



# PRESS RELEASE

INSTITUTE OF DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN  
RELATIONS,  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MALAYSIA

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**PANEL DISCUSSION 2/2016**  
**CELEBRITY DIPLOMACY: INNOVATIONS IN DIPLOMATIC PRACTICES**  
**INSTITUTE OF DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS**  
**31 MAY 2016**

The Diploma in Diplomacy's (DiD) 2016 participants in collaboration with the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia will be hosting the Panel Discussion on **“Celebrity Diplomacy: Innovations In Diplomatic Practices”** on **Tuesday, 31 May 2016 from 2.30 pm to 5.00 pm at IDFR, Kuala Lumpur.**

This Panel Discussion will deliberate on celebrities' roles in promoting Malaysia's image and interests internationally and the credible use of celebrity forms of activism in international political affairs. In order to analyse this phenomenon, the discussion seeks to examine the meaning of celebrity diplomacy and further explore its relevance to Malaysia's diplomatic practices. The panellists for the discussion are as follows:

- i. Puan Astanah Abdul Aziz  
Deputy Director General  
ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat
- ii. Che Puan Sarimah Ibrahim  
TV Host (Bella NTV7)
- iii. Cik Deborah Henry  
Miss Universe Malaysia 2011
- iv. Encik Suhaimi Sulaiman  
Journalist

Puan Azri Hazwani Abdul Aziz, our very own participant of DiD 2016, IDFR will be moderating the discussion.

By organising the panel discussion, the budding diplomats in training are set to acquire skills and enhance their knowledge on areas related to Foreign Service, diplomacy, and international relations, at the same time explore areas which require innovations. IDFR believes that this exciting event is beneficial to the members of the media.

**Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR)**  
**Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia**  
**KUALA LUMPUR**

**May 2016**