

ASEAN Way Brings Stability, Prosperity To Region – Najib

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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 14 (Bernama) --The ASEAN way, as it has been called, has brought stability and prosperity to the region, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said many authorities were now saying that it was a far more suitable model for ASEAN members, and for other developing nations, than those of other regional associations that were now finding themselves troubled by division.

"We have maintained the spirit of friendship, taking decisions by consensus, and recognising the sovereignty of the individual countries. We unite in ASEAN but we don't interfere in the internal affairs of our neighbours," he said in his keynote address delivered at the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN Celebration here today.

Najib also said that ASEAN was now recognised as a primary driving force in the regional political, security and economic architecture, which saw major powers being brought together to negotiate and discuss important issues of the day through dialogues including the ASEAN Regional Forum and the East Asia Summit.

The ASEAN Way is a series of principles that were adopted when ASEAN was formed in 1967, which places extreme emphasis on national sovereignty and the commitment to non-intervention in the affairs of member countries.

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