dhabi, first arrived in Belgrade in July 2019 following his father who was exploring new business opportunities in Serbia. With the assistance of the Embassy, Omar then began to train with the prestigious Red Star Belgrade in his pursuit to become a professional footballer. He is currently awaiting FIFA's finalisation of the Red Star's registration process.

Prior coming to Belgrade, Omar was training under the Du Laliga High Performance Centre in Abu Dhabi, UAE, with both of the Under-14 and Under 16 teams. During his early football days, Omar attended the Manchester City Football School for 6 years.

While football is definitely his forte, Omar is also excellent academically, a good swimmer, plays the piano well and also has good command of several languages, with perhaps Srpski to be his next quest.

We wish Omar all the best in his future undertakings!

malaysia
boleh!



CONTRIBUTION TO THE SERBIAN SEPAK TAKRAW FEDERATION

The contribution of a set of sepak takraw balls and net was hoped to spark more interest on this game here in the Balkan region.

As part of its efforts to promote this popular South East Asian game in Serbia, the Embassy presented a set of sepak takraw balls and net to the Serbian Sepak Takraw Federation (SSTF).

Mr Milutinovic, the President of SSTF updated the Embassy on its future plans to promote sepak takraw in other cities in Serbia. The meeting also discussed possible future dates for the mini tournament of sepak takraw among the members of the SSTF and ASEAN Embassies in Serbia that was earlier scheduled to be held in Spring 2020.



“Malaysia appreciates the Republic of Serbia’s valuable support to this Malaysia-led Statement on a global ceasefire. We remain united in our shared humanity and in giving peace a chance.”

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT BY

170

UN MEMBER STATES, NON-MEMBER OBSERVER STATE AND OBSERVER

TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S

APPEAL FOR A GLOBAL CEASEFIRE AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Initiative launched by

*Bangladesh, Ecuador, Egypt, Jamaica, Japan, Malaysia, Oman, Senegal,
Slovenia and Sweden*

We strongly support the appeal by the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on 23 March 2020 for a global ceasefire. We are also encouraged by the growing support expressed by UN Member and Observer States, non-State actors, civil society networks and organizations, religious leaders and United Nations Messengers of Peace and Advocates for the Sustainable Development Goals.

We recognize that the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly impacted all three pillars of the United Nations – peace and security, development, and human rights.

We express our deep concern for the continuation of hostilities in various parts of the world, particularly in the midst of the global health crisis, and their devastating impact on the most vulnerable – especially on women and children. We must muster all our efforts to save lives and alleviate social and economic devastation on our peoples.

We strongly believe that it is timely for diplomatic action and for all UN Member and Observer States to devote our collective effort in the common fight against the pandemic. We also reaffirm the importance of global unity and solidarity in confronting this scourge.

We are convinced that multilateralism, rule of law, dialogue and diplomacy for peace are fundamental in promoting and supporting efforts towards the peaceful settlement of disputes. We recognize the crucial role of women in efforts to build sustainable peace. The meaningful participation of youth is also instrumental.

We are mindful that a peaceful condition is indispensable to facilitate humanitarian access in fragile and conflict-affected situations. We believe that efforts to relieve human suffering and conflict resolution should go hand in hand in leading action to address the pandemic.

As we approach the 75th anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter, we call on all actors to do the utmost to respond to the Secretary-General’s appeal.

We remain united in our shared humanity and in giving peace a chance.

New York, 22 June 2020



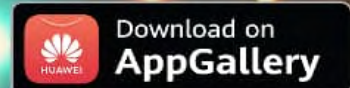
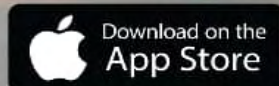
WISMA PUTRA

Returning Malaysians and
Non-Malaysians with entry permit

DOWNLOAD & ACTIVATE



Prior to your arrival in
MALAYSIA



Division of Communication and Public Diplomacy

Stay safe and healthy



EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA IN BELGRADE

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