



## FSSH SEMINAR SERIES

# 2021 SARAWAK STATE ELECTION: OUTCOMES & IMPLICATIONS

**9 FEBRUARY, 2022**

 Wednesday  10.00am-12.00pm

 Webex: Video Conferencing

 <https://unimas.webex.com/meet/parnold>

## SPEAKERS



**DR. ARNOLD PUYOK**  
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**DR. LUCY SEBLI**  
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## ABOUT OUR SEMINAR

The 2021 Sarawak State Election saw GPS (Gabungan Parti Sarawak) securing 76 seats or more than 90 percent of the seats in the state assembly. Many analysts alike were surprised by the outcomes of the election given the ability of newcomers such as Parti Sarawak Bersatu (PSB) to match GPS in terms of publicity throughout the campaign period. Many people were also curious about PSB and Parti Bumi Keyalang as most of their candidates were fresh faces. The outcomes of the election show the extent of GPS' popularity even though voting turnout was low at 55 percent. A closer look at the popular votes indicate a significant swing of the Chinese support to GPS even though PSB and PBK managed to make inroads in the Chinese areas as well. GPS continued its dominance in the rural and Dayak areas despite the strong challenge from PSB. PSB, however, succeeded at making its presence felt among the Dayak voters in the face of GPS' onslaught. Could PSB be the next challenger to GPS particularly Parti Rakyat Sarawak (PRS) in the next election? So, what accounts for GPS' massive victory? Could it be attributed to the low voting turnout? To what extent did the SOPs affect the outcomes of the election? And, how would the results shape Sarawak politics in the next five years? What would be the implications of the election on national politics?