

HADI SOEASTRO

CITATION FOR AN HONORARY DEGREE

Mr. Chancellor, it is my privilege to present for a degree of the University, Dr Hadi Soesastro.

Dr Soesastro is one of Indonesia's and Southeast Asia's leading academic and public policy intellectuals. He is noted for his outstanding contributions in the fields of energy economics, Asia-Pacific cooperation, ASEAN economic and political relations, international economic policy, and Indonesian development and international relations.

Born in East Java in 1945, Dr Soesastro holds an engineering degree from RTWH Aachen University and a doctorate in economics from the Rand Graduate School. He is fluent in English, Dutch and German.

Dr Soesastro joined the Jakarta-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in 1971 and served as its Executive Director for most of the period since 1989. The CSIS is an internationally oriented think tank focusing on economic development and international relations. It is the leading institution of its kind in Southeast Asia and has been an influential voice of liberalism, international engagement and tolerance in Indonesia. The Centre has been deeply supportive of visiting foreign scholars, while also nurturing a large group of younger Indonesian scholars.

Dr Soesastro's international engagements are many. Notably, he is a member, and occasional chair, of the International Steering Committee of the Pacific Trade and Development Conference series, the International Advisory Board of the Asia Society, and the Montpelerin Society. He has also been an occasional Visiting Professor at Columbia University, and he serves on the editorial boards of practically all major East Asian academic journals with an international orientation. Domestically, his contributions have included membership of the National Economic Council, the National Research Council, the National Council for Book Development, the Central Board of the Indonesian Economists Association, the Sejati Foundation, and the Indonesian National Committees of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, the Council for Asia Europe Cooperation, the World Energy Conference, and the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council.

Dr Soesastro has been a tireless supporter of the ANU, and a steadfast friend of Australia. He has participated in practically every major ANU initiative on Indonesia and Asia-Pacific cooperation since the 1980s, and he has been an Adjunct Professor in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies since 1998. Since 2000 his Centre has co-hosted, with the ANU's Indonesia Project, a Jakarta version of the ANU's annual Indonesia Update conference.

Dr Soesastro projects an image of Indonesia abroad as a voice of reason and tolerance. He serves as one of his country's most influential role models for the next generation of Indonesian social scientists. As a current member of the Indonesian Cabinet has remarked, 'it is difficult to think of any individual outside government in Southeast Asia who has made a deeper and stronger commitment to thinking about an "Asia Pacific Vision" than Hadi Soesastro'.

Mr. Chancellor, it is with pleasure that I present to you Hadi Soesastro that you may confer on him the Degree of Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, on the grounds of his outstanding achievement as a scholar and as a public policy intellectual in Indonesia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Professor Ian Chubb AC
Vice-Chancellor
The Australian National University
17 July 2009