



TIMOR-LESTE

UPDATED ASSESSMENT OF R2P  
IMPLEMENTATION 2022



Asia-Pacific Centre for the  
Responsibility to Protect

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The following Updated Assessment Annex provides an overview of the Timor Leste's efforts in implementing R2P as of 2022. For a full description of the methodology used in this study, see Part II of 'Implementing the Responsibility to Protect in the Asia Pacific: An Assessment of Progress and Challenges', available [here](#). For more information on R2P implementation in the Asia Pacific in 2022, see the updated assessment [here](#).

**Photo Acknowledgement:** Colin Trainor, 2013 at [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Valu\\_Beach,\\_Tutuala,\\_Lautem,\\_Timor-Leste\\_\(8\\_Apr\\_2003\)\\_with\\_Jaco\\_Island\\_to\\_left.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Valu_Beach,_Tutuala,_Lautem,_Timor-Leste_(8_Apr_2003)_with_Jaco_Island_to_left.jpg)

# TIMOR-LESTE

Timor-Leste continues to be one of the strongest supporters and implementers of R2P, despite a drop in score.

Still emerging from decades of civil war and the atrocities perpetrated by Indonesian-backed militia in 1999, it has done well to protect its populations from atrocity crimes, reduce the risks of atrocities, and deal with the past. It performs well in regards to R2P policy mechanisms, international law and human rights, and in the adoption of domestic measures.

Its domestic laws ensure the promotion and protection of basic human rights and the protection of vulnerable groups and it remains an active participant in the UPR process of the Human Rights Council. Timor-Leste maintains a vibrant and relatively free civil society and a strong national human rights institution, the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice of Timor-Leste.

Timor-Leste retains a limited capacity to progress R2P regionally or internationally, yet it still performs reasonably well in this domain by supporting UN General Assembly resolutions on R2P and participating in regional activities through its civil society organisations.

While its peacekeeping contributions have been small, its willingness to contribute to this space remains strong, and its capacity continues to grow with help from international partners.

# TIMOR-LESTE

Assessment	Indicator
<b>Very Strong</b>	Reduction of atrocity crime risks
	Appoint national R2P Focal Point
	Sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and cooperate fully with the Court
	Establish and maintain National Human Rights Institutions in accordance with the Paris Principles
	Cooperate fully with UN Human Rights mandate holders and those of relevant regional organisations
	Criminalise incitement to commit genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity
	Support UN Security Council veto restraint on issues relating to atrocity prevention
<b>Strong</b>	Protection of populations from atrocity crimes
	Dealing with past atrocities
	Sign, ratify and implement relevant instruments of international law
	Ensure domestic promotion and protection of human rights, focusing on the elimination of discrimination
	Participate in international peer review processes, including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the UN Human Rights Council
	Take measures to counter and prevent violent extremism
	Enact and implement laws protecting vulnerable groups, particularly in relation to sexual and gender-based violence
	Cultivate and protect and active, diverse and robust civil society
	Ensure the education system reflects the ethnic, national and cultural diversity of society, and sets examples of inclusiveness
	Prevent nationals committing atrocity crimes overseas
	Leverage existing mechanisms and institutions (including regional and sub-regional organisations) to encourage States to fulfil their responsibility to protect
	Strengthen regional and international networks for atrocity crime prevention
	Support the strengthening of the UN's capacity for atrocity prevention, including through the UN Human Rights system
<b>Fair</b>	Ensure a legitimate, effective and civilian controlled security sector
	Participate in international, regional and national discussions on the further advancement of R2P
	Encourage and assist States to fulfil their R2P in situations of emerging or ongoing crisis, such as good offices and preventive diplomacy
	Support the development and work of regional human rights and other preventive capacities
	Support atrocity prevention through development and assistance partnerships
	Support the early warning and capacity building efforts of the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and R2P
	Support preventive actions on atrocity crimes

