



December 2010 Newsletter - Issue 1, Number 3

Recent Highlights in 2010

1 December: Asia-Pacific Centre Roundtable with the Australian Government, Canberra.

On 1 December, Executive Director for the Centre, Dr. Noel Morada, and Outreach Director, Sarah Teitt, held a roundtable briefing for Australian government officials on recent developments in implementing R2P and R2P constituency building in the region. Dr Morada and Ms Teitt also briefed the roundtable on the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect's recent work and country programs in Southeast Asia. For information on the Centre's activities, please contact the Outreach Director, Sarah Teitt (s.teitt@uq.edu.au).

3 - 4 November: Early Warning for Prevention Conference in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The International Coalition for RtoP, the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and Oxfam Australia co-hosted a conference on Early Warning for Prevention: Technologies and Practice for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes. The conference explored how international and local actors can harness early warning to contribute to the prevention of mass atrocity crimes, as well as examined how to work effectively with communities once early warning has been raised. There was significant discussion on the role of communications, in particular new technologies such as GIS mapping and 'crowdsourcing' platforms such as Ushahidi, and how these systems can interact with more traditional early warning mechanisms. More than 100 participants from 30 countries attended the conference, representing a diverse range of specialisations, including Special Advisors to the UN Secretary-General, human rights activists, new technology experts, international NGOs and regional civil society focusing on peacebuilding and conflict prevention. The conference was part of a two-year project led by Oxfam Australia and funded by the Australian R2P Fund to bring NGOs together to consider practical means of operationalising the preventative aspects of the Responsibility to Protect principle. For more information about the conference, please contact the Centre's Outreach Director, Sarah Teitt (s.teitt@uq.edu.au).



(Left) Genocide survivor and advocate, Neou Kassie, speaking with Francis Deng, Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, at the conference in Phnom Penh, November 2010.

(Right) A group picture of some of the participants at the Workshop in Cambodia, November 2010.

5 November: Training Seminar with the Office for the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The International Coalition for RtoP and Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect sponsored a training seminar conducted by the Office of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide to raise awareness on the existing United Nations early warning mechanisms for mass atrocities and the work and mandate of the OSAPG. The seminar sought to enhance understanding of the process and causes of mass atrocity crimes and the legal framework on genocide prevention. Cambodia's Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sirivudh gave the opening remarks to the seminar, which was attended by the UN Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, Dr. Francis Deng, and nearly thirty conflict analysts, academics and peace practitioners working in Asia Pacific. For more information about this seminar, please contact the Centre's Outreach Director, Sarah Teitt (s.teitt@uq.edu.au).

8-12 November: R2P Seminar Series held in Manila, Philippines

The Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, in cooperation with the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP), conducted a series of seminars for academe, civil society groups, students, and government sector representatives in Manila on 8-12 November 2010. The seminars provided an update on R2P developments, the role of the ICRtoP, and sharing of African experiences in promoting R2P in the continent. Dr. Noel M. Morada, Executive Director of the APCR2P, Ms. Sarah Teitt, Outreach Director of the APCR2P, and Ms. Doris Mpoupou, Director of the ICRtoP in New York, conducted the seminar with the help of Dr. Lourdes Veneracion-Rallonza of Ateneo de Manila University. The seminar series is part of the APCR2P's country programme in building awareness and constituency in the Philippines on the norm and prevention of genocide and mass atrocities. Participants in the seminars also identified concrete steps and projects that would advance R2P in the Philippines in the next 2-3 years based on their individual and institutional commitments. During the seminar for students coordinated by Mr. Richard Heydarian, the R2P Student Coalition of the Philippines was launched following a debate between Ateneo de Manila University and University of the Philippines Diliman students on the topic, 'Resolve that R2P is a pretext for Western intervention in developing countries.' The seminar with members of the government sector was co-organised by the Foreign Service Institute (FSI) of the Department of Foreign Affairs, with the support of its Director, Ambassador Laura Del Rosario and Ms. Rhodora Joaquin, head of the FSI Center for International Relations and Strategic Studies.



Ambassador Laura Del Rosario, Dr Noel M. Morada and Sarah Teitt, responding to questions at the R2P Seminar for the Government Sector.



(Left) Ms. Doris Mpoumou from the ICRtoP delivering a lecture on R2P and African experiences, with Ambassador Laura Del Rosario, Acting Director of the Foreign Service Institute.
(Right) APCR2P Outreach Director, Sarah Teitt, presenting for students at the R2P seminar.

For more information about this seminar series, or about the Philippines country programme, please contact the Executive Director, Dr. Noel Morada (n.morada@uq.edu.au).

September: Second Meeting of the Study Group on R2P, the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP), Manila.

