



**Fakultät Medien**

**Kröhnert, Nadiné**

Asiens Wirtschaftskrise von 1997  
und die Struktur einer  
asiatischen Tageszeitungsgruppierung  
**ASIA NEWS NETWORK**



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und die Struktur einer  
asiatischen Tageszeitungsgruppierung  
**ASIA NEWS NETWORK**

**-eingereicht als Bachelorarbeit-**

**Hochschule Mittweida - University of Applied Sciences**

Erstprüfer

**Prof. Dr. phil. Otto Altendorfer M.A.**

Zweitprüfer

**Prof. Dr. rer. nat. habil. Peter Will**

## **Vormerkung**

Bei meinem Auslandsstudium an der „*Ateneo de Manila University*“ auf den Philippinen 2009 fand ich über die asiatische Literatur Spuren, die mich zum *Asia News Network* geführt haben. Das *Asia News Network* (ANN) ist eine Gruppierung englischsprachiger Tageszeitungen aus verschiedenen asiatischen Ländern. Bei meiner Suche nach neuen Erkenntnissen zum *Asia News Network* wurde ich auf die *Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung* (KAS) aufmerksam, die ein wichtiger Teil des Nachrichtennetzwerks ist. Die „*Ateneo de Manila University*“ und die *Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung* waren stets offen für Antworten.

Nadiné Kröhnert

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# 1. Geschichtliche Hintergründe



Die Asiatische Wirtschaftskrise 97/98 war auch einer der bedeutendsten Gründe für das Entstehen von ANN.

## 1.1. Die asiatische Wirtschaftskrise

Durch die von 1997 in Thailand begonnene Wirtschaftskrise kam es zu einem drastischen Konjunkturreinbruch in ganz Asien.

Vor allem waren die Ost- und Südostasiatischen Staaten stark betroffen.

Die Krise griff nach Japan und Hongkong über, es kam zu einem Einbruch der Börse in Japan.

Ursachen für die asiatische Wirtschaftskrise waren vor allem der schwache Finanzsektor, die starken Handelsbilanzdefizite und besonders die übermäßig vielen Kreditaufnahmen.<sup>1</sup>

## 1.2. Die Auswirkungen der Asienkrise

Es waren nicht nur die wirtschaftlichen Folgen die Asien in die Krise führte.

20 Mio. Menschen überwiegend in den Tigerstaaten (Südkorea, Taiwan, Singapur, Hongkong), wurden in die Armut getrieben.

Auch der Markt brach zusammen, viele Arbeiter wurden arbeitslos.

Die Arbeitslosenquote stieg in Südkorea von 2% auf 6,8 % und in Indonesien sogar von 2,5% auf 22%.. Der BIP in Indonesien schrumpfte auf -13,7 %, in Thailand auf -8,0 %, in Südkorea auf -5,5 %, in Hongkong auf -5,1 %, in Malaysia von 2,5 % auf 8 %

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<sup>1</sup> <http://wirtschaftslexikon.gabler.de/Definition/asienkrise.html>

und auf den Philippinen auf -0,5 %  
in Japan sank das BIP ebenfalls um 2,8 %.<sup>2</sup>

Es war sogar noch ein starkes Wirtschaftswachstum bis 1996 vorausgesagt.

Aber der IWF hat die Krise nicht rechtzeitig erkannt.<sup>3</sup>

*„ Ein Ergebnis der Asienkrise ist, dass über eine Strukturreform des IWF nachgedacht werden sollte. Der IWF macht Politik, hat dafür aber kein Mandat. Er vergibt Steuergelder, wird aber nicht ausreichend von Parlamenten kontrolliert. Schließlich kommt der IWF seiner eigentlichen Aufgabe, der Stabilisierung von Wechselkursen, in keiner Weise nach. “*  
Heribert Dieter

Die seit 1991 anhaltende Japankrise wurde durch die Asienkrise noch verstärkt. Als direkte Konsequenz wurde Japans Exportanstieg deutlich geringer und erstmals in diesem Jahrzehnt wuchs Japans Wirtschaft 1998 nicht mehr. Die japanische Wirtschaft geriet in eine Rezession.<sup>4</sup>

### **1.3. Asiens Krisenbewältigung**

Um die Asienkrise zu bewältigen, sollten künftig keine kurzfristigen Kredite mehr vergeben werden, denn es dauert Jahre „faule“ Kredite abzutragen.

Die Länder in Süd-Ostasien haben begriffen in einer Krise enger mit einander zusammen zuarbeiten.

Demzufolge wurde auch die Initiative "ASEAN plus three" 1997 ins Leben gerufen.

Und mit Hilfe des asiatischen Anleihen-Marktes ist es abzusehen eine langfristige Finanzierung für die Entwicklung sicherzustellen.<sup>5</sup>

Noch heute ist es von Bedeutung, dass eine regionale Zusammenarbeit, stabile Finanzmärkte mit mehr Transparenz hilfreich sein können, um die Asienkrise wie von 1997 zu vermeiden.

Aber noch immer werden dieselben Entwicklungsstrategien, als auch der Export- nach Europa und vor allem in die USA genutzt. Doch alle Exporte zu absorbieren dafür ist der Weltmarkt nicht groß genug.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> [http://alt.wirtschaftsfacts.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=39:asien-krise&catid=6:finanzkrisen-in-der-geschichte&Itemid=7](http://alt.wirtschaftsfacts.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=39:asien-krise&catid=6:finanzkrisen-in-der-geschichte&Itemid=7)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ngolde.de/download/asienkrise.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [http://alt.wirtschaftsfacts.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=39:asien-krise&catid=6:finanzkrisen-in-der-geschichte&Itemid=7](http://alt.wirtschaftsfacts.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=39:asien-krise&catid=6:finanzkrisen-in-der-geschichte&Itemid=7)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,2368052,00.html>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,2368052,00.html>

#### 1.4. Der schlechte Nachrichtenfluss in Asien

Die asiatischen Nachrichten hatten zum Zeitpunkt der Asienkrise einen starken Einfluss von den westlichen Ländern. Dies führte dazu, dass immer wieder falsche Nachrichten in die asiatischen Länder flossen.

As the content of information was largely created by developed countries it was felt that a “false and distorted” image of the developing world not only misrepresented developing countries to the international community, but also towards their own societies.<sup>7</sup>

Although both initiatives largely disappeared without leaving a major impact, the controversial ideas appeared in the midst of increasing criticism by developing nations on the one-way flow of information and its Western bias.<sup>8</sup>

The global communication debate greatly enhanced Asian awareness of Western domination in global communication and contributed to a growing demand for a higher profile for Asia in the news.<sup>9</sup>

Asiatische Journalisten haben sich zusammen gefunden und berieten sich wie sie gegen den „Schatten des Westens“ vorgehen können, um eine kulturelle Einzigartigkeit der Presse Asiens zu ermöglichen.

Journalists across the region were deliberating whether Asian media should continue to follow in the West’s shadow or carve out a distinct niche for itself that was better in tune with the cultural uniqueness of Asia and hence better suited to the region’s striving for economic prosperity and political stability.<sup>10</sup>

Seit Jahrhunderten glaubten viele Asiaten, dass der einzige Weg zum Fortschreiten durch den Wettstreit des Westens war. Heute ist dies nicht mehr der Fall. Sie glaubten, dass der einzige Weg fortzuschreiten durch das Kopieren ist. Jetzt wissen sie, dass sie ihre eigenen Lösungen ausarbeiten müssen.

Der asiatische Journalismus führte einen Kampf über einen eigenen regionalen und kulturellen Eigenwert seiner Presse.

In Zukunft sollten keine westlichen Kopien mehr publiziert werden.

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<sup>7</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 7

<sup>8</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 6/7

<sup>9</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 7

<sup>10</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 7



## 1.5. Bedeutung: Krise

Krisen können unterschiedlich verstanden werden, so heißt es:

„Eine Krise ist eine schwierige, unsichere oder gefährliche Situation. Sie kann vieles verändern. Einen Höhepunkt oder einen Wendepunkt darstellen.

