



NEGARAKU

Newsletter MWBucharest (Summer Edition)

Editor's Notes



How time flies, and now we are already in the middle of the year! For this Summer Edition, we will walk-through on the establishment of the bilateral relations between Malaysia and Romania, programme/activities convened under the ambit of ASEAN and Asia Pacific, Malaysia's participation at the international events around Romania, visitors who have visited the Embassy, Ambassador's engagement with his counterparts and business communities, Romanian tourism attractions, experience sharing by a Romanian visitor to Malaysia, the installation of the new King of Malaysia, the implementation of TN50, travelling advises, information on bilateral trade, Eid-Fitri celebration in Bucharest and the upcoming events from June onwards. Happy reading!

-Chenderawasih Abd. Malak-

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*The diplomatic relations between Malaysia and Romania were established in 1969. In view of the growing relations between the two countries, the Government of Malaysia decided to establish an Embassy in Bucharest at the level of CDA in 1982. In January 2006, the Government of Malaysia has appointed a Resident Ambassador in Romania and H.E. Dato' Tajul Aman Mohammad is the third Malaysian Ambassador appointed to Romania. **Both countries will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary of Bilateral Relations in 2019.** Besides Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Moldova are also the countries under the Embassy's purview. Located at No.11, Strada Drobeta, Sector 2, the Embassy consists of 4 Home-based Staff and 6 Local-recruited Staff.*



ASEAN's and Asian's Solidarity



On **9 May 2017**, TYT Dato' Tajul Aman as the current Chair of Bucharest-ASEAN Committee (BAC) hosted the **BAC Meeting** followed by a luncheon. The Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia and spouse; and the Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam were in attendance.

Interview with the Romanian National Television (TVR) on ASEAN@50th Anniversary, 28 June 2017



First Asian Group Working Luncheon hosted by TYT Dato' Tajul Aman Mohammad, **24 April 2017**



On **13 March 2017**, the Embassy of India in Bucharest hosted the **First Asian Group Working Luncheon**. The Romanian Foreign Minister was invited as a guest speaker to the luncheon.



Outreach programmes on ASEAN



On **8 May 2017**, a seminar on ASEAN has been convened at the **Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE)** in collaboration with ASE, the Romanian Institute for European - Asian Studies (IRSEA) and the Bucharest-ASEAN Committee (BAC). The focus was on the establishment of ASEAN, Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity 2025, ASEAN-the EU Dialogue Relations and Tourism in ASEAN. Approximately 300 participants including the students, academic members of ASE, representatives from the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as the former Romanian Ambassador to Viet Nam were among the attendees.



It was followed by an **Informative Seminar on "Doing Business in Southeast Asia"** in collaboration between the ASEAN Embassies in Bucharest and the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIR) which was held on **14 June 2017**. Malaysia represented by Mr. Idzham Abdul Hamid from Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Mr. Zakaria Mohd Nani from Tourism Malaysia, Istanbul and Ms. Silviya from Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) Munich. TYT Dato' Tajul Aman Mohammad delivered a remarks at the Grand Opening of the event. The focus was given on *"Romania-Malaysia Business Opportunities"* and *"Tourism: Malaysia-The Essence of Asia"*.





#Flying the Malaysian Flag High



A total of 33 out of the Malaysian delegation (from University Malaysia Terengganu, University Malaysia Perlis, UiTM Pulau Pinang, and several secondary schools from Penang) participated in **the European Exhibition of Creativity and Innovation (EUROINVENT) - 9th edition and the International Conference on Innovative Research** which was held from **25-27 May 2017 in Iasi, Romania**. Prof. Dato' Dr. Nor Aieni Hj. Mokhtar, Vice-Chancellor of UMT has been invited as the Keynote Speaker at the event. Meanwhile, Dr. Mohd Mustafa Al Bakri Abdullah from UNIMAP has been awarded as the "Ambassador of Innovation" at the same event. Malaysia had won 3 gold and 1 silver medals at the exhibition. The **EUROINVENT 2018** scheduled to be held on **17-18 May 2018**.





#Flying the Malaysian Flag High (cont.)



Young chess champions at the World Schools Chess Championships 2017, 21 April - 1 May 2017, Iasi, Romania

Four students from MRSM Kubang Pasu and Langkawi participated in the 15th Edition of the International Informatics Project Competition (INFOMATRIX 2017 WORLD FINALS) organized by Lumina Educational Institutions, Bucharest in collaboration with the Romanian Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, from 27 April – 1 May 2017. Malaysia won 1 gold medal and 1 silver medal for the short film and robotic category.



