
ASEAN DEFENSE CHIEFS, PARTNERS URGE DIALOGUE TO STRENGTHEN PEACE, REGIONAL SECURITY

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Defense chiefs of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and their partners urged greater dialogue and cooperation to foster peace, security, and prosperity during a three-day summit in Malaysia's capital Kuala Lumpur.

The ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting Plus, held from Friday to Sunday, brought together defense ministers from ASEAN member states and eight partner countries – the US, China, Russia, Australia, India, Japan, South Korea, and New Zealand.

In a joint statement released Saturday, the defense chiefs reaffirmed the need to uphold international law, including the UN Charter, and stressed that both Southeast Asia and the wider world are facing intensifying geopolitical tensions, conflicts, and economic challenges. They said these shared problems, along with emerging and transboundary threats, require collective collaboration for peace.

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