Und sie ist ein entscheidender Abschnitt.“<sup>11</sup>

Aber im asiatischen Sinn steht auch mit einer Krise immer eine gewisse Chance im Zusammenhang.

“Crisis is the beginning of many things” I think it would be about right.

The Chinese character for “crisis” consists of two different meanings: one means “danger” and the other “chance”.<sup>12</sup>

## 2. Der Beginn



Die ANN-Idee entstand, weil im Wesentlichen viele Informationen immer mehr in die westliche Welt geflossen sind.

Und durch die schnelle Globalisierung des Internets sind damit viele Nachrichten im Asienraum auch abhanden gekommen.

ANN wurde 1999 gegründet um eine Kooperationen zu schaffen und eine optimale Berichterstattung von wichtigen Ereignissen in der asiatischen Region zu gewährleisten.

### 2.1. Die ANN-Idee

Mitte 1997 trafen sich Redakteure aus Asien gemeinsam mit der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung zu einer Konferenz in Bangkok. In dieser Sitzung wurde über die Krise diskutiert und es entstand die Idee über ein Nachrichtennetz - das *Asia News Network*.

Die Idee für das Entstehen von *Asia News Network (ANN)* fundiert darauf, dass eine Vielzahl von asiatischen englischsprachigen Tageszeitungen sich zu einem Netzwerk gruppieren sollen, um den heutigen globalen Anforderungen der Nachrichten in Asien gewachsen zu sein.

<sup>11</sup> <http://de.thefreedictionary.com/Krise>

<sup>12</sup> ANN-Asia News Network-10 Years\_Werner vom Busch and Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/ size:vii

The core idea of the network was to increase awareness of regional developments amongst Asian readers. As most newspapers lacked the financial resources to hire foreign correspondents, the free exchange of news stories between Asian newspapers constituted a viable alternative.

It was hoped the pooling of news would reduce the dependency on non-Asian news agencies which were seen to lack a distinctly Asian perspective.<sup>13</sup>

Das Nachrichtennetz *Asia News Network (ANN)* ist ein Netzwerk von nationalen Tageszeitungen, die aus den asiatischen Ländern stammen. Mit dem Netzwerk soll der Hauptnachrichtenfluss im asiatischen Land optimiert werden.

This dependency on non-Asian news agencies challenged the shared vision of all members to provide authentic Asian news for their Asian readerships.

As explained by Isagani Yambot, Publisher of the *Philippine Daily Enquirer*.<sup>14</sup>

Mit dem freien Austausch von Nachrichten zwischen den asiatischen Tageszeitungen soll eine gangbare Alternative hergestellt werden.

The Asia News Network (ANN) is a network of national daily newspapers published in Asian cities, organized to provide avenues for cooperation and to optimize coverage of major news events in the region.<sup>15</sup>

Das Netz soll zur Sensibilisierung der regionalen Entwicklungen bei dem asiatischen Leser beitragen.

Die Leserschaft soll erhöht werden.

Aus dieser *ANN*- Idee heraus kam es Anfang Mai 1998 zu einer Konferenz.

Zusammen mit der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) und den asiatischen Hauptzeitungen, berieten sie sich über das Entstehen eines dauerhaften Nachrichtennetzes.

## **2.2. Der Beginn von ANN**

Anfang Mai 1998 fanden sich Redakteure aus verschiedenen asiatischen Ländern zusammen und berieten sich gemeinsam mit dem Kontakten der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in einem Treffen über die Idee eines professionellen asiatischen Nachrichtennetzwerks.

Die ersten konkreten Schritte zur Entwicklung eines Netzes von Hauptzeitungen in Asien wurden mit einer informellen Sitzung von Herausgebern von jenseits Asiens auf der philippinischen Insel von Palawan Anfang Mai 1998 gemacht.

Mit Hilfe der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) kam es in Palawan /Philippinen zu einem freundschaftlichen Zusammenschluss von einem Nachrichtennetz aus verschiedenen Tageszeitungen der Region von Südasiens.

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<sup>13</sup> ANN-Asia News Network-10 Years\_Werner vom Busch and Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/ size: 23

<sup>14</sup> ANN-Asia News Network-10 Years\_Werner vom Busch and Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/ size: 23

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/aboutann.php>

The first concrete steps towards the creation of a network of leading newspapers in Asia were taken at an informal meeting of Editors-in-Chief from across Asia, on the Philippine island of Palawan in early May 1998.<sup>16</sup>

Ein Jahr später organisierte die Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung im März 1999 die erste Konferenz. Mit sieben asiatischen Hauptzeitungen war das Zusammentreffen vollzählig.

Das Nachrichtennetzwerk bestand zu zunächst aus den Hauptzeitungen von Thailand, Bangkok, Vietnam, Indien, Singapur und Indonesien. Diese haben sich an der Gründung in der ANN-„Startentwicklung“ beteiligt. Bei dieser Zusammenarbeit ist ein überzeugendes Konzept entstanden, dass vor allem das Problem der „wegfließenden Nachrichten“ löst.

Im März 1999 trafen sich die Redaktionschefs von sieben führenden englischsprachigen Tageszeitungen aus den asiatischen Ländern zu einer Beratung zusammen.

The founding members of the ANN – *The Statesman* from India, *The Jakarta Post* from Indonesia, *Sin Chew Jit Poh* and *The Star* from Malaysia, *The Straits Times* from Singapore, *The Nation* from Thailand, and *Viêt Nam News* from Vietnam<sup>17</sup>

The meeting was organised by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and leveraged on the strong friendship and professional cooperation between the Asian participants.

The networking of newspapers in Asia was first discussed informally by the Asian editors who participated in the first Asian-German Editors' Forum organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation in Manila.

Encouraged by the warm fellowship among them and the success of the forum, the editors decided that a more permanent professional and business relationship be pursued not only among themselves but among their respective publications with the goal of improving the coverage of Asian affairs by Asian media.<sup>18</sup>

Together, they discussed the development of a more permanent network amongst themselves as individuals, and among their respective publications.<sup>19</sup>

Erst durch die Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) ist das *Asia News Network* (ANN) möglich geworden.

Die Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung war bei der Zusammensetzung des Netzwerks ANN besonders beitragend und nützlich.

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<sup>16</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/size: 22/23

<sup>17</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/Seite 24

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/aboutann.php>

<sup>19</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/size: 22/23

## 2.3. Kooperationsvertrag /“Memorandum of Agreement” (MOA)

In einem Kooperationsvertrag zwischen den asiatischen Tageszeitungen wurde mit dem *Memorandum of Agreement* (MOA) das gemeinsame Projekt schriftlich festgehalten. Hierbei wird noch einmal deutlich, welche Rechte und Pflichten alle Beteiligte erfüllen müssen.

Am 19.März 1999 kam es zur Unterzeichnung dieses *Memorandum of Agreement* (MOA).

Finally, the first ever organisational meeting of the Asia News Network took place in the Thai capital Bangkok, in March 1999. During this first meeting participants discussed the principles and operating mechanisms of the network, before signing the *Memorandum of Agreement* on 19 March 1999.<sup>20</sup>

In March 1999, ANN was born.

Der Hauptsitz von ANN befindet sich in den Büros der Nationalmultimediargruppe in Bangkok.

Philippine island of Palawan in early May 1998. The meeting was organised by the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation and leveraged on the strong friendship and professional cooperation between the Asian participants. Together, they discussed the development of a more permanent network amongst themselves as individuals, and among their respective publications.<sup>21</sup>

## 3. Konzept



Zusammen mit der KAS und den asiatischen Hauptzeitungen besprachen sie die Entwicklung eines Nachrichtennetzes.

The concept of development journalism that arose from these initiatives was meant to serve the development of Asian countries and stood in contrast to dominant Western ideas of the role of the media.