	Contribute to United Nations peacekeeping operations (especially those with a protection of civilians mandate)
	Develop the capacities needed to support civilian protection, including through the training of military and civilian personnel for peacekeeping
<b>Weak</b>	Incorporate atrocity crime risks and dynamics into conflict analysis and/or development partnerships
	Ensure equal access to justice
	Protect individuals and groups fleeing atrocity crimes and their risk, in accordance with International Refugee Law
	Strengthen the role and capacity of regional organisations
<b>Very Weak</b>	Establish domestic mechanisms to hold the government accountable for upholding its responsibility to protect
	Conduct a national assessment of risk and resilience
	Support the Kigali Principles

Timor-Leste 2022 Score: 59

Timor-Leste 2019 Score: 64

Difference: - 5 

Timor-Leste continues to be an active supporter of R2P, despite its small size and relative lack of capacity. Domestically, regionally and internationally, Timor-Leste gives good support for R2P and human rights protection, and it remains one of the few States in the region that maintains a national R2P Focal Point. It also does well in addressing past atrocities and its civil society organisations continue to engage at a regional level, although a lack of capacity means some domestic weaknesses remain.

Thematic Area	Indicator	Assessment	Notes
Basic Compliance	Protection of populations from atrocity crimes.	Strong Unchanged	The citizens of Timor-Leste remain mostly protected from atrocity crimes, although the rates of sexual and gender-based violence remain stubbornly high, and there remain abuses within the security sector that have yet to be adequately resolved.
	Reduction of atrocity crime risks.	Very Strong Unchanged	A vibrant civil society sector, coupled with relatively strong government institutions and a broad awareness and respect for human rights, means the risk of atrocities occurring within Timor-Leste are very low.
	Dealing with past atrocities.	Strong Unchanged	Little of anything new in the last three years has occurred in Timor-Leste regarding the Indonesian occupation and the atrocities committed during that time, and there remain lingering grievances between the people of Timor-Leste and Indonesia, despite the peaceful relations the two countries currently hold. The establishment of a reconciliation centre (Centro Nacional Chega!) at the site of a former colonial prison, remains an excellent measure to promote the recommendations of Timor-Leste's original truth and reconciliation commission. <sup>1</sup>
Policy Mechanisms	Appoint national R2P Focal Point.	Very Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste maintains its R2P Focal Point, remaining one of the few Asia Pacific States to appoint one. <sup>2</sup>
	Incorporate atrocity crime risks and dynamics into conflict analysis and/or development partnerships.	Weak Unchanged	Timor-Leste maintains a grassroots system drawing on people in civil society, government, and the security sector to provide early warning and early response for local instances of violence and conflict. <sup>3</sup> The system is used to monitor trends in violence and prevent them from developing into atrocity crime risks.
	Establish domestic mechanisms to hold the government accountable for upholding its responsibility to protect.	Very Weak Unchanged	No domestic mechanisms are in place in Timor-Leste for the government to uphold its responsibility to protect.
International Human Rights Obligations	Sign, ratify and implement relevant instruments of international law.	Strong Unchanged	There is no update for this Indicator. Timor-Leste has ratified ten of the twelve most relevant treaties of international human rights laws as they relate to R2P.  They have still neither signed nor ratified the <i>Arms Trade Treaty</i> <sup>4</sup> [ATT] or the <i>Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide</i> . <sup>5</sup>
	Sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal	Very Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste remains a signatory to the <i>Rome Statute</i> . <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, 2019. *Centro Nacional Chega! (Timor-Leste)*, <https://www.sitesofconscience.org/en/membership/centro-nacional-chega-timor-leste/>.

<sup>2</sup> Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (GCR2P), 2020. *Members of the Global Network of R2P Focal Points*, <https://www.globalr2p.org/resources/members-of-the-global-network-of-r2p-focal-points/>.

<sup>3</sup> The system is run by one of APR2P's partner organisations: Belun. More information can be found here: <https://www.belun.tl/en/belun/about/>.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Treaty Collection (UNTC), 2022. 8. *Arms Trade Treaty*, [https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg\\_no=XXVI-8&chapter=26&clang=en#:~:text=The%20Treaty%20was%20adopted%20on,until%20its%20entry%20into%20force..](https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVI-8&chapter=26&clang=en#:~:text=The%20Treaty%20was%20adopted%20on,until%20its%20entry%20into%20force..)

