

APR2P Update: September - December 2015



Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

Welcome to the Centre's newsletter! As 2015 draws to a close, Centre staff settled in the new offices in School of Political Science and International Studies building. We hope you enjoy reading through our activities, events, and output highlights, for the last quarter. Highlights include the Second Annual China-Australia Dialogue on R2P; workshops on Advancing Atrocities Prevention in Southeast Asia, and the launch of the Asia Pacific Partnership on Atrocity Prevention . We would like to thank you all for your on-going support and wish you a very happy holiday and a peaceful New Year.

Second Annual China-Australian Dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect: Preventive Diplomacy and Atrocity Risk Reduction



Roundtable Discussion held on European Refugee Crisis

On Tuesday 13th October, the Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P held a roundtable discussion on the current Mediterranean refugee emergency in Europe and beyond. The event was co-hosted with UQ POLSIS, chaired by Richard Devetak, and presented by Phil Orchard, Melissa Curley and David Martin Jones. Participants shared their expertise in refugee studies, human security and international humanitarian responses, and provided a timely and critical discussion on the causes of, and possible solutions to, this global emergency.

Further information about the event can be found [here](#)

On 4-5 November 2015, the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P) and the China Institute of International Studies (CIIS) co-hosted their second annual dialogue at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, which was attended by experts from both institutions as well as diplomats from Australia and China. The Australia cohort was represented by Dr. Sarah Teitt, Dr. Alex Bellamy, Dr. Melissa Curley, and Mr. Michael Bliss, and the Chinese cohort was represented by Madame Wang Haihan, Mr. Yang Yi, Dr. Liu Qing, Ms. Xing Yi and Dr. Xu Longdi.

In addition to taking stock of the past decade of progress in implementing R2P, the dialogue focused on how preventive diplomacy and atrocity risk reduction capacities contribute to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Chinese and Australian perspectives were shared on the most recent UN Secretary-General's report on R2P, ten years since its adoption, [*A Vital and Enduring Commitment: Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*](#). A key achievement associated with R2P over the past decade is the deepening consensus that sovereignty is not a shield for international scrutiny, and that the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has a special responsibility to take measures to protect populations from atrocity crimes.

After reflecting on the decade's progress in implementing R2P, the dialogue turned to the topic of preventive diplomacy, participants welcomed suggestions for a meeting for experts to share their experiences in engaging in mediation and diplomacy as an effective peaceful, consent-based tool for preventing and de-escalating crises in the region, because



New Patron Announcement

The Asia-Pacific Centre for R2P is pleased to announce Dr Surin Pitsuwan as our newest patron. A Thai national, Dr Pitsuwan has demonstrated his support and advocacy for human security in the Asia-Pacific region, serving as the ASEAN Secretary-General from 2008-2012. His current work with the UN Human Security Trust Fund and Advisory Board of the International Crisis Group (ICG) is unparalleled, and we welcome his

training and learning is important for furthering understanding of R2P among stakeholders in the Asia Pacific.

The third session of the dialogue focused on atrocity risk reduction. Participants were encouraged to examine how Australia and China contribute to preventing atrocity crimes through their respective support for, for example, peacekeeping, crisis diplomacy, women's empowerment and conflict prevention, and to exchange ideas about how adopting an atrocity prevention lens might augment or amplify the impact of these policies and programs.



The dialogue concluded with an emphasis on 5 key themes and areas of consensus:

1. There has been significant normative and institutional progress over the past decade, but now there is a need for more focus on implementation, particularly in the Asia Pacific region;
2. There is a need to learn lessons from past cases and document best practices, particularly with regard to the role of diplomacy and mediation in preventing the escalation of atrocity crimes;
3. There is a need to address new challenges arising from non-state armed groups and the rise of violent extremism;
4. The next stage of R2P implementation requires practical guidance and action plans on what precisely can be done to prevent atrocity crimes.
5. CIIS and APR2P are keen to collaborate in joint research, particularly with regard to best practices for prevention and case studies on lessons learned.

Our latest [Spotlight](#) includes more details on the content of the Second Annual Chinese-Australia dialogue on R2P.

ongoing contributions to the field of R2P in ASEAN and beyond!

Find out more about his work [here](#)

R2P Student Coalition: an interview with the student President

Georgiana Epure is the President of the R2P student coalition at Leeds as well as a Co-Founder and the Editor-in-chief of the R2P Student Journal. Currently she is a final year Undergraduate International Relations student at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom and she plans to continue with a Master's degree in IR in pursuit of a PhD.

Her interest in R2P was sparked during her time as a research assistant with the Intervention and International Society Research Cluster at Leeds, conducting research on R2P, under the supervision of Dr. Adrian Gallagher. Later she came across the UQ R2P Student coalition on the Asia Pacific Centre's website which prompted her to want to take advantage of the academic resources and staff at Leeds to create a similar student group there.

The R2P student coalition at Leeds has been very well received by both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Some of the ground activities include a debate on Europe's refugee crisis and R2P, an introductory workshop on R2P and an anniversary roundtable R2P@10.