Prof. Alex Bellamy, Honorary Professor of the Centre, is the Australian co-chair of the CSCAP study group on the Responsibility to Protect. Established in 2009, and chaired by AUSCSCAP, CSCAP Indonesia, CSCAP Philippines and CSCAP Canada, the group's mandate is to explore modalities for the role of regional arrangements in implementing R2P in the Asia-Pacific region. The group held its scoping and first full meeting in Jakarta in February 2009, a second meeting in Manila this September and will meet for a third and final time in Phnom Penh next March, after which it will issue a consensus based report on the issue that will frame a CSCAP memorandum to be tabled at the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). The key issues under discussion include the establishment of a regional early warning system for genocide and mass atrocities, extending

the capacity of regional arrangements to conduct preventative diplomacy to resolve crises before they escalate, improving dialogue and cooperation between the region and the UN, and strengthening regional capacities to deploy peacekeepers, police and humanitarian workers when required and requested. To find out more about the Study Group and to view its reports to date, please visit the CSCAP R2P Study Group website: www.cscap.org.

Upcoming Events

16-19 March 2011: Centre Staff to present at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Montreal

Executive Director Dr Noel Morada, Research Director Prof. Tim Dunne, Outreach Director Sarah Teitt, Program Leader for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities Dr Deborah Mayersen, and Program Leader for the Protection of Civilians Charles Hunt will all be presenting their research at the ISA's 52nd annual convention which will take place in Montreal, Canada, on 16-19 March 2011. Dr Noel Morada and Sarah Teitt will present papers in the panel chaired by Prof. Tim Dunne, *Regional Politics and Arrangements: Opportunities, Challenges, and Constraints in Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*, in which the participants will investigate how to promote R2P at the regional level and what role regional arrangements play in preventing and responding to mass atrocities. Prof. Dunne will also present his paper, 'Humanitarian Reasoning: Legends and Lives in Contemporary Global Humanitarianism' as part of the panel, *The Politics and Pathologies of the Global Humanitarian Order*. Dr Deborah Mayersen's paper with Dr Philip Orchard is entitled 'The Will "To Do Better": Political Will in International Responses to Genocide and Mass Atrocities.' Sarah Teitt will also be presenting a separate paper, 'Both Elites and Comrades? The (Competing) Identities in China's Peacekeeping Policy.' Charles Hunt will be presenting two papers, 'To Serve and Protect: Police Peacekeeping and the Protection of Civilians in Peace Operations' and 'Not Everything That Counts Can Be Counted: Monitoring and Evaluating the Impact of Police in Police Operations.' To find out more about the ISA and its annual convention, please visit the website: www.isanet.org.

21 - 22 March 2011: Centre Workshop, 'Genocide and Mass Atrocities in the Asia-Pacific: Legacies and Prevention'

This two-day workshop will be hosted by the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect on 21-22 March 2011. As a multidisciplinary workshop, it will bring together a select group of academics to consider key aspects of the topic, including the legacy of twentieth century genocides and mass atrocities in the Asia-Pacific; transitional justice; regional prospects and challenges for mass atrocity prevention; and early warning in the region. Co-convened by the two Program Leaders, Dr Deborah Mayersen and Annie Pohlman, key researchers in this field who will be presenting include Prof. Alex Hinton (Executive Director of the Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution and Human Rights,

Rutgers), Prof. Alex Bellamy (Honorary Professor of the Centre), A/Prof. Dale Bagshaw (Founding and current President of the Asia-Pacific Mediation Forum), A/Prof. Clinton Fernandes (East Timor and International Relations expert, Australian Defence Force Academy) and Dr. Paul Bartrop (co-editor of *The Genocide Studies Reader*, 2009) and numerous other experts. For more information about the up-coming workshop, please contact Dr Deborah Mayersen (d.mayersen@uq.edu.au).

Recent Reports

November: 'The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and the Responsibility to Protect: Report No. 1, Development and Potential' by Catherine Drummond

This report is the first of two working papers on the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and implementing the Responsibility to Protect in the region. The aim of this first report is to explore the important role of regional organisations, such as ASEAN, in implementing R2P and, in particular, how the AICHR can facilitate the promotion and protection of human rights in region. The second working paper, 'The AICHR and R2P: Optimisation and Strategic Aims' will examine the potential of the new Commission to improve the protection and promotion of human rights in the region and will be released next month. For more information about the report, or about the R2P in Southeast Asia Program, please contact the Program Leader for R2P in Southeast Asia, Annie Pohlman (a.pohlman@uq.edu.au). To read this report, [click here](#).

August: 'The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) and the Responsibility to Protect' by Rebecca Gidley

The ECCC is a hybrid trial currently underway in Cambodia to try surviving senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge for their crimes from 1975 to 1979. This report examines the positive impacts that the ECCC can have, as well as the challenges currently being faced in order to assess the potential impacts the trials may have for promoting and implementing the Responsibility to Protect in Cambodia. Prevention has been identified as the most important aspect of R2P and the ECCC can make a number of contributions to structural prevention in Cambodia. The report argues that despite the limitations of the Courts, there are a number of positive changes which it can facilitate. For more information on this report, or the Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia program, please contact the Program Leader, Annie Pohlman (a.pohlman@uq.edu.au). To read this report, [click here](#).