<sup>5</sup> UNTC, 2022. 1. *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*, [https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg\\_no=IV-1&chapter=4&clang=en](https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-1&chapter=4&clang=en).

<sup>6</sup> International Criminal Court, n.d. *The States Parties to the Rome Statute*, <https://asp.icc-cpi.int/states-parties#T>.

Court and cooperate fully with the Court.		
Establish and maintain National Human Rights Institutions in accordance with the Paris Principles.	Very Strong <b>Unchanged</b>	Timor-Leste's national human rights institution, the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice of Timor-Leste, is an independent institution that maintains an 'A' rating, signalling full compliance with the Paris Principles. <sup>7</sup>
Ensure domestic promotion and protection of human rights, focusing on the elimination of discrimination.	Strong <b>Unchanged</b>	Human rights within Timor-Leste are covered by the constitution, which prohibits discrimination on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, physical and mental disability, and other factors, and makes religious and racial discrimination criminal acts. <sup>8</sup> Women, children, and those of the LGBTIQ+ community still face widespread discrimination in various sectors of society, as do some religious minorities in the dominantly Catholic population. <sup>9</sup>
Participate in international peer review processes, including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the UN Human Rights Council.	Strong <b>Unchanged</b>	Timor-Leste participated in its third UPR in January 2022, with the outcome document due in July. Their delegation was commended for their work in improving the general wellbeing of the population and improving respect for human rights. <sup>10</sup> While it has ratified seven of the key international human rights conventions, it intends to work towards the ratification of the others. It has several specific national actions plans in place regarding human rights issues: including plans about gender-based violence, rights of the child, zero hunger, women, peace and security, and disabled persons. <sup>11</sup>
Cooperate fully with UN Human Rights mandate holders and those of relevant regional organisations.	Very Strong <b>Unchanged</b>	Timor-Leste has four overdue reports relating to international human rights treaties. These are CAT (since 2021), CERD (since 2004), ICESCR (since 2005), and CMW (since 2020). <sup>12</sup>
Ensure equal access to justice.	Weak <b>Decrease</b>	Timor-Leste extended a standing invitation to UN Special Procedure mandate holders on 9 March 2017. While it has only nine completed or proposed visits, five have had their reports finalised with another forthcoming. <sup>13</sup>
		There remain barriers to access and the effective application of justice in Timor-Leste. The judicial system is under resourced, of both funds and qualified personnel, as well as legal and court documents usually written in Portuguese, a language a minority of the population speak. There

<sup>7</sup> Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), 2022. *Chart of the Status of National Institutions Accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions*, p. 4, [https://ganhri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/StatusAccreditationChartNHRIs\\_27April2022.pdf](https://ganhri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/StatusAccreditationChartNHRIs_27April2022.pdf). See also: Asia Pacific Forum, 2022. *Timor Leste*, <https://www.asiapacificforum.net/members/timor-leste/>.

<sup>8</sup> U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 6. Discrimination and Societal Abuses: Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination', <https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/timor-leste/>.

<sup>9</sup> Freedom House, 2022. *Freedom in the World 2022: Timor-Leste*, 'D. Freedom of Expression and Belief', <https://freedomhouse.org/country/timor-leste/freedom-world/2022>.

<sup>10</sup> United Nations, Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Timor-Leste, 4 April 2022, A/HRC/50/12.

<sup>11</sup> United Nations, Human Rights Council, National report submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21: Timor-Leste, 9 November 2021, A/HRC/WG.6/40/TLS/1, para. 20.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies, n.d. *Late and non-reporting States*, [https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/LateReporting.aspx](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/LateReporting.aspx).

