

Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

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SPOTLIGHT ON R2P

Phil Orchard joins Asia Pacific Centre for R2P to lead Research on Doctrine, Concepts and Inter-Agency Coordination









The Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect is very happy to welcome Phil Orchard, who has joined the Management team in March 2014, as Program Leader and Senior Researcher for the Doctrine, Concepts and Inter-Agency Coordination Research Program at the Centre.

Phil's research links together the disciplinary fields of international relations and forced migration studies by focusing on how international actors and institutions protect civilians and the displaced in conflict. His first book, A Right to Flee: Refugees, States, and the Construction of International Cooperation (Cambridge University Press, October 2014) argues that not only interests but also collectively-held normative understandings are critical for understanding how state practices in refugee protection emerged and changed over time. These shifts are traced from the 17th century to the present.

A separate book, co-edited with Associate Prof Alexander Betts (University of Oxford) and entitled *Implementation in World Politics: How Norms Change Practice* (Oxford University Press, July 2014) examines how a range of peoplecentred norms - including the Responsibility to Protect doctrine, crimes against humanity, refugees, internally displaced persons, the use of mercenaries, humanitarian assistance, aid transparency, civilian protection- which appear to be strongly institutionalized at the international level have been subject to varying degrees of implementation at the domestic level.

A third project has focused on how the Responsibility to Protect doctrine as well as other UN-based developments such as the peacekeeping-based Protection of Civilians agenda can protect civilians and internally displaced persons. This has led to a number of publications, including with the *Review of International Studies and Global Governance*, and to a book under contract with Routledge's

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Global Institutions Research Stream series, entitled "Protecting the Internally Displaced: Rhetoric and Reality" and to be completed mid-2015.

At the Centre, Phil will focus on the role of the UN Security Council in averting mass atrocities and on the linkages between mass atrocities and forced displacement. One project he is developing focuses on the growing problem of regime-induced displacement, when states deliberately displace their own populations on a massive scale. Using a mix of quantitative and case study research, the project will explain why such actions have become rational strategies for regimes to respond to ethnic groups which may be a threat to them and how these regimes try to justify their behaviour in order to thwart or delay international action. It will also assess the range of international responses to such events and seek to improve them.

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