How did Southeast Asians deal with the cold war by Bandung conference?

The Bandung Conference in 1955 laid the foundation for the later Non-Aligned Movement and opened a precedent for independence in the former colonial countries. The Cold War began, and the Iron Curtain divided Europe into two camps. For Asian and African countries, a new era has also begun. But in the world political situation of the time, there was no such position as the third kind of power.

The domestic politics of the countries participating in the Bandung Conference were very turbulent. These countries still have significant economic dependence because they have just ended colonial rule. But they hope to be independent and form a third world between the West and the East, strengthen alliances and realize their common interests. Ten principles, including human rights, territorial integrity and racial equality, were presented in the final statement of the meeting.

Although the goals and requirements of the Bandung Conference are correct, there is no third way to go in the cold-war world of the two poles. Therefore, the Non-Aligned Movement has only become a place to issue a solemn statement and to protest strictly against the First and Second Worlds without concrete action. It is often the Western world and its allies who are condemned. Even after 50 years of the Bandung Conference, people can still hear such condemnation[[1]](#footnote-1).

The Non-Aligned Movement has more than 100 member states and is the second-largest national alliance except the United Nations. Despite this, the political significance of the Non-Aligned Movement has been getting smaller since the Bandung Conference. The end of the cold war has made it meaningless. The spirit of the 1955 Bandung Conference and the so-called unity also disappeared as the two rival camps went[[2]](#footnote-2). The concept of the "third world" proposed by the Bandung Conference has now become synonymous with poverty, backwardness and hopeless southern countries.

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1. Judge., The Cold War,67. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Parker., Cold War II,867. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)