<sup>13</sup> United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (UNOHCHR), n.d. *View Country visits of Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council since 1998*, <https://spinternet.ohchr.org/ViewCountryVisits.aspx?visitType=all&country=TLS&Lang=en>.

			are also concerns of a lack of judicial independence. <sup>14</sup>
			For those living in remote areas, people rely on traditional justice measures or the presence of mobile courts, established by the government to improve access to judicial services. <sup>15</sup>
	Criminalise incitement to commit genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.	Very Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste's <i>Criminal Code</i> criminalises genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. <sup>16</sup>
	Take measures to counter and prevent violent extremism.	Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste remains committed to counter extremism and counterterrorism. In a statement in 2019, the Timorese delegation noted radicalisation as a determining factor in social violence and promoting measures "...of inclusion and tolerance in communities can lead to better governance of diversity, and [can lead] to better protect societies against violent extremism". <sup>17</sup>
	Enact and implement laws protecting vulnerable groups, particularly in relation to sexual and gender-based violence.	Strong Unchanged	Sexual and gender-based violence remains a pervasive problem in Timor-Leste, particularly against women and children. The State provides adequate criminalisation, yet the practical enforcement of these measures can be haphazard or ignored, further ingraining gender inequality.
			Those who incite discrimination based upon race or religion can face between four and 12 years in prison, yet the constitution does not mention alternate sexual or gender orientations. Physical, sexual, and psychological abuse has been reported by those in the LGBTIQ+ community from members of the public or within their own family. <sup>18</sup>
	Protect individuals and groups fleeing atrocity crimes and their risk, in accordance with International Refugee Law.	Weak Decrease	No updated information could be found for this Indicator, and there is a dearth of data about immigration in Timor-Leste. <sup>19</sup> The country does provide for asylum, yet the 72-hour window for applicants to submit their request for asylum is regarded to not be in line with international standards. <sup>20</sup>
Domestic Implementation	Conduct a national assessment of risk and resilience.	Very Weak Unchanged	No national assessment has been conducted in Timor-Leste.
	Cultivate and protect an active, diverse and robust civil society.	Strong Unchanged	Civil society remains a vibrant and active part of Timor-Leste, and the country is a relative bright spot in an otherwise repressive region. Freedom of expression and assembly are guaranteed in the constitution, and academic freedom and media freedom are generally well respected by the authorities.

<sup>14</sup> U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 1. Respect for the Integrity of the Person: e. Denial of Fair Public Trial'; Freedom House, 2022. *Freedom in the World 2022: Timor-Leste*, 'F. Rule of Law'.

<sup>15</sup> United Nations, Human Rights Council, A/HRC/50/12, para. 14.

<sup>16</sup> International Criminal Court Project, n.d. *Timor-Leste: Overview*, <https://www.aba-icc.org/country/timor-leste/>.

<sup>17</sup> Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, 2019. *Statement by Lenilde Henriques Maia Pereira First Secretary Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste at the Sixth Committee "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" (Agenda Item 109)*, p. 2, [https://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/74/pdfs/statements/int\\_terrorism/timor\\_leste.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/74/pdfs/statements/int_terrorism/timor_leste.pdf).

<sup>18</sup> U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 6. Discrimination and Societal Abuses'; Freedom House, 2022. *Freedom in the World 2022: Timor-Leste*, 'F. Rule of Law'.

<sup>19</sup> See for example, Timor-Leste's Immigration Data Profile, which holds many indicators as "Unknown" or has information that was last updated several years ago. Global Detention Project, 2020. *Timor-Leste Immigration Detention Data Profile (2019)*, <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/asia-pacific/timorleste#country-report>.

<sup>20</sup> U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties: f. Protection of Refugees'.