In sharp contrast to Western preferences for an adversarial press independent from government, Asian media was seen to counter-balance press freedom with responsibility and to take on a supporting role in the government's efforts at economic growth and political progress.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/Seite 24

<sup>21</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/Seite 23

<sup>22</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/size: 7

Das *Asia News Network* (ANN) soll vor allem der Entwicklung der asiatischen Länder dienen.

### **3.1. Primäre Gründe für das Entstehen von ANN**

Firstly, the need to produce stories that correspond to the demands of editors and readers are often influenced by domestic politics such as changes in the bilateral ties between the journalist's own country and the country he or she is reporting on.

Secondly, lack of expert knowledge about the country that a journalist may report on and their limited language skills, results in one-dimensional coverage.

Thirdly, time pressures faced by foreign journalists who are sent abroad to cover breaking news events allow inadequate time for the necessary background research to verify their stories.<sup>24</sup>

Ein Kooperationsaufbau zwischen den täglich erscheinenden asiatischen Tageszeitungen soll entstehen.

Eine schnelle, qualitative und fortschrittliche Nachrichtenverbreitung bzw. Berichterstattung im asiatischen Raum soll ermöglicht werden.

Asiatisches Nationswachstum durch gegenseitiges Bewusstsein soll sich entwickeln.

Kein Globalisierungsdruck, denn das nationale Wachstum und die Integration sollen nicht behindert werden.

Asiens internationale Sichtbarkeit soll verbessert werden.

Die asiatischen Tageszeitungen sollen von Einheimischen gekauft werden.

Die asiatische Leserschaft soll erhöht werden.

Mit dem Netzwerk soll aus dem regionalen Tagesgeschehen informiert und gleichzeitig die Leserschaft sensibilisiert werden.

Es soll der "Vereinheitlichung professioneller Standards im Journalismus der Region" dienen.

Ein professioneller bzw. fortschrittlicher Tagesnachrichtenmarkt muss wachsen und bestehen.

Die regionale Netzwerkbildung soll der Stabilisierung der Zeitungslandschaft nutzen.

Ferner soll ANN durch den freien Austausch von Informationen und Meinungen auch die Demokratieentwicklung in den einzelnen Ländern fördern.

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<sup>24</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/size: 8

At the beginning of a new millennium, newspapers across Asia are confronted with an array of challenges. As globalisation pressures require Asian countries to seek closer integration of their national economies, the media has the potential to play an important facilitating role by increasing mutual awareness amongst Asian nations. Equally important is the need to improve Asia's international visibility, and do justice to its growing economic and political standing by adding Asian voices and perspective to international interpretations on regional development.

At the same time, political and social transformations within Asia itself need a professional media that is capable of supporting further progress.<sup>23</sup>

In addition, there are other more mundane reasons for what is perceived to be biased coverage of Asia by Western journalists.

### **3.2. Drei wichtige Ansätze für die Konzeption von ANN**

1. Die Asiaten schätzen das politische Gespräch und die politische Reife.
2. Durch die asiatische Währungskrise von 1997 drohte sich der Wirtschaftsfortschritt in Frage zu stellen.
3. Das digitale Zeitalter hat begonnen und die Printmedien haben dadurch einen starken Rivalen, - das Internet.

### **3.3. Die Ziele von ANN / Objectives:**

Ziel ist es eine zusammenarbeitende Organisation zu entwickeln, die eine optimale Berichterstattung von wichtigen Ereignissen in der Region gewährleisten kann.

Objectives:

1. To enhance and improve news coverage of Asian affairs.
2. To provide member newspapers with reliable access to news sources in Asia
3. To help promote the professional development of journalism in the region.<sup>25</sup>

Auf dieser Basis soll eine Mitarbeiterbeziehung entstehen, die auf gegenseitiger Rücksicht und Freundschaft gedeiht.

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<sup>23</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/size: 14

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/aboutann.php>

## 4. Durchführung/Implementation



Durch das Vertrauen in die Freundschaften der Beteiligten, konnte das ANN bis heute stetig weiter wachsen.

Die Deutsche Presse Agentur (dpa) ist mit dem Projekt von ANN seit 2008 mit involviert.

### 4.1. Organisation von ANN

Das *Asia News Network* besteht aus 21 englischsprachigen, asiatischen, nationalen Tageszeitungen und 18 asiatischen Ländern. (Einige Länder sind vereinzelt auch mit zwei unterschiedlichen Tageszeitungen in ANN involviert.)

Zwischen den Tageszeitungen vom *Asia News Network (ANN)* fließt ein täglicher informativer Nachrichtenaustausch, der vor allem den asiatischen Ländern dient.

Durch die Erlöse vom *ANN* können unter anderem auch zunehmend wichtige Auslandskorrespondenten eingesetzt werden.

Eine Internetpräsenz unter <http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/> ist ebenfalls global platziert.

### 4.2. Zusammenhalt von ANN (Faktoren)

Durch das regelmäßige Treffen der Mitglieder pflegt und baut sich das *Asia News Network (ANN)* ein stabiles und menschliches Fundament auf.

Auf dieser Basis sind Mitarbeiterbeziehungen entstanden, die auf gegenseitige Rücksicht und Freundschaften gewachsen sind.

Ein einzigartiges Modell mit dem Ziel einer großartigen Zusammenarbeit.

### 4.3. ANN-Projects

The network shall sponsor projects that will generate news for the region.<sup>26</sup>

### 4.4. MEETINGS

The Executive Board shall meet twice a year.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/aboutann.php>

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/aboutann.php>

#### **4.5. Kooperation mit Germany**

Die Deutsche Presse Agentur (dpa) ist seit 2008 in dem *ANN*-Projekt involviert. Die dpa nutzt die Arbeit vom *ANN* mit.

In 2008 a contract with Deutsche Press Association [dpa] was signed. Dpa now receives about 50 *ANN* stories a day, giving dpa an amazing coverage of Asia and enabling *ANN* contributed stories to be published around the world.<sup>28</sup>

#### **4.6. Mitgliedschaft/ MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the *ANN* will be by invitation. Acceptance of a new member will be decided by consensus by the Executive Board.

Membership in the network shall be by institution, not by individual. Each Asian country shall be represented by one English newspaper, unless otherwise decided by the Board, and a vernacular newspaper, the utility of which shall be assessed by the same Board.

Membership of a newspaper will lapse if the Board decides that a newspaper has not contributed productively to *ANN*.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Asia News Network-10 Years/Werner vom Busch u. Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/2008/size: viii

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.asianewsnetwork.net/home/aboutann.php>