For Georgiana, R2P "is a long-term project about building responsible sovereigns and a responsible international society. It has its flaws, but it is important that this framework exists now. The world needed an ambitious idea like R2P, but it takes time and continuous efforts to transform an idea into a working project."

After the recent celebration of R2P@10, she hopes that the next 10 years will "see an international society that tries to re-connect R2P with the responsibility to rebuild, in order to promote the



Workshops on Advancing Atrocities Prevention in Southeast Asia: Bangkok, Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur

The APR2P Centre, in partnership with the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP), organized three separate three-day workshops for civil society representatives on 'Advancing Atrocities Prevention in Southeast Asia,' in Bangkok, Thailand 4-6 November 2015, Jakarta, Indonesia 9-11 November, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 7-9 December. The Regional Director Dr. Noel Morada and Deputy Director Dr. Sarah Teitt of APR2P and Ms. Angela Patnode, Chelsea Shelton and Jelena Pia-Comella of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP), New York facilitated these workshops. The UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect also facilitated a seminar on the UN Framework of Analysis of Risk Factors for Mass Atrocities.

The Bangkok workshop included participants from Thailand and Cambodia, while delegates from the Philippines and Indonesia attended the Jakarta workshop. Because the APR2P Centre has established country programs and ongoing outreach initiatives in each of the countries represented, Dr Morada opened up the Bangkok and Jakarta workshop with an overview of the progress and remaining challenges of R2P in Southeast Asia, in particular. Delegates from Myanmar and Malaysia attended the Kuala Lumpur workshop. As R2P was a new concept for some of these delegates, Dr. Teitt began the Kuala Lumpur conference with a more general introduction of the RtoP principle itself- what it is, why it is endorsed and an assessment of progress and challenges facing RtoP since 2005.

creation of responsible sovereigns and advance the prevention of mass atrocities." Georgiana also hopes that the idea of a 'responsible sovereign' will be further explored especially in instances where the state has requested assistance to prevent an R2P crisis but has actually played a role in the crisis itself.

Join the conversation

Sign up to receive updates from [Protection Gateway](#), the blog of the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. Protection Gateway provides governments, international organisations, civil society groups and the research community with new knowledge to inform policy concerning the prevention of human protection crises and protection of vulnerable populations. Submissions accepted for short pieces (500-800 words). Please contact Sara Davies (sara.davies@griffith.edu.au) or Alex Bellamy (a.bellamy@uq.edu.au)

Farewell to Carolina Crespo, welcome to new staff

The Centre would like to farewell and thank Carolina Caliaba Crespo for her positive contribution to the Centre. Carolina left us at the end of November, having served as co-manager with Anna Nolan since mid-2014. Carolina provided sterling assistance during her time at the Centre, overseeing communications, managing and working closely with the Centre's interns and providing on the ground assistance with our R2P at 10 Conference in Cambodia in February 2015. We wish Carolina well for her future endeavors.

Welcome Arna Chancellor as Centre Manager who comes to R2P with extensive experience in project management, most recently as the program manager of the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN). During her six years at APMEN, the country-led network comprising of 37 regional and global partner institutions and 18 countries in the Asia Pacific region



The workshops aimed to communicate the importance of mainstreaming an atrocities prevention lens in civil society programs and activities, and to help equip participants to identify risk factors for atrocity crimes using the UN Framework of Analysis. The workshop culminated in a group planning exercise in which participants were invited to identify avenues for developing a national plan of action for preventing mass atrocities in their respective countries. Some 30 participants in each of the three workshops broke into country groups to conduct analysis of their country' relevant risk factors and assess domestic capacity for atrocities prevention, and discuss preliminary priority areas and plans of action to be implemented at the national level.

Launch of the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention (APPAP)

In October, decision-makers, advocates and researchers from across the Asia Pacific region launched the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention (APPAP). It is a new international partnership to prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, as well as their incitement.

The seven founding members include parliamentarians and representatives from civil society and academic organisations: [Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect](#), [ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights](#), [Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace](#), [Centre for Non-Traditional Security](#), [Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect](#), [Human Rights Working Group](#) and [Research Centre on the United Nations and International Organizations](#).

APPAP aims to facilitate coherent and comprehensive action to prevent atrocity crimes in the Asia Pacific. Administered by the APR2P Secretariat, APPAP will host activities to promote dialogue and collaboration in areas including: early warning and risk assessment, mediation, policy analysis and development for prevention, training and education, capacity building for prevention, and engagement with the UN, member states and its partners.

moved closer to achieving the goal of eliminating malaria as the countries and the region alongside their leaders have committed to a Asia Pacific free of Malaria by 2030. She has lived and worked in South Africa, Nigeria and Bangladesh and has a passion for advocacy and communications.

