

Positive about Malaysia

How do you view Malaysia from a business viewpoint after the election? What opportunities do you see, and what risks?

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BUSINESSMEN seek stability and security in their long-term investments, and these are the underpinnings of the recent Malaysian general election. We witnessed overwhelming numbers participating in the vote and with ruling party Barisan Nasional bagging a Parliamentary majority, it is a definite sign of continuation of earlier promised economic growth particularly in infrastructure and developmental works like the Iskandar project. Likewise, it signifies a reinforcement of our good relations with the Malaysian government.

In the short term, the continuity offers investment opportunities. The possible implementation of indirect tax may impact consumerism as a knee-jerk reaction but in the long run, such tax revenue helps to boost economic growth. However, the perils of a potential hand-out policy geared towards a populist government is demonstrated by the opposition gaining strength and presence. This is a long-term risk to factor in when investing.