

The Tangled Web of Politics, Economics and Law in Malaysia: The Globalisation of the 1MDB Scandal

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In 2015, allegations of mismanagement of funds in the state investment fund 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) surfaced. 1MDB was set up in 2009 when Prime Minister Najib Razak came into office, and was supposed to oversee Kuala Lumpur's transformation into a thriving commercial hub.



The scandal has triggered a national and international 'crisis of confidence' undermining the trust in the current political regime to allow an impartial and transparent investigation into this matter. Criticisms, including from the former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, have added to the chorus of mounting pressure on the Prime Minister, Najib Razak, amid reports of a paper trail tracing millions of dollars into his personal bank account.

The talk will look at the development of the scandal and evaluate the national and international investigations which have come to very different results.