			<p>There are some caveats, however. Respect and deference to the independence movement in politics has cultivated an environment of self-censorship amongst journalists, while the preponderance of the Catholic Church within society can limit discussions on topics such as women's emancipation and abuse by the church hierarchy.</p> <p>Overall, however, Timor-Leste's civil society sector ensures the country receives a rating of 'Free' (72/100) from Freedom House and is ranked 17/180 by Reporters Without Borders for press freedom, one of the highest rankings in the region.<sup>21</sup></p>
	Ensure a legitimate, effective and civilian controlled security sector.	Fair Unchanged	The security sector of Timor-Leste is adequate to maintain order within the country, and civilian authorities keep control over their actions and any abuses, which do occur. <sup>22</sup>
	Ensure the education system reflects the ethnic, national and cultural diversity of society, and sets examples of inclusiveness.	Strong Unchanged	<p>The Timorese education system has continued to improve in the years following independence, effectively building from the ground up after most of the schools within the country were destroyed in the fight for independence. Stark differences between urban and rural students, as well as boys and girls, in access to education and literacy rates remain, and the country is still developing adequate facilities to improve education.<sup>23</sup></p> <p>Teacher training, both in adequate teaching skills and in the languages of education (those being Tetum and Portuguese) have been identified as a keep challenge in providing effective education.<sup>24</sup> New teacher development programs improving teachers' skills and knowledge have led to subsequent better outcomes for students,<sup>25</sup> and Timor-Leste's education system is likely to continue to improve in the future.</p>
	Prevent nationals committing atrocity crimes overseas.	Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste is a signatory to the <i>Rome Statute</i> and has effective laws covering atrocity crimes.
Bilateral and Multilateral Relations	Participate in international, regional, and national discussions on the further advancement of R2P.	Fair Unchanged	While Timor-Leste has not participated in any official dialogues since 2009, civil society organisations in the country have been active in engaging with R2P and atrocity prevention measures. Through the Asia Pacific Partnership on Atrocity Prevention (APPAP), Timorese organisations like Belun have been active in undertaking training and attending seminars related

<sup>21</sup> Reporters Without Borders, 2022. *Timor-Leste*, <https://rsf.org/en/country/timor-leste>; Freedom House, 2022. *Freedom in the World 2022: Timor-Leste*, 'D. Freedom of Expression and Belief'; U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties A. Freedom of Expression, Including for Members of the Press and Other Media'.

<sup>22</sup> U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 1. Respect for the Integrity of the Person'.

<sup>23</sup> U.S Department of State, 2022. *2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Timor-Leste*, 'Section 6. Discrimination and Societal Abuses: Children'; UNICEF, n.d. *Quality Education: Realising the rights to quality education for all children*, <https://www.unicef.org/timorleste/quality-education#:~:text=%E2%80%A2-Only%2020%20percent%20of%20preschool%20aged%20children%20in%20Timor,Leste%20are%20enrolled%20in%20school.&text=Nearly%2037%20percent%20of%20rural,six%20percent%20in%20urban%20areas.&text=Approximately%2070%20percent%20of%20grade,t%20meet%20basic%20learning%20outcomes.>; Miller, Jordan, 2019. *8 Facts About Education in Timor-Leste*, <https://borgenproject.org/8-facts-about-education-in-timor-leste/>.

<sup>24</sup> Burns, Robin, 2017. 'Education in Timor-Leste: Envisioning the Future'. *Journal of International and Comparative Education*, vol. 6, no. 1, p. 42 – 43.

<sup>25</sup> Owen, Susanne, Debbie Wong, 2020. 'Timor-Leste: reforming the education system through school leader capacity building and school-based teacher professional development'. *Asia Pacific Journal of Education*, vol. 41, no. 1, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02188791.2020.1775551>.

