



AP R2P

Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

P: +61 7 3346 6435 • E: r2pinfo@uq.edu.au

NOVEMBER 2014 • ISSUE 15

SPOTLIGHT ON R2P

ICRtoP

INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Translation of ICRtoP Toolkit into Asian Languages

The Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect has recently completed coordinating the translations of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect's RtoP Toolkit into three Asian languages: Bahasa Indonesian, Mandarin Chinese and Khmer. The toolkit is a key resource for improving understanding and building support for R2P, and is geared toward enabling practical discussions on enhancing capacity and developing policy to prevent and respond to genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and ethnic cleansing. The toolkit provides, inter alia, an overview of: the emergence of R2P; the range of measures available to the international community to prevent and respond to R2P crimes; applications of R2P in crisis situations; common misconceptions about R2P; and how R2P relates to other agendas such as Women, Peace

and Security, Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, Arms Trade and International Justice. The APR2P Centre's translations of the toolkit will be used to advance and deepen knowledge about the R2P among critical government, media, academic and civil society stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region.

The RtoP Toolkit was translated into Bahasa Indonesian by Rizka Argadianti Rachmah of the Human Rights Working Group (HRWG)-Indonesia, and reviewed by Pan Mohammad Faiz Kusuma Wijaya, a PhD student at the University of Queensland Law School. The toolkit, together with the Bahasa Indonesia translation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU) March 2013 resolution on "Enforcing the Responsibility to Protect: The Role of Parliaments in Protecting Civilians", can assist members of parliament in crafting



A Toolkit on the Responsibility to Protect

domestic laws that will promote mass atrocities prevention, in undertaking investigations in aid of legislation about human rights violations, and in training the professional staff as part of capacity building on emerging norms. In partnership with HRWG-Indonesia, the APR2P Centre has been conducting a series of seminars on R2P for parliamentarians, civil society groups, and other stakeholders in Indonesia. The Bahasa Indonesian toolkit will be a core document distributed in the APR2P Centre's outreach, training and advocacy programs in Indonesia.

The Mandarin Chinese translation was conducted by Yu Feng, a PhD candidate at Peking University, and reviewed by Dr. Liu Tiewa, associate professor at the School of International Relations and Diplomacy at Beijing Foreign Studies University and coordinator of the APR2P Centre's China program. The translation will be a useful teaching tool for Chinese academics and researchers, and will appear in the appendix of the first Chinese volume on R2P. Dr. Liu, who is presently a visiting research fellow at the APR2P Centre, is editing the volume, which includes chapters by both early

career researchers and well-regarded senior Chinese academics. The volume is scheduled to be published by Beijing University Press in 2015. The APR2P Centre has distributed the translated toolkit among its network of Chinese government, academic, and think tank contacts as a key document offering a comprehensive introduction to R2P.

According to the APR2P Centre's partners at the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), who helped with the Khmer translation, the translation of the toolkit into Cambodian language 'has been of the utmost importance', and is integral to the process of raising public awareness and cultivating acceptance of R2P in Cambodia. Pou Sovachana, Deputy Director of CICP and coordinator of the APR2P Centre's Cambodia program, assesses the toolkit as an essential instrument, which can be used by civil society organizations (CSOs), academics, media and government officials to communicate the principal of sovereignty as responsibility. Moreover, the toolkit will enable education regarding the history of R2P, its basis in international law and norms, and practical strategies as well as challenges for R2P implementation. According to Sovachana, translation of the toolkit reaffirms that R2P is about helping the state to fulfill their responsibilities and ensuring what paths not to take so that history doesn't repeat itself, and will help convince government officials that R2P is not simply an expression of outsider or international standards that are imposed on Cambodia. The Khmer translation of the toolkit will be used in the APR2P Centre's

outreach activities in Cambodia, and enable CSOs, government officials, members of the parliament, security sector officials, media and educators to communicate the importance of R2P to the broader public.

The APR2P Centre thanks the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect for producing such useful educational material on R2P, and for permission to translate and distribute the document.

Sarah Teitt, Deputy Director and Researcher,
Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

Email: s.teitt@uq.edu.au

The research in this paper was conducted as part of the activities of the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (AP R2P) [DFAT Agreement 63684]. The AP R2P wish to acknowledge the funding support provided by the Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

ASIA PACIFIC CENTRE FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

Building 91, 54 Walcott Street

School of Political Science & International Studies

The University of Queensland, St Lucia Brisbane QLD 4072

phone +61 7 3346 6449 • email r2pinfo@uq.edu.au • internet www.r2pasiapacific.org

