



Indonesia Update 2026: Islamic Diversity in Indonesia

Convenors: Eva Nisa (ANU) and Julian Millie (Monash University)

DAY 1. Friday 18 September

9.00–9.10 am	Opening Address • Gordon de Brouwer (Chancellor, ANU)
9.10–10.25 am	Political Update • Navhat 'Nava' Nuraniyah (Macquarie University), <i>The unpopular populist: Prabowo's unconsolidated authoritarianism</i> • Discussant: Dirk Tomsa (La Trobe University) • Chair: Marcus Mietzner (ANU)
10.25–10.45 am	Tea Break
10.45 am–12.00 pm	Economic Update • Jenny Gordon (ANU) and Firman Witoelar (ANU) • Discussant: Dyah 'Prita' Pritadrajati (Lowy Institute) • Chair: Ray Marcelo (Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)
12.00–1.00 pm	Lunch
1.00–1.50 pm	Session 1: Keynote 1 • Greg Fealy (ANU), <i>How Islamic is Indonesia?</i> • Chair: Sharon Bessell (ANU)
1.50–2.50 pm	Session 2: Embracing Difference • Fatimah Husein (UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta), <i>Religious authority in Indonesia: Rethinking the 'Habib Palsu' controversy within the Bā Alawī</i> • Ismatu Ropi (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta) and Farid F. Saenong (Universitas Islam Internasional Indonesia) (co-presenting), <i>Religious freedom, managed pluralism and the Prabowo administration</i> • Chair: Andini Pramono (ANU)
2.50–3.10 pm	Tea Break
3.10–4.10 pm	Session 3: Insisting on Difference • Reza Idria (UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh), <i>Shari'atization and Its discontents: Negotiating morality and development in Aceh</i> • Rabiatul Adawiah (Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Negeri -STAIN Majene and Monash University), <i>Humour, power, and tolerance in digital interfaith dialogue</i> • Chair: Edward Aspinall (ANU)
4.10–5.10 pm	Session 4: Regulating Difference • Atun Wardatun (Universitas Islam Negeri Mataram), <i>Marriage at the crossroads: Faith, Adat, and the state in Eastern Indonesia</i> • Zainal Bagir (Universitas Gadjah Mada), <i>The Making of contemporary Kepercayaan: Recent shifts in Indonesian governance of religion and their implications</i> • Chair: Sana Jaffrey (ANU)



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DAY 2. Saturday

9.00–10.30 am

Session 5: Institutions

- **Sutan Emir Hidayat** (KNEKS and Universitas Gunadarma), *The Indonesian path of Islamic economy and finance: Contested governance and uneven implementation*
- **Sally White** (ANU), *Patriarchy and Muslim women's representation in Indonesia*
- **Wahyuddin Halim** (UIN Alauddin Makassar), *Negotiating diversity: Institutional pathways to organisational cohesion in NU and Muhammadiyah*
- Chair: Eve Warburton (ANU)

10.30–10.50 am

Tea Break

10.50 am–12.20 pm

Session 6: Mediating Difference

- **Andina Dwifatma** (Universitas Katolik Indonesia Atma Jaya), *What tolerance means for young Muslim web series communities in Indonesia*
- **Abdurrosyid** (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta), *Resistance to English language teaching in Indonesian Islamic education*
- **Sherly Annavita** (Indonesian youth commentator, public speaker and digital communicator), *When diversity becomes content: Indonesian Muslim youth, social media, and the gap between exposure and encounter*
- Chair: Rini Astuti (ANU)

12.20–1.05 pm

Session 7: Keynote 2

- **Alwi Shihab** (Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs 1999–2001, Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare 2004–2005), *Indonesia and the global geopolitics of Muslim-majority countries*
- Chair: Kathy Robinson (ANU)

1.05–1.10 pm

2027 Conference Preview

1.10–1.15 pm

Concluding Remarks

The Indonesia Update is the largest annual conference on Indonesian society outside Indonesia and dates to 1983. Held each September, it is organised by the ANU Indonesia Project in collaboration with the ANU Department of Political and Social Change. This year marks the 43rd annual Indonesia Update conference. The 2026 Indonesia Update is supported by the ANU Indonesia Institute and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). This year's Indonesia Update is included in the 2026 IMMERSIA festival, bringing languages, traditions and contemporary voices from across Asia and the Pacific to the ANU Community, hosted by the ANU School of Culture, History & Language.

The ANU Indonesia Project wishes to thank the ANU and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for their substantial and continuing support.

All times are represented in AEDT. This program is subject change.