The International Poetry Gala was held from 13-17 January 2017 in Bistrita, Romania. Malaysia was represented by Mrs. Mawar Marzuki from Institut Pendidikan Guru (IPG) Kampus Pulau Pinang.



Courtesy Calls on Ambassador



Ms. Silviya Irgyanova
Investment Officer, Malaysian Investment
Development Authority (MIDA) Munich



Prof. Dato' Dr. Nor Aieni Hj. Mokhtar,
Vice Chancellor, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu



Mr. Idzham Abdul Hamid - Director,
Malaysia External Trade Development
Corporation (MATRADE) and
Mr. Zakaria Mohd Nani – Director,
Tourism Malaysia Istanbul



Prof. Dr. Nordin Yahaya,
Pro Vice Chancellor (International), UTM Skudai



Mr. Fahmi Abd. Moin
and Mr. Muhammad
Rafique Rashid from Law
Practice of Rafique
(Advocates & Solicitors)



Courtesy Calls on Ambassador (Cont.)



YBhg. Dato' Wan Husin Embong,
President of
Wan Husin Associates and
'*Persatuan Anak-Anak Terengganu*'

Mr. Chok Mei Fi,
a UPM student who participated in
the ERASMUS-gLINK programme

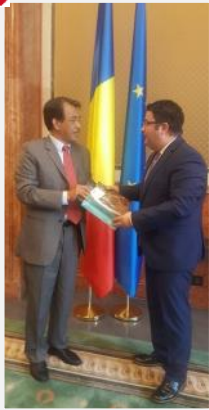


Mrs. Mawar Marzuki
from *Institut Pendidikan
Guru (IPG) Kampus
Pulau Pinang* and
Mrs. Norhizan Marzuki



Tengku Sazali Tengku Muzani from
University Kuala Lumpur





Meeting with
H.E. Mr. Dan Neculaescu,
State Counsellor on Foreign Policy to
the then Romanian Prime Minister



Working meeting with
H.E. Mr. Todor Ivanov Churov,
Ambassador of the Republic of
Bulgaria to Romania



Discussion with
H.E. Mr. Mihai Gribincea,
Ambassador of the Republic of
Moldova to Romania



Courtesy call on
H.E. Mrs. Monica Dorina Gheorghită,
the new Secretary of State for Global
Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Romania

Ambassador@Work



Courtesy call on
H.E. Mr. Mugur Constantin
Isarescu, Governor of the
National Bank of Romania



with
H.E. Mr. Vassilis Papadopoulos,
Ambassador of Greece to Romania



Discussion with
Mr. Liviu Dumitru,
Director of International Law and Treaties
Division, the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Discussion with
Mr. Ioan ONISEI,
Deputy Director General of
the National Theatre of Bucharest



Courtesy call by
MATRADE, Tourism Malaysia Istanbul and
MIDA Munich on the Romanian Chamber of
Commerce & Industry (CCIR),
13 June 2017



Engagement with the Business Communities



Presentation by
Kumpulan Modal Perdana to the Romanian
Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCIR),
29 May 2017





Discover Romania

Maramures:

- * century-old traditions are still part of daily life.
- * The villages are distinguished by their unique wooden churches with tall spires and shingled roofs.
- * Woodlands still account for more than four-fifths of the land surface of Maramures.
- * UNESCO world heritage: The Wooden Churches of Maramures



Timisoara:

- * frequently referred to as "Little Vienna"
- * home to year-round musical and theatrical performances, art galleries, museums and a buzzing nightlife.
- * the first city in Europe and second in the world after New York, to use electricity to illuminate its public streets
- * to be the European Capital of Culture in Romania in 2021.



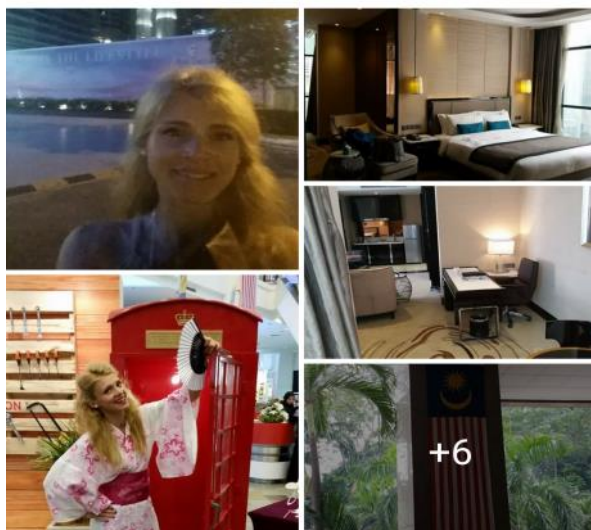


“My visit to Malaysia” - by Roxana Stiuca



Roxana Stiuca a adăugat 10 fotografii noi – cu Neagu Georgiana Cristina și Mandy Borrmann la Pacific Regency Hotel Suites.
20 aug. 2016 la 06:12 • Kuala Lumpur •