August: 'Workshop on Responsibility to Protect Constituency Building in Cambodia,' by Sarah Teitt

The Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, in collaboration with the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace held a workshop from 16-17 June 2010 at the Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh with participants from the media, government, civil society organisations, and academic institutions in Cambodia. It was the first workshop in a series of planned consultations to gather experts, practitioners and eminent members of the Cambodian policy and advocacy community to discuss the principle of R2P, its relevance to the Cambodian current and historical context, and avenues for building a local and regional constituency in support of R2P in Cambodia and Southeast Asia. This report provides an overview of outcomes from the workshop. For more information on the Centre's workshops in the region, please contact the Outreach Director, Sarah Teitt (s.teitt@uq.edu.au). To read this report, [click here](#).

Forthcoming Publications

In the 1990s, Tim Dunne - the Centre's new Research Director - enjoyed a productive writing partnership with Nicholas Wheeler. one of their key publications from this era was the 1998 Cambridge University Press edited collection on *Human Rights in Global Politics* - a work that continues to be widely used in graduate level courses on human rights. They have recently co-authored a chapter on R2P that will be published in 2011. In their contribution to the *Routledge Handbook on the Responsibility to Protect*, Dunne and Wheeler re-visit the key question of authorisation for armed protective intervention. Further details on this book can be found at: <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415600750/>.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Centre's senior researcher, **Stephen McLoughlin**, on winning **First Prize** in the School of Political Science and International Studies' 2nd Annual Photography Prize. The competition aims to showcase through the visual image, the interest and involvement which students and alumni at the University of Queensland have in politics and global issues. Stephen's winning photo, entitled 'Children in Ghanzi' was taken on the outskirts of Ghanzi, a small town in western Botswana. Stephen was in Ghanzi to interview Kuela Kiema, a member of the Kua, a San Bushmen group. Kuela described the social problems that many San groups experience, due to eviction from ancestral lands, unemployment and poverty, many living itinerantly, in shanties on the edge of town, or at remote cattle outposts whenever they are able to pick up 'piece work'. Such uncertainty of income and accommodation mean that many San children never go to school, and often wander around with very

little to do, much like the boys in Stephen's picture. To find out more about the photography competition and to view the rest of the competition entrants, please go to the School's website: www.polsis.uq.edu.au.



Congratulations to **Joanne Cotton** and **Charles Tay** who have been **awarded scholarships** at the Centre as part of the University of Queensland's Summer Research Scholarships Program in 2010/2011. Charles will be examining the role of regional organisations in the prevention of genocide and mass atrocities together with Program Leader, Dr. Deborah Mayersen, while Joanne will be identifying challenges and opportunities for implementing the responsibility to protect in Viet Nam together with Program Leader, Annie Pohlman. For more information about these scholarships, please contact Annie Pohlman (a.pohlman@uq.edu.au).

Congratulations and farewell to our Centre intern, **Lisa Bai**. After completing her internship at the Centre, Lisa will shortly be departing for Canberra where she has secured a Graduate Position in the Department of Health and Aging. We wish Lisa every success in her future career.

Media

22 November 2010: Press Release by the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy on the first anniversary of the Maguindanao Massacre. To read the press release, please [click here](#).

Get Involved

The Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect offers a range of opportunities for those interested in supporting the Responsibility to Protect. Members of the community, students, professionals and academics are all welcome to take part in the Centre's diverse range of activities. Current opportunities for students and members of the public include:

Join the R2P Student Coalition

If you are a student anywhere in the Asia-Pacific region, you can become a member of the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect Student Coalition. The Student Coalition is an autonomous network of students committed to the goals of promoting and operationalising R2P. Activities include debates, forums, campaigns and social events. To join, please contact the steering committee at the Facebook Student Coalition Group, or email: r2pstudentcoalition@gmail.com.

Interning and Volunteering at the Centre

Interns and volunteers play a vital role in supporting the Centre's work at its office in Australia. These positions are open to both students and otherwise eligible members of the public and offer opportunities to engage in research, policy analysis, advocacy and outreach. To volunteer at the Centre, please contact Annie Pohlman (a.pohlman@uq.edu.au) in the first instance.

Research Projects with the Centre

The Centre continuously hosts various research projects that are related to the Centre's research and advocacy work. Projects to date have covered a wide range of topics: implementing R2P in specific countries and regions, the role of regional organisations in R2P, ethnicity and politics in Southeast Asia, genocide studies, security sector reform, transitional justice, law and impunity, and many more. Students may either undertake projects on a volunteer basis or as part of their degree (please note that there are eligibility requirements for students who wish to undertake study with the Centre as credit towards their degree). For more information about these research projects, or to discuss possible projects of interest to the Centre, please contact either of the Program Leaders, Dr Deborah Mayersen (d.mayersen@uq.edu.au) or Annie Pohlman (a.pohlman@uq.edu.au).

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