DIPLOMACY

Diplomacy has played a significant part in Singapore’s success story abroad over the past 50 years. This book shows how Singapore has dealt with many daunting challenges: separation from Malaysia; Independence; Communist insurgency; racial tensions; confrontation with immediate neighbours; wars in Southeast Asia; oil shocks and financial crises; the waxing and waning of major powers; and terrorism, pandemics and transboundary pollution. Singapore’s diplomacy has distinctively combined the characteristics of overcoming vulnerability; linking national security with economic development; being proactive in international affairs; and emphasising cooperation with multiple partners. The book also derives lessons from the past half-century that can help Singapore develop even more agile diplomatic responses and far-sighted strategic planning.

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