Happy suitcase in Kuala Lumpur! And I thought we have many shopping areas....they have at least 9 floors in a mall, counted 3 malls so far! 📷



I enjoyed how the city managed to get over “matters” of traffic jam. I remember I met gorgeous temples and tourist attractions with fast accessible crowd lines... on the flip side of the iconic Petronas Towers – which at 88 stories high, are the tallest twin buildings in the world, and a great vision of modern architecture to inspire – the Sri Mahamariamman is the oldest Hindu temple in Malaysia, with a colorful totem pole façade of iconography.

Kuala Lumpur is a pretty nice shopping destination, with most likely affordable temptations and prices to any wallet. There are lots of nice malls all around in the city. On August 20th 2016 I used to post over my Facebook account: <<Happy suitcase in KL! And I thought we have many shopping areas ... they have at least 9 floors in a mall, counted 3 malls so far!. Places like Suria KLCC, Pavilion, Mid Valley Mega Mall and 1 Utama are all huge shopping areas that can offer most things that people are looking for.

The Perdana Botanical Garden and surroundings is a must place to visit and relax surrounded by plants and butterflies. This is where I learned how to take care of the orchid flowers....I had few back home during time, and due to opposite care treatment than the correct one, lost them very time.

My friends and I stayed at Pacific Regency Hotel Suites (KH Tower, Jalan Punchak, Off Jalan P. Ramlee 50250, Kuala Lumpur), a very nice 5 star hotel. Even if it is not one of the most expensive hotels in town

(composed of two buildings, the right wing is not properly modernized comparing to beautiful floors and suites of the left wing), it is still one of the best hotels that I ever stayed at after we moved down in the second night from right wing to the left one. From huge windows of our suite we had splendid view over the KL Tower across the way and surrounding skyscrapers. And from the roof lounge we could stare at the nearby Petronas Twin Towers, a view that you never get tired to look at! The service is outstanding, particularly compared to what my friends and I are used back home in Europe in general; and we have been lucky enough to upgrade our accommodation at their executive floors, high up in the sky.

The food in Kuala Lumpur is amazing as well, with influences from many cultures, being easy to find in a wide variety. We tried rambutan, mangosteen, lychee etc. and the mother of all fruits in Asia, the durian!

The average temperature for KL is 29 degrees Celsius all year long so it never gets cold. Still, should be aware that there are periods when it warmly rains more than usual in this part of Asia and it is best to get a weather overview before arrivals. However we were in KL while the wet season, the weather was OK; it rains only for few hours, pouring down only when it starts.

Malaysia being primarily a beautiful Muslim country, we wore for respect decent comfortable attire. Moreover, KL is a city of beautiful contrasts, luxurious or affordable mega malls, coquette couples and happiness or polite expressions. Ask any local what they suggest you to do for fun and they will politely almost always refer as going to a mall. And when in KL, it is almost guaranteed spending at least one afternoon exploring one of the city’s large shopping areas, basking the flow of the air conditioning.

During our stay in Kuala Lumpur, I only wish we had more time to divide our touristy options ... as I read about the region’s nearby Batu Caves as a divine experience, next time we will definitely visit. It captured my interest when I read about this particular place with a surreal feeling being a limestone hill that has a series of caves and cave temples. That being said overall, despite my experience had only few moments spent in this beautiful capital, I remember Kuala Lumpur as mainly a big part of the cultural hub of Malaysia, a joyful urban experience that involves haggling, handicrafts, very polite people and happiness.

LATEST INFORMATION!!

New King for Malaysia

The new Yang di-Pertuan Agong (King) of Malaysia, Sultan Muhammad V, took his oath of office on 13 December 2016 in a simple yet highly symbolic ceremony at the Istana Negara (National Palace).

Also in attendance were the Conference of Rulers or their representatives, i.e. the Sultans and the Yang di-Pertua Negeri (rulers) of the other states in Malaysia. The ceremony itself was chaired by the Sultan of Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah.