	<p>Leverage existing mechanisms and institutions (including regional and sub-regional organisations) to encourage States to fulfil their responsibility to protect.</p>	<p>Strong Unchanged</p>	<p>to the prevention of hate speech, sexual violence and other measures related to R2P.</p> <p>Timor-Leste have supported all resolutions that have referenced R2P in the General Assembly.</p> <p><b>UN General Assembly Resolutions:</b><sup>26</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018: Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions A/RES/73/172: <b>yes</b>.</li> <li>• 2018: Situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea A/RES/73/180: <b>adopted without vote</b>.</li> <li>• 2018: Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic A/RES/73/182: <b>yes</b>.</li> <li>• 2019: Situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea A/RES/74/166: <b>adopted without vote</b>.</li> <li>• 2019: Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic A/RES/74/169: <b>yes</b>.</li> <li>• 2020: Situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea A/RES/75/190: <b>adopted without vote</b>.</li> <li>• 2020: Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions A/RES/75/189: <b>yes</b>.</li> <li>• 2020: Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic A/RES/75/193: <b>yes</b>.</li> <li>• 2021: Promoting a culture of peace and tolerance to safeguard religious sites A/RES/75/258: <b>adopted without vote</b>.</li> <li>• 2021: The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity A/RES/75/277: <b>yes</b>.</li> </ul>
	<p>Encourage and assist States to fulfil their R2P in situations of emerging and ongoing crisis, such as good offices and preventive diplomacy.</p>	<p>Fair Unchanged</p>	<p>Timor-Leste has been vocal about the recent coup in Myanmar, calling on the government to open dialogue and decrying the violence since the junta took power.<sup>27</sup> Yet, despite a domestic parliamentary resolution calling on dialogue and showing concern for human rights violations, Timor-Leste abstained from a draft UN General Assembly resolution calling on respect for democracy and the cessation of violence.<sup>28</sup> This abstention is posited as a means for Timor-Leste to curry favour with Myanmar and further its campaign to become a part of ASEAN in the near future. This is despite a general outcry by Timorese civil society over abstention from the vote and seems misguided given other ASEAN members voted in favour.<sup>29</sup></p>
	<p>Strengthen regional and international networks for atrocity crime prevention.</p>	<p>Strong Unchanged</p>	<p>As mentioned, Timor-Leste continues to campaign for ASEAN membership and Timorese civil society engages with R2P-related issues with other regional entities. Their relative lack of capacity due to still being a young State with limited resources does</p>

<sup>26</sup> GCR2P, 2021. *UN General Assembly Resolutions Referencing R2P*, <https://www.globalr2p.org/resources/un-general-assembly-resolutions-referencing-r2p-2/>. (Voting records for each resolution were accessed using the UN’s Digital Library: General Assembly of the United Nations, n.d. *Voting Records*, <https://www.un.org/en/ga/documents/voting.asp>.)

<sup>27</sup> de Sousa, Camilio, 2021. ‘Timor-Leste wish Military Government in Myanmar to open dialogue’. *Tatoli*, 11 September. Available at: <http://www.tatoli.tl/en/2021/09/11/timor-leste-wish-military-government-in-myanmar-to-open-dialogue/>.

<sup>28</sup> United Nations, General Assembly, *The situation in Myanmar*, 14 June 2021, A/75/L.85/Rev.1.

<sup>29</sup> da Cruz, Joana, 2021. *Note of Repudiation of Timor-Leste’s Vote on Draft UN Resolution on the Crisis in Myanmar*, <https://pdhj.tl/note-of-repudiation-of-timor-lestes-vote-on-the-draft-un-resolution-on-the-crisis-in-myanmar/?lang=en>; Hunt, Luke, 2021. ‘Timor-Leste’s Bid for ASEAN Membership Tarnished by Myanmar Vote’. *The Diplomat*, 29 June. Available at: <https://thediplomat.com/2021/06/timor-lestes-bid-for-asean-membership-tarnished-by-myanmar-vote/>.