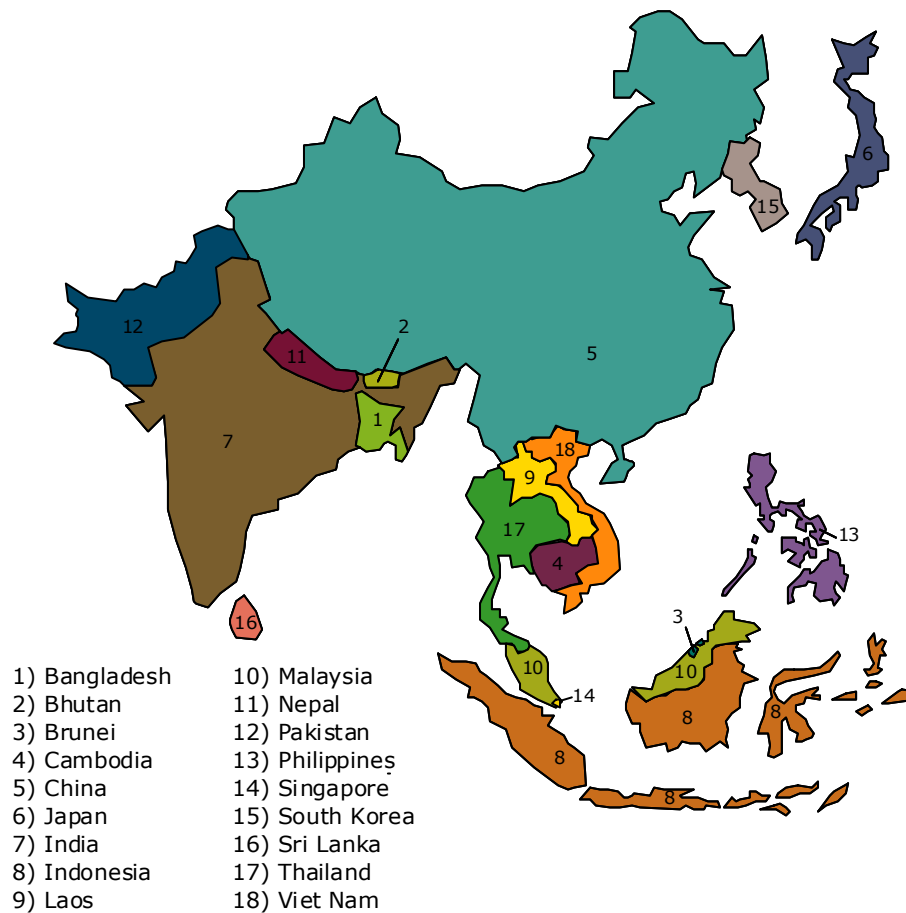


## 5. ANN-Mitglieder



Die Mitglieder vom Asia News Network bestehen aus englischsprachigen asiatischen Tageszeitungen und der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

### Asien auf einem Blick



### 5.1. Members and the press laws

#### 5.1.1. Bangladesh

„THE DAILY STAR“



„The Daily Star“

Erstausgabe: since 1991

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/index.php>

Editor-in-Chief : **Mr Mahfuz Anam**, , The Daily Star

*Journalisten verlassen sich auf private Nachrichtenagenturen*

The official government-owned news service is Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS). In addition to their own network of correspondents and reporters, most newspapers rely on BSS and private news agencies for ready access to news and information. In line with the country's privatisation policy, state-owned newspapers were closed down in 1997. Subsequently, the print media is privately-owned and has a strong tradition of owner-editorship. The government exerts indirect pressure and leverage on the press through distribution of advertisements that form a major part of newspaper revenue.<sup>30</sup>

### 5.1.2. Bhutan

“Kuensel”



“Kuensel”

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.kuenselonline.com/>

### 5.1.3. Brunei

„THE BRUNEI TIMES“

# THE BRUNEI TIMES

„The Brunei Times“

Erstausgabe: since 2006

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.bt.com.bn/en/>

*Bruneis Presse sind unter Einfluss der königlichen Familie*

In general, all media tread very carefully in the reporting on political and religious matters. The Prime Minister's Office is directly responsible for regulating the broadcasting industry and for all matters pertaining to information and media. The events of 1962 left a clear mark on the media industry, as the introduction of emergency powers led to restricted freedom of

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<sup>30</sup> AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 54

speech and the press. In 2001, Brunei introduced the “The Newspaper Act”, which codifies existing practice regarding press freedom. Local and foreign media have to register and obtain an annual licence provided by the home affairs minister, and deposit 100,000 Brunei dollars (US\$ 70,000) in a government account (Art. 3A & Art.3B). Regulations under Art. 4 of the law also allow the government to suspend the publication of any local or foreign newspaper for a period not exceeding six months for offences under the country’s “Sedition Act”. Journalists deemed to have published or written “false” and “malicious” reports can be subjected to fines or prison sentences of up to three years (Art. 7).<sup>31</sup>

#### 5.1.4. Cambodia „RASMEI KAMPUCHEA“



“Rasmei Kamuchea“  
Erstausgabe: since 1993  
Sprache: Englisch  
Website: <http://www.cen.com.kh/>

#### *Versicherte Pressefreiheit von 1993*

The Press Law was adopted in 1995, and the Criminal Code (an interim penal code written by UNTAC) was introduced in 1993. (In Article 62 of the code journalists could face a 1 month to one year jail term if found guilty of defamation and if the story threatened public disorder or national security). On 26 May 2006, the National Assembly decriminalized defamation, but the penalty for defamation is still from \$250 to \$2,500. The general situation for the media in Cambodia is freedom with minor restrictions. Press freedom has improved substantially compared to 15 years ago and there is no systematic repression of the press, regardless of its political alignment. However, journalism remains a dangerous profession in this country, with journalists facing suspensions, intimidation, threats, arrests and killings. Over the last five years, there has been a steady increase in media sources, although many local media companies depend financially on patrons or parties (who require loyalty). The major obstacles to free media coverage are government officials and Article 12 of the Press Law, which deals with national security. There is no clear definition of national security, but that term can be easily used as a pretext to accuse or jail journalists the government does not like. However, laws in almost every sphere of the state are not being implemented and Article 12 has not been used in an obsessive manner.<sup>32</sup>

<sup>31</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 58

<sup>32</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 63

**5.1.5. China**  
**„CHINA DAILY“ and**  
**„THE CHINA POST“**



China Daily“  
Erstausgabe: since 1981  
Sprache: Englisch  
Website: <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/>  
Editor-in-Chief: **Mr Zhu Ling**, China Daily



“The China Post”  
Erstausgabe: since 1952  
Sprache: Englisch  
Website: <http://www.chinapost.com.tw/>  
Deputy Director: **Mr Daniel Huang**, The China Post

*Journalisten können bestraft oder für heikle Berichte eingesperrt werden*

The rights of the media are not enshrined in China’s 1982 Constitution. Although Article 25 states that “[c]itizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, of association, of procession and of demonstration”, this is not enforced in practice. Regular meetings are held by government officials, with editors of influential papers, to clarify the stories the state wants reported and unreported. Taboo issues include the Falun Gong movement, China’s policies towards Taipei and Tibet and the questioning of the CPC’s legitimacy. Journalists are often fined or jailed for critical reports. They are also subject to physical attacks by security forces and businessmen. ‘Reporters Without Borders’ was of the opinion that journalism had become the third most dangerous job in China after mining and the police. Other methods employed to silence reporters include defamation suits. Foreign reporters have to register with the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry which reserves the right to approve and reject applications. Those who succeed are closely monitored.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 69/70

### 5.1.6. India

„THE STATESMAN“

## The Statesman

“The Statesman”

Erstausgabe: since 1875

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.thestatesman.net/>

Editor and Managing Editor: **Mr Ravindra Kumar**, The Statesman

*In Indien wird die Presse von der Regierung geregelt*

The press is regulated by the government through the Registrar of Newspapers of India (RNI) created in 1956. The RNI's responsibilities include: compiling and maintaining a register with particulars about all newspapers published in the country; the issuing of certificates of registration to the newspapers published under valid declaration; and ensuring that newspapers are published in accordance with the provisions of the Press and Registration of Books Act. The plethora of print media available across the country ensures the proliferation of a diversity of views. Press freedom and the maintenance and improvement of the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India are facilitated by the Press Council, established by the Press Council Act of 1978. Its functions include: (i) helping newspapers and news agencies to maintain their independence; (ii) building up a code of conduct for newspapers, news agencies and journalists; (iii) keeping under review any development likely to restrict supply and dissemination of news of public interest and importance; and (iv) concerning itself with aspects of ownership of newspapers and news agencies which may effect the independence of the press.<sup>34</sup>

### 5.1.7. Indonesia

„THE JAKARTA POST“

## The Jakarta Post

“The Jakarta Post”

Erstausgabe: since 1992

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.thejakartapost.com/>

Chief Editor: **Mr Endy Bayuni**, The Jakarta Post

*Die Pressefreiheit in Indonesien ist wichtigster Bestandteil*

Article 28E of Indonesia's Constitution guarantees freedom of expression. Press Law No. 40 was ratified in 1999, annulling the 1966 and 1982 versions previously introduced under President Soeharto. The law eliminates press licensing and removes the ability of the

