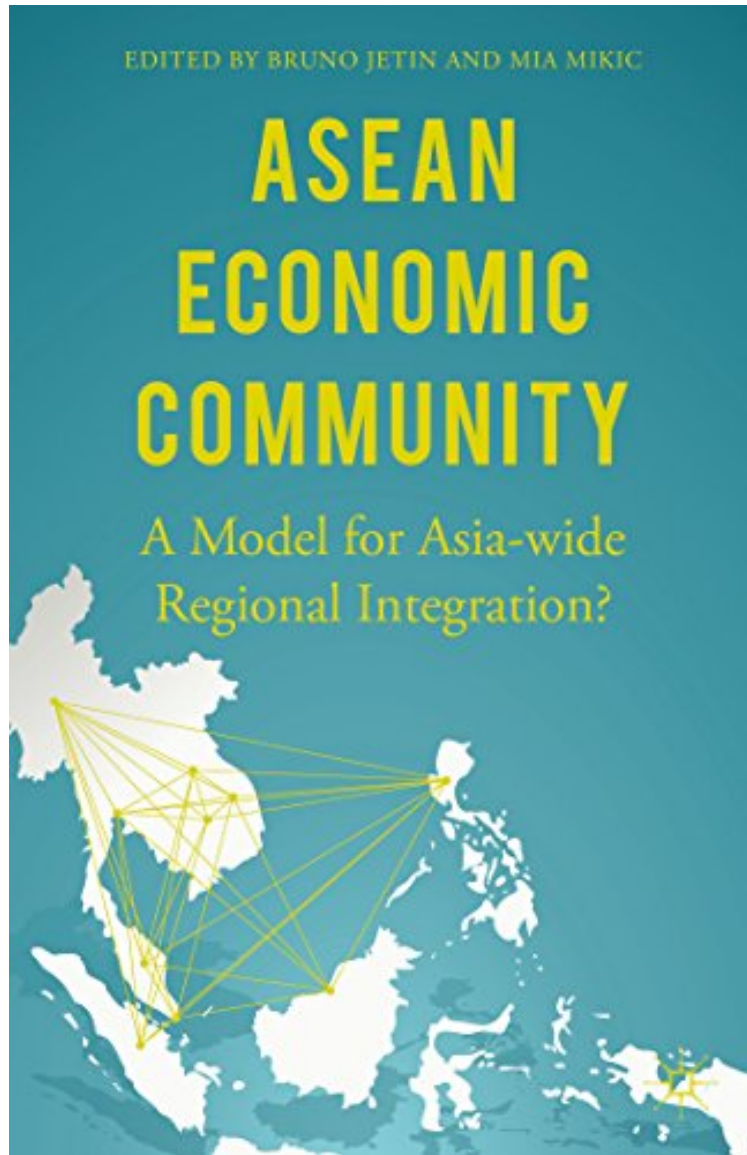


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The launch of the ASEAN Economic Community raises key issues: the deepening of regional trade and the associated problem of exchange rate management. This volume questions the capacity of a shallow institution to deal with complex impacts on employment and inequality. Contributors analyze ASEAN's potential and weakness in readable terms.

Idquo;This volume is an original work reflecting the importance and novelty of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) arrangements, as well as their implications for Asia-Pacific integration more broadly and for alternative regional cooperation proposals. While many books on ASEAN or Asian integration focus on a much narrower scope, the contributors here expound on a range of different views as they reflect the centrality of the AEC in the Asia-Pacific integration process by setting it in the broader context. The quality of the work is attested to by the high professional reputation of the contributors and their acknowledged expertise in the fields they represent. This book will attract economists and social scientists both from the Asia-Pacific region and from nonregional countries due to the diverse perspectives presented by contributors from various nationalities and the inherent lessons for other regions undergoing or considering economic integration.rdqquo;(Douglas Brooks, The Australian APEC Study Center, RMIT University, Australia)From the Back CoverThe launch of the ASEAN Economic Community raises key issues: the deepening of regional trade and production sharing and the associated problem of exchange rate management. This volume questions the capacity of a shallow institution to deal with complex consequences on employment and inclusiveness, creativity and connectivity, and inequality and social cohesion. At a time when broader agreements are competing for regional leadership, contributors debate whether ASEAN can serve as a model of integration or else be diluted in wider Asian and Pacific arrangements. Approaches combine economics, history, geography, and political science to provide a clear understanding of ASEAN's potential and weaknesses in technical and non-technical but always readable terms.About the AuthorBruno Jetin is Researcher at the Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia, Thailand, and Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Brunei. He was previously Associate Professor of Economics at Sorbonne Paris Citeacute; University, France, and Fellow Researcher at the University of Chiang Mai, Thailand.