	Strengthen the role and capacity of regional organisations.	Weak Decrease	curtail the effectiveness of these actions yet will likely continue to improve in the future. There is little new evidence to support this Indicator. Timor-Leste, while it continues to participate, does not currently possess the capacity to strengthen regional organisations it is a part of.
	Support the development and work of regional human rights and other preventive capacities.	Fair Unchanged	Timor-Leste continues to support the work of human rights measures in the region, participating with the Asia Pacific Forum to strengthen its own domestic human rights institution. <sup>30</sup>
	Support atrocity prevention through development and assistance partnerships.	Fair Decrease	There remains broad support in Timor-Leste for human rights and other atrocity prevention measures in its development partnerships, although there was no evidence of specific atrocity prevention measures. The country still receives aid from many international donors, with the top three being Australia, Japan, and UNICEF. <sup>31</sup> Funding from the EU has developed human rights education resources at the National University of Timor-Leste, including the development of an undergraduate course in human rights, "...placing Timor-Leste at the vanguard of human rights education in the region". <sup>32</sup>
United Nations, prevention, Peacekeeping, and assistance	Support the early warning and capacity building efforts of the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and R2P.	Fair Unchanged	There is no updated information for this Indicator. No new evidence since Timor-Leste's first dialogue statement in 2009 support this Indicator. Yet, from its continued work and importance the country places on human rights, not to mention its effective local conflict early warning system, <sup>33</sup> it can be surmised that Timor-Leste continues to support efforts in early warning of atrocity crimes.
	Support the strengthening of the UN's capacity for atrocity prevention, including through the UN Human Rights system.	Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste continues to be a strong supporter of human rights both in and outside of the UN, and the UN maintains a presence within the country delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals <sup>34</sup>
	Support preventive actions on atrocity crimes.	Fair Decrease	Timor-Leste continues to see great utility in preventive actions regarding violence and conflict, especially given its recent past. Yet, its vote of abstention over Myanmar's violence following the coup shows a commitment that may play second fiddle to political considerations in certain circumstances.
	Contribute to United Nations peacekeeping operations (especially those with a protection of civilians mandate).	Fair Unchanged	Timor-Leste currently has no troops deployed on UN peacekeeping missions, having ended their last mission to South Sudan (UNMISS) in early 2022, <sup>35</sup> which had a protection of civilians mandate.
	Develop the capacities needed to support civilian protection, including through the training of military and civilian personnel for peacekeeping.	Fair Unchanged	The initial desire of the Timorese to give back to the international community through peacekeeping, following their independence and handover from INTERFET, remains strong. The Peacekeeping Training Centre was opened in 2018 with courses covering expert on mission and military observer roles. Further training by international partners, including Australia and Portugal, to better develop

<sup>30</sup> Asia Pacific Forum, 2020. *Strengthening Timor Leste's NHRI*, <https://www.asiapacificforum.net/news/strengthening-timor-lestes-nhri/>.

<sup>31</sup> Aid Transparency Portal, 2022. *ATP Public Portal*, <https://www.aidtransparency.gov.tl/portal/>.

<sup>32</sup> Global Campus for Human Rights, n.d. *Development of Human Rights Education and Research at the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL)*, <https://gchumanrights.org/education/capacity-building-training-programm/development-of-human-rights-education-and-research-at-untl/about.html>.

<sup>33</sup> Shaw, Freya, 2015. *Early Warning, Early Response in Timor-Leste*, <https://www.peaceinsight.org/en/articles/early-warning-early-response-in-timor-leste/?location=&theme=>.

<sup>34</sup> UN Sustainable Development Group, n.d. *Timor-Leste*, <https://unsdg.un.org/un-in-action/timor-leste>.

<sup>35</sup> UN Peacekeeping, 2022. *Contribution of Uniformed Personnel to UN by Country, Mission and Personnel Type*, p. 44, [https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/03\\_country\\_and\\_mission\\_47\\_feb\\_2022.pdf](https://peacekeeping.un.org/sites/default/files/03_country_and_mission_47_feb_2022.pdf).



Support the Kigali Principles.	Very Weak Unchanged	the capacity of Timorese peacekeepers, remains ongoing. <sup>36</sup> There is a preference for foundational military skills, and thus no explicit mention of atrocity prevention techniques. Timor-Leste is not a signatory to the Kigali Principles.
Support UN Security Council veto restraint on issues relating to atrocity prevention.	Very Strong Unchanged	Timor-Leste remains a signatory of both the ACT Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action over atrocity crimes, <sup>37</sup> and the French/Mexican initiative on the suspension of veto in cases of atrocities. <sup>38</sup>

<sup>36</sup> Sharland, Lisa, Genevieve Feely, 2020. *Mapping Pacific contributions to UN peacekeeping*, ‘Timor-Leste’, <https://www.aspi.org.au/report/mapping-pacific-peacekeeping>.

<sup>37</sup> GCR2P, 2022. *List of Signatories to the ACT Code of Conduct*, <https://www.globalr2p.org/resources/list-of-signatories-to-the-act-code-of-conduct/>.

<sup>38</sup> GCR2P, 2022. *List of Supporters of the Political Declaration on the Suspension of Veto*, <https://www.globalr2p.org/resources/list-of-supporters-of-the-political-declaration-on-suspension-of-veto/>.