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<sup>34</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 77

government to ban publications. It guarantees freedom of the press (Article 2), calls for self-regulation through an independent Press Council and also permits correction, clarification and the right of reply. Press Law No. 40/1999 states explicitly that there will be no censorship by any institutions. Notably though, the freedom to express an opinion, either verbally, written or in any other form, is subject to the Indonesian Criminal Code which supersedes the press law. In November 2006, the Ministry of Information created an agency aimed at preventing online crime among local users. Under the decree, internet cafes are required to provide the identities of internet users to the agency, monthly. Indonesian journalists have the right to access and participate in all public meetings held by the government and parliament, and can freely report on, or broadcast these events. The press law allows the press to work independently, with the boundaries being set by an ethical code defined by an independent Press Council. There is no restriction in accessing information except in the area of banking and finance where the Central Bank Law imposes certain restrictions.<sup>35</sup>

As a result of the reform process, freedom of the press has become a more important component of Indonesia's democratisation process. By and large, the media is able to report freely without the blatant censorship and repression that occurred during the 'New Order' era. With the introduction of Press Law N. 40, the legal environment of the media has improved considerably. However, persistent lack of understanding of the function of press freedom amongst Indonesian law enforcers means that journalists do not benefit fully from the legal protection offered by Press Law No. 40. Current dangers to the press include violence and intimidation by non-state actors and the practice of 'envelope journalism'.<sup>36</sup>

#### 5.1.8. Japan

„THE YOMIURI SHINBUN“  
and „THE DAILY YOMIURI“



“The Yomiuri Shimbun”

Erstausgabe: since 1998

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/>

### THE DAILY YOMIURI

“The Daily Yomiuri”

Erstausgabe: since 1874

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/>

Managing Editor: **Mr Shinichi Hirano**, The Daily Yomiuri

<sup>35</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 83

<sup>36</sup> ANN--AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 84

### *Japans freie Presse ist eingeschränkt*

Japan's media scene reflects the supremacy of consensus and cooperation that characterises its political and social life. To a large degree, newspapers aim to avoid confrontation with the government, or their competitors - often going as far as to agree on the days when no publications will be produced. Nonetheless, Japan's formally free press is restricted by the existence of the press club system. Every official agency in Japan has a press club and allows only those reporters to its press conferences who are also members. As daily briefings tend not to allow questions from the journalists in attendance, government agencies are in a favourable situation of passing information to the press. In addition, government agencies establish the rules for transmitting and publishing the news, with penalties for the publication of unauthorized material administered by the Japanese Newspaper Association. As a result of the press club environment, journalistic potential is being restricted as all journalists generally receive the same information.<sup>37</sup>

#### **5.1.9. Korea**

##### **„THE KOREA HERALD“**

## THE NATION'S NO. 1 ENGLISH NEWSPAPER **The Korea Herald**

“The Korea Herald”

Erstausgabe: since 1953

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/>

Editor-in-Chief: **Mr Choi Nam-hyun**, The Korea Herald

### *Pressefreiheit und keine Zensur in Korea*

Generally speaking, the South Korean press enjoys a high degree of freedom. The era of illegal oppression of the press and journalists ended in 1987 when the repressive ‘Basic Press Law’ was repealed following liberalisation in politics. While there is no censorship of the press by a government agency, journalists at times apply self censorship in their reporting on North Korea. Outside observers have also criticized pressure tactics used by the South Korean government and the business community to influence reporting.

The latter has given rise to the concept of editorial independence which calls on press owners to respect the independence of journalists over personal business interests. The press in South Korea enjoys a constitutionally guaranteed freedom. Article 21 of the Constitution stipulates that all citizens “shall enjoy freedom of speech and the press” and that ‘licensing or censorship of speech and the press [...] shall not be recognized’. Clause 4 of the Article also states that “neither speech nor the press shall violate the honour or rights of other persons nor undermine public morals or social ethics.” This clause further states that citizens may request remedy to the damages inflicted upon their reputation and rights, by the press or publications. In line with this constitutional mandate, various procedural laws have been enacted: the most prominent of such laws are the ‘Registration of Periodicals Act’ and the ‘Integrated Broadcasting Act’. The Broadcasting Act of 2000 ensures freedom and independence of

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<sup>37</sup>ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 89

broadcasting and, thereby, seeks the protection of television viewers' interests, a democratic formation of public opinion and the advancement of national culture.<sup>38</sup>

The provisions of Article 21, Clause 4 of the Constitution have been implemented with the establishment of a 'Press Arbitration Commission', which is the first stop for filing complaints against the press before proceeding to the court. The 'Code of Press Ethics' was first adopted in 1957 and is jointly endorsed by three of the nation's major professional associations: the Korean Newspapers' Association, the Korea News Editors' Association, and the Journalists' Association of Korea. Revised and expanded in 1996, the code and its Standards of Practice are a meticulously detailed statement on ethical issues. The 'Korean Press Ethics Commission' serves as Korea's press council under the guidelines of the 'Code of Press Ethics'. Adhering to the code is voluntary. There is no formal constraint of the press or licensing of journalists. While South Korea retains the controversial 'National Security Law', which allows the government to censor publications or block access to websites favourable to North Korea, it is rarely invoked. The 'Governing the Guarantee of Freedom and Functions of Newspapers Act' of 2005, commonly known as 'Newspaper Act', includes a clause under which any daily newspapers with a market share of 30 percent or any three daily newspapers with a combined share of 60 percent, are subject to monopoly regulations under the 'Fair Trade Act'. In June 2006, the Constitutional Court ruled that the clause was contrary to freedom of the press and enterprise. While President Lee Myung-bak, who won the elections in South Korea in December 2007, has pledged to abolish the law, as of 2008 it remains in force.<sup>39</sup>

#### 5.1.10. Laos

„VIENTIANE TIMES“



“Vientiane Times”

Erstausgabe: since 1960

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.vientianetimes.org.la/>

*Die Laos Regierung kontrolliert die Presse*

All print and broadcast media in Laos is owned and directly controlled by the government, which issues publication licences. The Mass Media Department of the Ministry of Information and Culture (MIC) decides when and how issues have to be covered and makes sure that all media remains the mouthpiece of the government. It appears that newspapers often print reports received from the official news agency without further investigation or editing. Under the country's Criminal Law, undermining state authority, distorting party policies and spreading false rumours, are criminal offences that carry prison sentences. A

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<sup>38</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 94/9523

<sup>39</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 95



draft law which would allow the development of private media has not been implemented. Similarly, no press law has yet been adopted in Laos.<sup>40</sup>

#### 5.1.11. Malaysia

„THE STAR“ and  
„SIN CHEW DAILY“



“The Star”

Erstausgabe: since 1971

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.thestar.com.my/>

Group Chief Editor: **Mr Wong Chun Wai**, The Star



“Sin Chew Daily”

Erstausgabe: since 1929

Sprache: Chinese

Website: <http://www.mysinchew.com/>

Executive Editor-in-Chief: **Mr Pook Ah Lek**, Sin Chew Daily

#### *Eingeschränkte Pressefreiheit in Malaysia*

Malaysia’s strict control of the press is largely the continuation of restrictive policies implemented by the British in the 1930s, in an attempt to prevent the spread of communism. According to Article 10(a) of the Federal Constitution of Malaysia “every citizen has the right to freedom of speech and expression”, which are, however, subject to restrictions which Parliament deems “necessary [...] in the interest of the security of the Federation [...] friendly relations with other countries, public order or morality and restrictions designed to protect the

<sup>40</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 98/99

privileges of Parliament or of any Legislative Assembly or to provide against contempt of court, defamation, or incitement to any offence”.<sup>41</sup>

