

PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE **ALLIANCE PROGRESSISTE**

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**To the Members of the Network for Social Democracy
in Asia Pacific**

**Associate Regional Party Network of the Progressive
Alliance**

Berlin, 10 April 2024

Dear Comrades, Dear Friends,

The Asian Pacific region is in the cusp of drastic changes in the social, political, and economic life of its societies and peoples. The region continues to be a driver and engine in the global economy with many of its countries now considered as middle income or even regional powers. Such dramatic changes have started since the end of the Second World War and continues today. However, alongside tremendous and unprecedented growth also exists decades of undemocratic and authoritarian rule in the region. Many nations in the region such Indonesia, Mongolia, and the Philippines are only a generation away from autocracy while others, such as Thailand and Myanmar, are seeing a backslide and reversals of democratic gains.

While the phenomenon of right-wing populism and authoritarianism is not new, new tools, new methods, and a renewed narrative are now available at their disposal. Advances in artificial intelligence and social media are being cynically utilized by such nefarious forces for to subvert and weaken democratic institutions. In others, brutal repression has utilized new technologies of surveillance and violence to keep restive populations in check.

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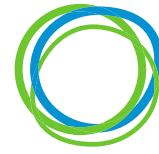
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It is in this unfolding new era of repression and authoritarianism that a huge challenge is set before progressives. The patches of democratic victories that we have achieved in the past few years seem to be inadequate to resist this rising tide of authoritarianism. As progressive political parties, it is necessary to reinvent our political narrative and repurpose our political organizing to be able to rise to the occasion. It is necessary that progressive political parties are able to find their new purpose in shaping a new progressive era; and in the process, build a new sense of international solidarity between likeminded socialists, social democrats, and progressives.

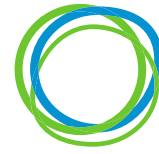
We are therefore pleased to invite you to join us in our dialogue in Manila, Philippines with our regional party network associate member, Network for Social Democracy in Asia Pacific (SDAP) on 30 -31 July 2024 to exchange on these important developments and challenges in the region and beyond. The conference will provide a platform for progressives to explore the role of political parties in advancing democratic renewal and social justice in the Asia Pacific region; facilitate discussions on strategies and best practices for transforming the political landscape towards a new progressive era; encourage collaboration and knowledge-sharing in strengthening the capacity of progressive movements and parties in advocating for inclusive governance and policy reforms and; highlight the importance of cross-border alliances and mutual support in responding to socio-economic, environmental, and political crises based on solidarity and cooperation.

You will find online preliminary documents for this activity:

1. [Provisional Program of the Conference](#)
2. [Technical Information](#)

To confirm, we ask you to **register on or before 15 May 2024.**

We aspire to have a gender-balanced participation in all Progressive Alliance activities so we ask you to take this into account when



registering your delegation. For any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at contact@progressive-alliance.info.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in Manila.

In solidarity,

Marie Chris “Machris” Cabreros

Coordinator of the Progressive Alliance