

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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As ASEAN Community is expected to be realized in 2015, Thailand as an active member certainly requires human resources from diverse disciplinary to ensure the most effective implementation of the ASEAN Charter. Among the major disciplinary, International Relations, my undergrad major study, plays a crucial role unavoidably. On top of that, to join the team, I need to pursue higher education in a specific field of study which might probably lead up to a PhD to become a specialist.

If the political issues such as corruption and power abuses cannot be settled, it would be far from reality that Thailand could take advantages from the ASEAN Charter. Apparently, Thailand's democracy is under development and her people still lack of proper knowledge and role models. When it comes to political criticism, there will always be a clash and Thai people tend not to tolerate to disagreement in a democratic norm. This could bring about massive conflicts which could develop to a rally as one might have heard happening currently in Thailand. However, as politicians have too many hidden agenda to resolve the issues, people, then, should be well educated and equipped with appropriate course of knowledge to handle the political conflicts. This, therefore, is one of my rationales to acquire proper knowledge and experience in handling with conflicts.

I happened to experience the political demonstrations here in Bangkok and found that often time the incidents would end up with bloodshed caused by both the state officials and the unidentified terrorists. This is another issue that might prevent Thailand from becoming the key player in ASEAN Community. Because of the disturbing internal concerns such as the unsettlement among the political groups, namely Red Shirts and Yellow Shirts, which sometimes were uncontrollable to the government or handled badly, international conferences or even a private leisure visit, not only from the ASEAN Community but also from other international organizations such as EU, APEC, etc., might be scared away.

I personally believe strongly in peaceful conflict management and resolution. And Thailand is in need of personnel who possess this knowledge and experience. Apart from the earlier mentioned internal problems, there are also problems that Thailand is facing along her borderline from the topmost north to the farthest south. The drug trafficking and the minority group migration are the major concerns in the North. The dispute over no man's land of Preah Vihear Temple and smuggled goods, drug and human trafficking in the Mekong River are nested in the Northeast. The smuggled goods and dual-nationality terrorists are the southern crisis. The refugees and stateless people are accumulated in the West. And sex trade, drug and human trafficking in the dispute area are along the East coast. Only this shortlist would take some generations to put an end to them. If I could have an experience to investigate the international case studies, I am certainly that I might not be able to fix them, but, at least, I could have an insight into these problems.

ABC MA Programme in Conflict, Security and Development certainly is the right program to me. I expect to witness such interdisciplinary activities as seminars, conferences, consortium, field trips, etc., as well as a research. From this I could have some theoretical pedagogy to become a university lecturer to prepare the future generation of quality Thai citizens. Moreover, the world renowned faculty at ABC could expand my network in future cooperation when I join the state officials as an international affairs specialist.