

## PANCASILA'S CONTEMPORARY APPEAL:

Re-legitimizing Indonesia's Founding Ethos

Editors:  
Thomas J. Conners  
Mason C. Hoadley  
Frank Dhont  
Kevin Ko

Cherished, accepted, ignored, or rejected, the doctrine of Pancasila has been foundational to the fashioning of Indonesian identities. Created by Indonesia's first president, Sukarno, Pancasila was born out of compromise to serve as the new nation's unifying ideology. As such, Pancasila has formed the ideological foundation of the Indonesian state and has helped hold an extremely diverse Indonesian nation together.

During the Second Yale Indonesia Forum International Conference held at Sanata Dharma University in July 2009, a select group of Indonesian and overseas scholars of various academic disciplines convened to discuss Pancasila's contemporary appeal and to explore the ways in which Pancasila continues to play a role in Indonesian politics and public life.

The fruits of this intense discussion can be found in this book which contains a collection of both critical and sympathetic views of the social, cultural, and political significance of Pancasila in post-colonial Indonesia. The collection explores in particular divergent understandings and expressions of Pancasila from Indonesia's post-colonial period through to the present. Together these essays give the reader a complex picture of Pancasila's contemporary appeal as part of what it means to be Indonesian.



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