Political parties and their investment companies control the major newspapers in Malaysia, resulting in strong political and economic ties between the government and the media. Under Article 3(1) of the Printing and Publications Act, all domestic and foreign publications and printers must apply annually to the government for a permit. The same act enables the Minister of Home Affairs to revoke any publication licensees deemed: “likely to be prejudicial to public order, morality, [or] security”; likely to “alarm public opinion”; or likely to “be prejudicial to [...] national interest” (Article 7(1). If the Minister refuses to grant or renew a permit, no legal remedy or judicial review is available. “Any decision of the Minister [...] to suspend a licence or permit shall be final and shall not be called in question by any court on any ground whatsoever,” and “[n]o person shall be given an opportunity to be heard with regard to [...] suspension of the licence or permit” according to the act (Article 13A - 13B). Foreign journalists working in Malaysia are required to register with the Home Ministry, as well as to furnish the Ministry of Information with details about their professional and personal background before receiving a government issued pass.<sup>42</sup>

#### 5.1.12. Nepal

##### „THE KATHMANDU POST“



“The Kathmandu Post”

Erstausgabe: since 1993

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.ekantipur.com/the-kathmandu-post/>

Editor: **Mr Akhilesh Upadhyay**, The Kathmandu Post

##### *Pressefreiheit, Einspruchsrecht und das Recht auf Information in Nepal*

The 1990 Constitution of Nepal guaranteed press freedom, freedom of expression, and the right to information. Similarly, the preamble of the Interim Constitution of 2007 expresses official commitment to full freedom of the press, an independent judiciary and the rule of law. In Article 12, the document guarantees freedom of expression to every citizen while granting the opportunity for “reasonable restrictions on any act which may undermine the sovereignty and integrity of Nepal, or which may jeopardize the harmonious relations subsisting among the peoples of various castes, tribes, religions or communities, or on any act of defamation, contempt of court or incitement to an offence; or on any act which may be contrary to decent public behaviour or morality”.<sup>43</sup>

<sup>41</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 10

<sup>42</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 102/103

<sup>43</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 10

The 2003 Journalist Code of Conduct Act defines the task of journalists and the media as, amongst others, protecting and promoting press freedom (3(1)), safeguarding and enforcing the right to information (3 (3)), imparting true, factual, impartial as well as balanced information in order to achieve the goal of professional journalism (3 (4)), and recognising the right to privacy (3 (6)). The act prohibits journalists from carrying out acts that undermine the sovereignty and integrity of Nepal's multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious society, that jeopardise harmonious relations, that contain acts of defamation or contempt of court, or that are contrary to decent public behaviour or morality (4 (1)). However, the constitutional guarantee of press freedom and freedom of expression can be overruled by other legal provisions, such as the Public Security Act, which greatly diminishes the protection of journalists in the country.<sup>44</sup>

### 5.1.13. Pakaistan „THE NATION“



“The Nation”

Erstausgabe: since 1986

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.nation.com.pk/>

Editor: **Mr Arif Nizami**, The Nation (Pakistan)

*Noch unklar, durch die Unruhen im Land*

To date, the registration of publications or journalists remains merely an administrative act. Nonetheless, as has been noted above, various attempts have been made in the past to pass legislation that would increase the government's influence on this process. Foreign correspondents require accreditation by the Press and Information Departments under the Ministry of Information, which reportedly can be difficult to obtain for Indian journalists. Pakistan's proximity to Afghanistan has led to an increase of foreign journalists seeking to use the country as their base in the wake of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001. In spring 2008, the International Federation of Journalists reported that Pakistan's new government was planning to withdraw restrictions on the media that were put in place when emergency rule was imposed in November 2007. This includes the proposal to cease punishment for journalists who “defame” the president, the government or the army.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 108/109

<sup>45</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 113

#### 5.1.14. Philippines „PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER“



“Philippines Daily Inquirer”

Erstausgabe: since 1985

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.inquirer.net/>

Publisher: **Mr Isagani Yambot**, Philippine Daily Inquirer

*Garantie der Pressefreiheit nicht ganz sicher*

Although press freedom was curtailed during martial rule under Marcos, this was reversed under the 1987 Philippine Constitution. Section 4 of Article 3 states, “no law shall be passed abridging the freedom of speech, of expression or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances.” According to Section 7 of Article 3, the people’s right “to information on matters of public concern shall be recognized. Access to official records, and to documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions or decisions, as well as to government research data used as basis for policy development, shall be afforded the citizen, subject to such limitation as may be provided by law.” However, constitutional guarantee of press freedom has occasionally been undermined in practice. For instance, the Philippines’ libel laws have been used to silence journalists. According to the ‘Reporters Without Borders’ 2007 annual report, José Miguel Arroyo, President Gloria Arroyo’s husband, brought 43 suits against journalists critical of him. However, the suits were dropped after the journalists filed a counterclaim for violating press freedom guaranteed in the Constitution. Arroyo also declared a state of emergency in 2006 in the face of a rebellion within the army, during which the crackdown on generals was extended to include a police search of the Daily Tribune, an opposition press. The World Association of Newspapers’ 2004/2005 Report, labelled the Philippines as “the deadliest country for journalists in the world”, citing over 50 journalists killed between 1986 and 2005, with nine slaughtered between November 2004 and May 2005. ‘Reporters Without Borders’ alleged that at least six journalists were murdered “while doing their job” in 2006, implicating politicians, the military and law enforcers, seeking to silence reporters. While government efforts are being made to address this endemic problem, through the establishment of an investigative taskforce, success is very limited, partly because of collusion inside the justice system.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 118

### 5.1.15. Singapore „THE STRAITS TIME“



“The Straits Times”

Erstausgabe: since 1845 “The Straits Time”, since 1965 “The New Straits Time”

Sprache: English

Website: <http://www.straitstimes.com/Home.html>

Deputy Editor: **Mr Felix Soh**, The Straits Times

*Die “Media Development Authority” (MDA) beaufsichtigt*

Section 14 (1a) of the Singapore Constitution provides for freedom of speech and expression, subject to restrictions Parliament considers necessary “in the interest of the security of Singapore”, “public order or morality”, “or to provide against contempt of court, defamation or incitement to any offence” as stated in Section 14 (2a). In line with the core idea of the Asian values debate which originated in Singapore in the early 1990s, the Singaporean press is expected to take on a supporting role in the government’s economic growth and political progress. The Media Development Authority (MDA) supervises all forms of media operating in Singapore, including newspapers. In addition to helping develop local media content and encouraging investment, the MDA seeks to ensure that communication outlets pay attention to the two national goals of maintaining social harmony and furthering economic growth. The agency is also tasked with enhancing competition between, and maintaining the quality of, the two major media groups, the SPH and the MCS. The principal piece of legislation that affects print publications is the ‘Newspaper and Printing Presses Act’ (NPPA). Section 21 (1) requires all local and foreign publications, printers and the primary personnel associated with those publications, to be registered with, and licensed by, the government and to have those permits renewed every year. According to Section 21 (3b), before granting the permit [the Minister] “may require the applicant to execute a bond with or without sureties to secure the payment of any penalties which may be imposed upon the newspaper company, proprietor or editor of the newspaper under this Act or under any other written law”. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act is punishable with a “fine not exceeding \$50,000” or “imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both” (Section 33 (1)). The government also has the power to seize and detain illegal newspapers (Section 34) and to search for and seize illegal printing presses (Section 40).<sup>47</sup>

The principal piece of legislation that affects print publications is the ‘Newspaper and Printing Presses Act’ (NPPA). Section 21 (1) requires all local and foreign publications, printers and the primary personnel associated with those publications, to be registered with, and licensed by, the government and to have those permits renewed every year. According to Section 21 (3b), before granting the permit [the Minister] “may require the applicant to execute a bond with or without sureties to secure the payment of any penalties which may be imposed upon the newspaper company, proprietor or editor of the newspaper under this Act or under any other written law”. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act is punishable with a “fine not exceeding \$50,000” or “imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both”

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<sup>47</sup>ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 122

(Section 33 (1)). The government also has the power to seize and detain illegal newspapers (Section 34) and to search for and seize illegal printing presses (Section 40).<sup>48</sup>