Malaysia practices a constitutional monarchy system, with the post of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong rotated among the nine Sultans in Malaysia. The decision of which of the nine will be the Yang di-Pertuan Agong is made by the Conference of Rulers, taking into account a number of factors including the principle of geographical rotation.

Once appointed, the Yang di Pertuan Agong presides over all federal ceremonies involving the monarchy, and is resides at the National Palace in Kuala Lumpur. In his own home state, a regent will be appointed to oversee state ceremonial matters.

Sultan Muhammad V becomes the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia, corresponding with 60 years of Malaysia's independence. The last time a Sultan of Kelantan was the Yang di-Pertuan Agong was in 1975, in the form of Sultan Muhammad V's grandfather.

The Sultan of Perak, Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah, was officially appointed as the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong at the same ceremony.



Sultan Muhammad V

ABOUT Sultan Muhammad V

Date of birth: 6 October 1969

Education: Sultan Ismail School (76-81)
Alice Smith School (83)
Oakham School UK (89)
Oxford University (89-91)

Courses at Huron University College,
Deutsche Stiftung Internationale
Entwicklung, European Business School
London.

Hobbies: Horse-riding, reading, golfing,
shooting, badminton, bowling, foot-
ball, 4WD expeditions



Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah

What is TN50???

- The 2050 National Transformation or *Transformasi Nasional*
- a new 30-year transformation plan for Malaysia
- a new vision for Malaysia, announced by the Prime Minister of Malaysia during the 2017 Budget.
- aims to transform Malaysia into a nation of caliber with a new mindset.
- will span three decades, and the youths of all races will form the core of this new transformation plan.

On 19 January 2017, the Malaysian Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, launched the first series of national discourse to chart the nation's direction on a new canvas as the 2050 National Transformation with some 500 youth leaders at Dewan Tunku Canselor, University Malaya.

The general goal for TN50 is for Malaysia to become a top 20 country in the world by the year 2050. In the run up to the unveiling of TN50 in 2019, there will be a series of discussions on what the Malaysian identity should be by 2050 – in terms of how Malaysians view themselves as diverse Malaysians.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is tasked to collect views from youths in the first few months of this year, before moving on to other groups. The year 2017 will be spent collecting views from public with 2018 the year for the Government to have more focused discussions with experts to see whether the views and suggestions are realistic. Near the end of the next year or early 2019, the Government will form a policy document on TN50 to be announced by the Prime Minister.

“Let TN50 bear witness; (let it) be recorded in history that we are responsible citizens and forefathers, to leave behind the best and the greatest legacy to be inherited by future generations. “From now on, TN50 is our lucky charm. Let the old legacy pass. The future of Malaysia, we will recreate,”

Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, 21 October 2016.

TN50 will be the roadmap, after Vision 2020 that will transform the country's economy, citizen well-being, environment, technology, social interaction, governance and public administration.





I have lost my passport! What should I do!?!?

1. Find and contact the nearest Malaysian embassy or consulate (<http://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/malaysian-mission>)
2. If your passport has been stolen, file a police report
3. Take a new passport photo
4. Fill out an application for a new passport and a statement regarding your lost or stolen passport (*Borang Permohonan Pasport/Dokumen Perjalanan- IM. 42 - Pin.1/97*), which could be obtained via Malaysian Immigration Department website (<http://www.imi.gov.my/images/borang/Pasport/Borang%20Permohonan%20Pasport.pdf>)
5. Submit the application to the nearest Malaysian embassy or consulate

Kindly be reminded on the increasing number of stolen Malaysian passport reported in Greece. Just bring along a copy of the passport (with your personal details) during your walkabout and to keep the original somewhere safe.

Registration for Malaysian Voters Abroad

"Your vote is your voice"



Warganegara Malaysia yang berumur 21 tahun dan ke atas dan masih belum lagi mendaftar dengan mana-mana bahagian pilihan raya adalah dijemput untuk hadir ke Kedutaan bagi tujuan permohonan pendaftaran.

Untuk tujuan tersebut, tuan/puan adalah dikehendaki untuk membawa bersama kad pengenalan (asal dan sesalinan) semasa permohonan pendaftaran dan boleh hadir ketika waktu pejabat, 8.30 pagi – 4.30 petang (Isnin – Jumaat).



