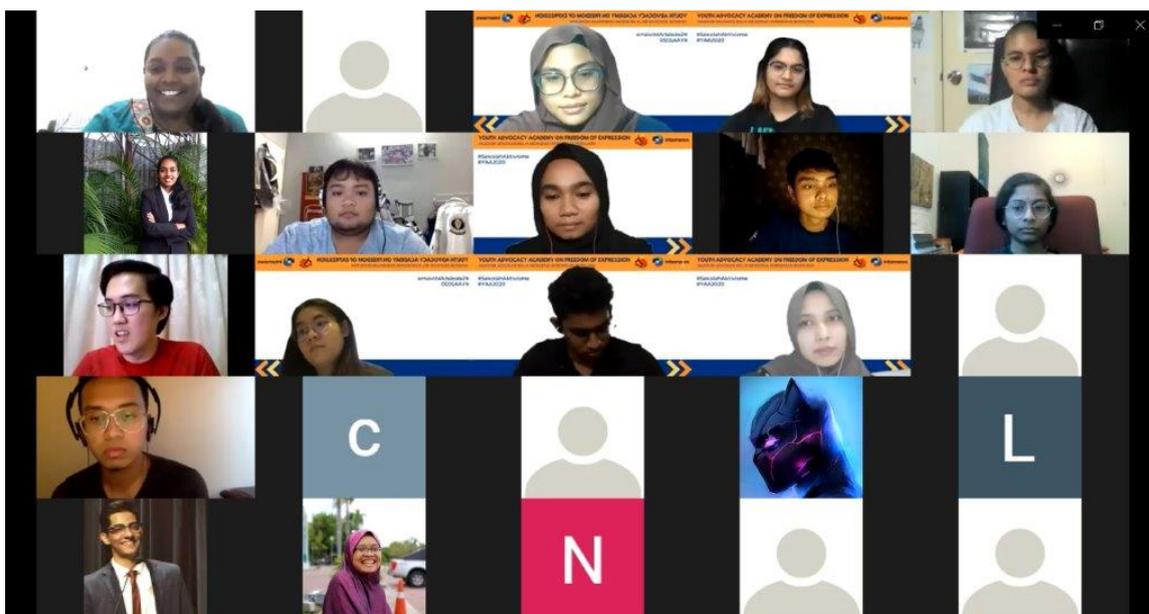


SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH and R2P



Malaysia youth project

Background

From 30 April to 2 May 2021, a local youth consultation and capacity building project was conducted in Malaysia, on Hate Speech and Atrocity Prevention. The project was run through APPAP partner, Malaysian Centre for Constitutionalism and Human Rights (MCCHR), and led by YCGAP member Nyon Nyin Toh, Human Rights Strategist with MCCHR. Sessions were held on definitions of hate speech, freedom of expression, the risk hate speech poses for atrocity crime, and the role young people can play especially on social media. Article 19 partnered on some of these training sessions.

With the aim of empowering Malaysian youth to play a larger role in countering hate speech and discrimination, the project consisted of a pilot training course on countering

online hate speech, a youth consultation, a civic education workshop and a youth-led advocacy campaign. The latter resulted in two projects that have had a strong reach and engagement among young people. The first, *Projek Sayang Kita: A Project to Promote Love, Mutual Respect and Equality*, is a campaign against hate speech, recognising that hate speech may be a precursor to atrocity crime. This project values the important role young people play in helping to steer their generation away from hate and towards peaceful, inclusive and just societies. It involves a social media campaign, workshops and podcasts, dealing with marginalisation of minorities, examples of atrocity crimes, and practical activities to identify and prevent hate speech. Two workshops were held for students between 13-25 years of age,

one in Bahasa Malaysia and the other in English, with a key activity being a comic strip competition with the winning piece on minority rights and hate speech featuring on the social media account. A podcast series on the link between hate speech and atrocity crime was streamed, featuring activists and other influential individuals in Malaysia.

Projek Henti Benci ('Stop hate') was the second activity to have come out of the youth workshop run by MCCHR. This project aims to raise awareness of the problem of hate speech in Malaysia and increase the literacy of young Malaysians about hate speech and human rights. It gives a platform to survivors of hate speech to tell their stories. This is intended to humanise members of marginalised groups who have been the target of hate speech. Interviews were conducted with multiple indi-

viduals who have experienced hate speech on the basis of the ethnic, racial, religious, or gender identity. The interviews were published on social media with various audio-visual material, with informed consent from the interviewees and with consideration given to privacy and security. In addition, two focus group discussions were held with Malaysian youth to measure hate speech literacy before and after the social media campaign.

More information on these projects can be found at:

<https://www.instagram.com/projeksayangkita/>

<https://www.instagram.com/projehentibenci/>

BACKGROUND

- ◆ Consultation
- ◆ Workshop
- ◆ Advocacy campaigns



OUR COMPETITION WINNERS

KAVINRAJH KANAGASABAI

WHAT IS OUR FUTURE

- We will continue our podcast series.
- We will continue our campaign on social media.
- We will organize more workshops moving forward.
- We will expand to cover more activities.
- We will continue to champion values of human rights and anti-violence.

**ASIA PACIFIC CENTRE
FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY
TO PROTECT**

Building 39A
School of Political Science
& International Studies
The University of Queensland,
St Lucia Brisbane QLD 4072

P +61 7 3346 6435
E: r2pinfo@uq.edu.au
W: www.r2pasiapacific.org