We welcome our new senior interns, Lien Desmet and Emily Schraudenbach. Lien arrived in October 2015 and will be finishing her internship in December 2015. She is doing research on cases of Regime Induced Displacement in the Former Yugoslavia under the supervision of Phil Orchard and is also helping the Centre with administrative tasks such as website redevelopment and graphic design of publications. Emily is a senior intern at the centre and will be working until June 2016. She is the point person for the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention and the lead researcher on the Baseline Study on the Implementation of R2P in the Asia Pacific.



Welcome to our Summer Interns

The Centre welcomes the latest batch of research interns who will be working under the supervision of Emily Schraudenbach and the Centre's academic staff.

The interns will work on the development of the new APR2P website, as well as substantive projects such as the upcoming Baseline Study on the Implementation of R2P in the Asia Pacific, as well as individual research projects under the supervision of Dr. Noel Morada,

For more information, join the [APPAP mailing list](#).

Recent Activities

7-9 December: Workshop: Advancing Atrocities Prevention in Southeast Asia. Workshop co-organised with ICRtoP in Kuala Lumpur, with participants from Myanmar and Malaysia.

23 November: Public Seminar: Myanmar update. An examination of the prospects for democratization and atrocities prevention in Myanmar post-election. Presented by Dr. Noel Morada, APR2P Regional Director.

8-11 November: Workshop: Advancing Atrocities Prevention in Southeast Asia. Workshop co-organised with ICRtoP in Jakarta, with participants from the Philippines and Indonesia.

4-5 November: The Second Annual China Institute of International Studies (CIIS) and Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect Dialogue. Held at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, the dialogue was attended by experts from both institutions as well as diplomats from Australia and China. In addition to taking stock of the past decade of progress in implementing R2P, the dialogue focused on how preventive diplomacy and atrocity risk reduction capacities contribute to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

3-6 November: Workshop: Advancing Atrocities Prevention in Southeast Asia. Workshop co-organised with ICRtoP in Bangkok, with participants from Cambodia and Thailand.

30 October: Public Research Seminar: The Ethics of War and Ethical Reasoning. Possibilities for Punitive Intervention. A critical examination of the acclaimed Kantian heritage of liberal international political theory. Presented by Dr. Milla Vaha of the University of Turku, Finland.

15 October: New Partnership: Launch of Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention (APPAP). Motivated by a shared vision of a region that protects its own people from atrocities, seven founding members from across the Asia Pacific region join efforts to launch a new international partnership between non-governmental organizations and governments working to prevent of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, as well as their incitement.

13 October: Roundtable Discussion: the Mediterranean Refugee Emergency-Crisis in Europe and Beyond. Dr. Phil Orchard, Dr. David Martin Jones, and Dr. Melissa Curley discussed the causes of, and possible solutions to, a global emergency.

12 October: Public Research Seminar: Strengthening State Resilience for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity. Why are some states more successful than others in preventing atrocity crimes? An in-depth study of Pillar One of R2P on state responsibility. Hosted by APR2P and presented by APR2P research fellows Cecilia Jacob and Stephen McLoughlin.

8 September: The seventh UN General Assembly dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect was held on 8 September 2015 in the United Nations in New York, with some 69

Dr. Phil Orchard, Dr. Sarah Teitt
and Dr. Alex Bellamy



Connect with us

Keep up with what is happening at the Centre, like us on our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#).

You can also drop us a line on: r2pinfo@uq.edu.au

Partners



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Supported by the Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

member states, one regional organization and four civil society groups presenting their responses to this year's R2P Report of the Secretary General. Alex Bellamy, Director of the Asia Pacific Centre for R2P, presented a statement.

Recent Publications

Each issue of the *Spotlight on R2P* series are downloadable from our website, and include short-form pieces and reports:

- [Second Annual China-Australia Dialogue on Responsibility to Protect.](#)
- Noel Morada, '[Phnom Penh Public Seminar: HLAP report on Mainstreaming Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia](#)' - Issue 24, October 2015.
- Noel Morada, [Asia Pacific responses to UN General Assembly Dialogue on R2P](#) - Issue 23, September 2015.
- Pou Sovachana, [Promoting Responsibility to Protect in Cambodia: What Role for Academia?](#) - Issue 22, September 2015.

The most recent publication from our *R2P Ideas in Brief* series is:

- [Strengthening State Resilience for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes](#) Vol. 5 No.5 (2015)

Additional publications:

- Sara E. Davies and Jacqui True '[Reframing conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence: Bringing gender analysis back in.](#)' Security Dialogue Vol. 46, no. 5 (October 2015).
- Nicole George, '[Starting with a prayer: women, faith and security in Fiji](#)', *Oceania*, vol. 85 (June 2015). Nicole George & Alastair Stark, '[Community resilience and crisis management: Policy lessons from the ground](#)', Policy and Politics (June 2015).

-

Quick links

[Contact UQ](#)

[UQ News](#)

[Giving to UQ](#)



Copyright © 2013 [The University of Queensland](#)
ABN 63 942 912 684 | [Privacy policy](#)
Authorised by: Centre Manager
Maintained by: r2pinfo@uq.edu.au
[Unsubscribe](#)