INFORMATION ON TRADE

Romania's Economic Overview

Romania has registered the highest economic growth of 5.6 per cent in the first quarter of 2017 and the highest among the EU countries. The real GDP is expected to grow at an average of 3.4 per cent in 2017-2021. In January 2017, the foreign direct investment (FDI) into Romania recorded at €260million. The unemployment rate also fell to 5.4 per cent from 6.3 per cent (2016). Romania also expected to be one of the fastest growing economies in the EU in 2017 .

Bilateral Trade (Malaysia-Romania)

Year	TOTAL EXPORTS		TOTAL IMPORTS		TRADE BALANCE		TOTAL TRADE	
	USD Mil	Growth Rate %	USD Mil	Growth Rate %	USD Mil	Growth Rate %	USD Mil	Growth Rate %
2016 (Jan-Nov)	95.9	14.1	37.8	25.4	58.1	7.59	133.7	17.0

For year 2016, Romania was Malaysia's:

- * 18th largest trading partner for Malaysia among the EU member countries. In 2015, Romania was ranked 20th.
- * 69th largest export destination
- * 72nd largest import source
- Malaysia's main export to Romania:
Electrical and Electronic Products; Machinery, equipment & parts; Palm oil & palm based agriculture products; rubber products; optical & scientific equipment; processed food; other products
- Malaysia's main import from Romania:
agriculture goods; machinery, equipment and parts; electrical and electronic products;

ASEAN - the EU

- * two-way trade: **US\$207.5 billion** (2016)
- * the EU is the largest external source of FDI of ASEAN: €23.3 billion (2015)

Selamat
Aidilfitri Salam Lebaran dari Perantauan
Maaf Zahir dan Batin



"Kami, wargakerja di Kedutaan Besar Malaysia dan juga warga Malaysia di Bucharest ingin mengucapkan "Selamat Hari Raya Aidil-Fitri" dan Maaf Zahir dan Batin kepada kaum keluarga dan sahabat-handai yang berada di Malaysia dan juga di perantauan."



Bersama para tetamu dari Kedutaan Besar Indonesia, Bucharest, 26 Jun 2017

Malaysian Special Delicacies during Eid-Fitri Celebration



Lemang

a traditional food made of glutinous rice, coconut milk and salt, cooked in a hollowed bamboo stick lined with banana leaves in order to prevent the rice from sticking to the bamboo.

Ingredients:

- 230g glutinous rice, soaked for 2-3 hours
- ½ tsp salt
- 250ml thin coconut milk (from ½ grated coconut)
- Banana leaf
- Aluminum

Method:

Steam glutinous rice for 15 minutes.

Sprinkle rice with the coconut milk every five minutes, using a fork to mix it in properly.

Place a piece of banana leaf on a top of large sheet of aluminum foil.

Spoon rice on banana leaf and press rice tightly together. Roll up rice with the banana leaf and foil into a cylindrical roll.



Ketupat

Literally a type of rice dumpling or rice cake made from glutinous rice. After it was cooked, skin (woven palm leaf) being removed, the inner rice cake is cut in pieces, and served as staple food, as the replacement of plain steamed rice. Two of the more common ones was *ketupat nasi* (white rice version) and *ketupat pulut* (glutinous rice version). *Ketupat nasi* is made from white rice and is wrapped in a square shape with coconut palm leaves while *ketupat pulut* is made from glutinous rice and is usually wrapped in a triangular shape using the leaves of the fan palm.



ketupat nasi (white rice version)



ketupat pulut (glutinous rice version)

UPCOMING EVENTS!!!



ASEAN Writing Competition

in collaboration with Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE)

The best essay would be announced at the ASEAN Day Celebration on 8 August 2017



TV Romania (TVR) Interview sessions on ASEAN Ambassadors

- With the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia: 22 June 2017
- With the Embassy of Malaysia: 28 June 2017
- With the Royal Thai Embassy: 5 July 2017
- With the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam: 6 July 2017



Date: **8 August 2017 (Tuesday)**

Time: 5.00 - 8.00 pm

Venue: Compound of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, Strada Gina Patrichi 10, București 010440

Embassies Festival (3rd Edition)



Date: **7-10 September 2017**

Venue: Indoor Exhibition — National Theatre of Bucharest,
(7-10 Sept.) Bulevardul Nicolae Bălcescu 2,
București 030167

Outdoor event — Titan Park, Liviu Rebreanu St., Bucharest
(9-10 Sept.)



ASEAN Movies Festival

Date: **1st week of September 2017**

Time: TBC

Venue: National Theatre of Bucharest
Bulevardul Nicolae Bălcescu 2,
București 030167

Events in June onwards