The NPPA also regulates ownership of newspaper companies stating that any given individual or group can only own three percent or less of the total stock of a newspaper company. Section 10 (1b) of the NPPA allows two types of shareholders. Only persons approved by the government are allowed to buy ‘management shares’ (Section 10 (1c)) while others may buy ‘ordinary shares’. The difference between the two is with their voting powers, specifically on editorial policy and personnel decisions. Each management share vote is worth 200 times the vote of an ordinary share (Section 10 (11)). The power to approve the acquisition of management shares allows the Singapore Government to influence the editorial governance of all local newspapers and magazines. A 1986 amendment to the NPPA allowed the government’s Ministry of Communication to reduce the number of copies of any foreign publication circulated in Singapore that is seen to engage in domestic politics. The Singapore Government continuously stresses that foreign newspapers may circulate in Singapore as foreign observers, while refraining from interfering in the country’s domestic politics. Furthermore, it insists on the right of reply and refuses to allow editing of its statements.<sup>49</sup>

Local newspapers have adapted to their specified functions of providing education and information within the existing setup in Singapore. Furthermore, Singaporeans appear generally happy with the content and coverage of their country by the local press, and do not necessarily want aggressive, combative or crusading journalism. The government alone has the right to set the national agenda and priorities, by virtue of having won elections and repeatedly receiving a mandate for its policies from the people.<sup>50</sup>

#### **5.1.16. Sri Lanka „THE ISLAND”**



“The Island”

Erstausgabe: since 1981

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.island.lk/>

Editor-in-Chief: **Mr Prabath Sahabandu**, The Island

*Eingeschränkte Pressefreiheit für die Staatssicherheit*

Although the constitution provides for freedom of speech and expression, the government restricts these rights in practice, often using national security as the rationale, in particular during periods of intense civil war between the Sinhalese and the Tamils. In the past, this has included censorship of newspapers and the electronic media, physical harassment of

<sup>48</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 122

<sup>49</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 122/123

<sup>50</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 124

journalists, and government legal action against members of the press. According to a 2006 Report of the International Press Institute, on the media situation in Sri Lanka, there was a serious deterioration in security with threats, abductions and attacks committed by all parties in the conflict, particularly paramilitary and militia groups. Eight media workers have been killed since August 2005 and there have been numerous death threats and incidents of harassment, including violent attempts to stop the distribution of newspapers. Even when evidence of the identity of alleged killers exists, little or no action has been taken by the relevant authorities. The International Federation of Journalists states in its sixth 'Annual IFJ Press Freedom Report for South Asia' that a range of emergency regulations has been introduced that restrict access to conflict affected areas, for civil society actors and the media.<sup>51</sup>

### 5.1.17. Thailand „THE NATION“



“The Nation”

Erstausgabe: since 1971

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://www.nationmultimedia.com/home/>

President: **Mr Pana Janviroj**, The Nation (Thailand)

#### *Grundsätzliche Beschränkungen*

The rights and liberties of Thai citizens are enshrined in Article 3 of the 1997 Constitution. While Section 37 states that “a person shall enjoy the liberty of communication by lawful means,” this provision adds a qualification that “the censorship, detention or disclosure of communication between persons including any other act disclosing a statement in the communication between persons shall not be made except by virtue of the provisions of the law specifically enacted for security of the State or maintaining public order or good morals.” Similar qualifications are made in Section 39 which pertains to the “liberty to express his or her opinion, make speeches, write, print, publicise, and make expression by other means,” and Section 58 relating to the “right to get access to public information in possession of a Courts, agency, Courts enterprise or local government.” The impartiality of the media is reinforced in Section 41 of Article 3, which states that “Officials or employees in the private sector undertaking newspaper or radio or television broadcasting businesses shall enjoy the liberty to present news and express their opinions under the constitutional restrictions without the mandate of any State agency, State enterprise or the owner of such businesses; provided that it is not contrary to their professional ethics.”<sup>52</sup>

<sup>51</sup>ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 127/128

<sup>52</sup>ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 138

### 5.1.18. Vietnam „VIET NAM NEWS“



“Viet Nam News”

Erstausgabe: since 1991

Sprache: Englisch

Website: <http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/Home/Index.html>

Editor-in-Chief: **Mr Tran Mai Huong**, Viet Nam News

*Kontrolle von der Regierung.*

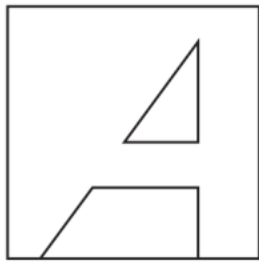
Print journalists are required to follow the Code of Ethics of the Vietnam Journalist’s Association. Foreign journalists must be approved by the Foreign Ministry’s press centre and they must be based in Hanoi. Local staff working for foreign media must be registered with the ministry. Internet access is available through a limited number of domestic, stateowned internet service providers that are required to store information transmitted on the internet, for at least 15 days. Vietnam’s cyber-cafes are obliged to register the personal information of their customers, to store records of internet sites visited by customers for 30 days, and to cooperate with public security officials in monitoring internet activities. The government uses firewalls to block Web sites that it deems politically or culturally inappropriate.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>53</sup>ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 143



### 5.1.19. Die Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)



Konrad  
Adenauer  
Stiftung

#### THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Board is composed of the editors of the full members, namely:

The chairman of the Executive Board shall have a term of one year.

The 2009/2010 board chairperson is **Mr Nguyen Tien Le**.

**Mr Paul Linnarz**, Regional Representative (Media) of KAS shall serve as adviser to the Board.

## 6. Arbeitsweise



Alle Mitglieder unterstützen sich  
bei dem veröffentlichen von Nachrichten.  
Man tauscht sich untereinander aus.

### 6.1. Operating Mechanism

1. All members shall be free to publish news stories, analyses, features and photographs from the network members.
2. Each network member will contribute a least five stories everyday from which other members may choose to print in their publications. The contributions may include any kind of story that may be deemed useful to the others, such as politics, regional conflicts, economy, human interest, and sports. Photographs may also be requested from any of the network members.
3. The newspaper that was the source of the story, analysis or photograph shall be given credit in the publication that uses these, along with the network. For example: The Jakarta Post/Asia News Network. Bylines of reporters shall be at the discretion of the editors.
4. Each member shall appoint an editor to the network with whom ANN members can communicate regarding specific requirements. A central coordinator shall be appointed to look after the daily contributions of the network members. The position of central coordinator shall be rotated quarterly.
5. Network members shall help one another whenever they can through sharing of facilities and manpower. In the event of coverage by a reporter of one newspaper to another member's country, the network member in "host" country shall extend support by means of free use of its library system and email and make available contacts known by the "host". On certain occasions, special arrangements may also be made among network members. The network member requesting the coverage shall bear the direct costs incurred in the assignment.
6. A network member may request special reports and background information from any of the other members. A member should try to deliver on a best effort basis but may decline if the request requires extensive work and additional resources.

7. Network members may embark on an exchange program for their journalists, either on a bilateral basis or as a group.

8. A website shall be installed for the operations of ANN.<sup>54</sup>

Mit dem Erlösen können ausländische Korrespondenten bezahlt werden, die international frei arbeiten sollen.

## **6.2. Journalistische Grundsätze/ conventional journalistic principles**

1. “Whenever there is a reference to development, try to make it concrete in terms of human experience” (p.151). Journalists should write about people as subjects, actors and agents rather than as objects or victims with “needs deficits”.

2. A development-oriented journalist would never forget the dimension of democracy. “The task of the media is to report what the system is doing. Democracy can only function when there is a free flow of information between people, the system and the media. Using the media to make people visible, both as objects and as subjects, becomes one task. Using it to expose the system through investigative reporting is the second. Using the media to expose media that fail to do their job, is the third” (p. 160).

3. Consider the possibility of reporting about development, not critically in terms of problems, but constructively in terms of positive programmes. Success stories may contribute to a general sense of optimism that can generate more momentum for democracy and development. People in similar situations elsewhere can benefit from such success stories if the report is adequately concrete (p. 162).

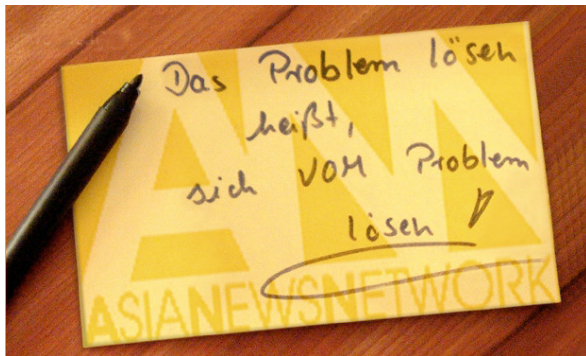
Allow the “people” to talk. This means giving them a voice. A useful approach is for journalists to sit down with a range of people to discuss the meaning of development to generate “an enormous range of visions” as well as “how-to” insights (pp.163-164).<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> <http://www.asianewsnets.net/home/aboutann.php>

<sup>55</sup> Best Practices of Journalism in Asia\_Eric Loo\_KAS\_size 4

## 7. Problem



Vor der Gründung vom Asia News Network flossen immer wieder Nachrichten in die westliche Welt.

### 7.1. Der westliche Haupteinfluss

Das Problem lag hauptsächlich in der ungleichmäßigen Verbreitung von Nachrichten, besonders in den Entwicklungsländern.

Die westlichen Medien hatten den größten Haupteinfluss.

Observers fear that the dominance of Western news wires in terms of capacity and resources makes the quest for non-biased reporting on international and Asian affairs an uphill struggle.<sup>56</sup>

Many people experience information anxiety – they think they receive too much information and are unsure how to deal with the hourly flood of data. Time has become a scarce commodity.<sup>57</sup>

### 7.2. Die Globalisierung

Durch die schnelle Globalisierung flossen die Nachrichten immer mehr in die westlichen Länder ab.

Die Regionen in Asien waren nicht genügend über die aktuellen Weltgeschehnisse informiert.

Es wurden immer öfters Nachrichten von den westlichen Ländern kopiert.

Auslandskorrespondenten waren aus Kostengründen nur wenige im Einsatz.

<sup>56</sup> ANN-AsiaNews Network- 10 Years“/2008/Werner von Busch,Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu/size: 8

<sup>57</sup> Asia Media Innovator's\_Stephen Quinn\_KAS\_size 10

## 8. Perspektive



Über 10 Jahre ANN.

Eine wöchentliche Zeitschrift und E-Paper  
unter: <http://www.asianewsnet.net/epaper.php>

Die ANN-Mitgliedschaft wird auch  
anderen asiatischen Zeitungen angeboten.

### 8.1. Entwicklung von ANN über 10 Jahre

Die ANN-Mitglieder können von ihren unterschiedlichen Erfahrungen voneinander lernen. Das macht es zu einem interessanten und wichtigen Projekt auch für die Zukunft.

Zusätzlich zu einer Website erzeugt ANN ein wöchentliches Nachrichtenmagazin, genannt *Asia News*.

Das *Asia News* Nachrichtenmagazin von ANN hat „eine Auflage von 15 Millionen und einer Reichweite von 50 Millionen Lesern täglich“, laut der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

Die Mitgliedszeitungen von ANN räumen sich wechselseitig das Recht des freien und kostenlosen Abdrucks von Nachrichten, Hintergrundberichten, Kommentaren und Fotos ein.

Beim Abdruck eines Fremdbeitrags nennen sie die jeweilige Quelle.

Wie die Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung mitteilt, sollen auch in Zukunft weiter führenden Zeitungen aus Asien die Mitgliedschaft bei ANN angeboten werden.

Audiences for newspapers and free-to-air television have fragmented and shrunk relative to population growth. For example, in 1955 the United States had 1,772 daily newspapers and a population of 151.5 million. On average the combined weekday circulation of all those papers was 53.8 million. Jump forward half a century and the population had doubled. But the number of newspapers had dropped to 1,457 and the combined average weekday circulation of those papers had risen a mere 2.4 per cent.<sup>58</sup>

Der asiatische Nachrichtenfluss wird durch das *Asia News Network* (ANN) gefördert und versorgt.

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<sup>58</sup>Asia Media Innovator's\_Stephen Quinn\_KAS\_size 9

Mit der Zusammenarbeit unter den Netzwerkmitgliedern erhofft man sich eine bessere Zusammenarbeit in der asiatischen Nachrichtenversorgung.

Die Nachrichtenverbreitung soll künftig nicht mehr in dem westlichen Mittelpunkt stehen.

*ANN*-Mitglieder können sich besser in die globalen Medien platzieren und emanzipieren.

Mit Hilfe von *ANN* können sich die asiatischen Länder besser untereinander verstehen, von einander lernen und bewähren.

Das *ANN* bietet einen gemeinsamen Raum Probleme zu lösen.

Über die asiatische Tageszeitungs-Gruppierung *ANN* wächst eine freundschaftliche Mitgliedschaft.

## 9. Schlussanalyse

Asien, ein Land mit einer interessanten Geschichte und Religion ist in den meisten Gebieten stark entwicklungsbedürftig.

Zwischen den einzelnen Ländern gibt es große Unterschiede, wenn es um die Pressefreiheit und die Zensur geht. Pressegesetze sind hier belastet durch das Staatsoberhaupt eines Landes, Religion und vereinzelt sogar durch Unruhen im Land.

Im Zusammenhang mit der asiatischen Wirtschaftskrise von 1997 brach nicht nur die „Börse Japans“ zusammen, auch der Journalismus hat sich zur damaligen Zeit nicht unbedingt zum positiven entwickelt.

Nachrichten flossen nicht immer zum richtigen Ziel, denn durch den großen Globalisierungsdruck und dem Zeitalter des modernen Internets hatte Asien nicht immer die beste Position im Bereich des „Entwicklungsjournalismus“. Es wurden oft, einfach die westlichen Nachrichten kopiert.

Um nicht Teil des Problems zu sein, gruppieren sich 21 asiatische englischsprachige Tageszeitungen mit der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung zum *Asia News Network* zusammen, um die Schwierigkeiten der Nachrichtenverbreitung zu lösen.

Das Netzwerk *ANN* hat sich in Laufe von 10 Jahren erfolgreich bewährt. Eine optimale Berichterstattung ist auch in nächster Zeit gewährleistet.

Meine Meinung ist, dass Asien erst ein „ganzes Asien“ ist, wenn alle Länder noch mehr miteinander zusammenarbeiten und sie sich über ihre Pressegesetze einig sind.

Für die Zukunft gibt es noch viele Aufgaben zu bewältigen.

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## **Abkürzungsverzeichnis:**

ANN	Asia News Network
BIP	Bruttoinlandsprodukt
bzw.	beziehungsweise
Dpa	Deutsche Presse Agentur
IWF	Internationale Währungsfonds
KAS	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



## 1. Abbildungsverzeichnis



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**THE BRUNEI TIMES**

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**THE DAILY YOMIURI**

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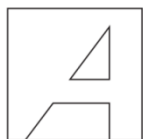
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Bild: <http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/Home/Index.html>



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## **Eidesstattliche Erklärung**

Hiermit bestätige ich die Arbeit selbstständig und ohne fremde Hilfe angefertigt zu haben.  
Ich habe übernommene Ausführungen anderer Autoren sowie eng an den Gedankengängen  
Anderer anlehrende mit eigenen Ausführungen entsprechend gekennzeichnet.  
Quellen habe ich formgerecht zitiert angegeben.

Nadiné Kröhnert

Mittweida, 25.05.2010

*„Asien, vor allem die Philippinen sind ein bemerkenswertes Gebiet in der Welt, mit einer atemberaubenden Mischung aus einer einmaligen Tagalog-Sprache (Filipinosprache), vielfältigen Religionen und Mythen.“*

*Nadiné Kröhnert*