



25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

- This year is the 25th anniversary of the founding of DTP by former President of Timor Leste, Jose Ramos Horta and Professor Garth Nethheim. We will be publishing a series of contributions reflecting on the new human rights challenges posed by political, economic, social and environmental changes since 1989 and what these mean for human rights in the next 25 years. We invite our readers and alumni to contribute to these reflections.
- As an initial contribution, we refer our readers to the new OHCHR 4-Year Management Plan launched by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The six thematic priorities are: strengthening international human rights mechanisms; enhancing equality and countering discrimination; combating impunity and strengthening accountability and the rule of law; integrating human rights in development and the economic sphere; widening the democratic space; and the early warning and protection of human rights in situations of conflict, violence and insecurity. Here are extracts on [South-East Asia](#) and [South and West Asia](#).

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

DTP Programs

2014 Draft Schedule

- **Feb 4-6** – Our World our Rights – Human Rights and Advocacy Training with Timorese and Australian Students
- **Feb 10-14** – National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Human Rights and Advocacy Summit with Oxfam Australia, UNSW Sydney
- **Feb 14-17** – Final Module: Nepal Special Capacity Building Program on Migrant Workers with Migrant Forum Asia (Kathmandu)
- **May 1-4** – Regional Workshop on Ethical Business and Recruitment Practices in Labour Migration in the Middle-East - A Training Program for Practitioners Workshop (Dubai – TBC) – [click here for application form and brochure details](#)
- **May 19-28** - Regional Human Rights Advocacy, Business and Development (Myanmar/Thailand/Indonesia) TBC – [click here for application forms](#)
- **November** – 24th Annual Regional Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program, Kathmandu, Nepal in partnership with INSEC. Please check website for details and application form.
- **Please check the [DTP website](#) for details, program information and application forms. Please send enquiries to dtp@unsw.edu.au**

DTP program reports

- Report of DTP and MFA's 2nd Gulf Regional Program on the Rights of Migrant Workers held in Doha, Qatar in November 2013, [Summary](#) and [full report](#)
- Executive Summary in [Arabic](#)

Other training programs

- [HREA Advocacy Institute August 2014](#) - Applications close 1 May
- Intensive Course on Health and Human Rights June 2014 [Registration](#)
- [ISHR: Human Rights Defenders Advocacy Programme](#) 8-21 June, Geneva
- HREA: [1st Annual Environment and Human Rights Course & Field Visit in Costa Rica](#)

ACTION OPPORTUNITIES – CALLS FOR SUPPORT – CALLS FOR COMMENT

- Urgent Action, Sri Lanka: [A human rights defender illegally detained and held without charge](#)
- [Showcase your work at ITUC Congress](#) - videos, documents, photos and any other materials sought for website
- Support the candidacy of Sofia Gruskin as UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health
- Petition, Sustainable Development: [“To build a better world, justice must be included in the next set of development goals”](#)
- Urgent Action, Philippines: [Disappearance of a peasant leader after his arrest by persons claiming to be agents of the National Bureau Investigation](#)
- Petition, Cambodia: [Uphold Victims' Right to Truth, Justice and Remedies](#)
- Urgent appeal, Pakistan: [Death threats and ongoing intimidation against human rights defender Mr. Nasrullah Baloch](#)
- [UN Human Rights Committee calls for comments on draft General Comment on Article 9 of ICCPR](#) (Right to liberty and security of person and freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention) deadline 1 June
- For endorsement: [Stop the Extra-Judicial Killing of Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines](#)
- [Help lead conversations on transitional justice and regional mechanisms](#)

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DTP ALUMNI

- From Kapaeeng Foundation, Bangladesh: [Indigenous Rakhaine people threaten of eviction from their ancestral land in Kuakata](#)
- From Yuyun Wahyuningrum: [Power point presentation on the opportunities for CSO in reviewing and amending AICHR TOR](#)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW – NEWS OF DTP ALUMNI

- [Nurul Qoiriah from Indonesia participated in a DTP Program on Migrants' Rights in Malaysia in 2005. She continues her work for migrant workers as a Project Manager with IOM.](#)

- [Sayeed Ahmad from Bangladesh was a participant in the 2006 DTP Annual Program in Timor Leste. He was appointed Director responsible for Programs at Forum Asia in March this year.](#)

DTP'S THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Human Rights and Business

- [New Quarterly Bulletin on Corporate Legal Accountability from Business and Human Rights](#)
- [ANZ seeking 100% control of Cambodia operations after allegations that its joint venture ANZ Royal helped finance sugar refinery linked to forced evictions](#)
- [Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business \(MCRB\) launches Pwint Thit Sa project to promote business transparency](#)
- [Have your say! Help the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises ensure respect for human rights by business](#)
- [Child Labour in the textile and garment industry](#)
- FIDH: "[Business and Human Rights: Enhancing Standards and Ensuring Redress](#)"; Brazil, Cambodia, Congo, Libya, Palestine case studies
- [Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business \(MCRB\) launches Pwint Thit Sa project to promote business transparency](#)

Indigenous Peoples' Rights

- [World Indigenous Tourism Alliance and Pacific Asia Travel Association partner to help tourism industry respect indigenous peoples' rights](#)
- [Indigenous woman representatives attend the Commission on the Status of Women 58th session as a part of global indigenous leaders](#)
- [World Bank support for a Nepal power line criticized for violating Indigenous peoples' rights](#)

Migrant Workers' Rights



- Dr Irene Fernandez, Executive Director of Tenanganita passed away on 31 March. She received the Right Livelihood Award in 2005 "... for her outstanding and courageous work to stop violence against women and abuses of migrant and poor workers." Her other awards include the Amnesty International Award (1998), the International PEN Award (2000) and the Jonathan Mann Award (2004). Read about her many achievements [here](#). Tribute by Human Rights Watch [here](#).
- [UN experts urge States to Ratify treaty on migrant workers' rights](#)

- AHRC: [Qatar and FIFA must act now to stop the deaths of migrant workers and resolve labour rights issues](#)
- [Garment brands not transparent on tackling bonded labour in India](#)
- Report of DTP and MFA's 2nd Gulf Regional Program on the Rights of Migrant Workers held in Doha, Qatar in November 2013, [Summary](#) and [full report](#)

Women's Rights

- [Using CEDAW to Secure Women's Land and Property Rights: A Practical Guide](#)
- [UN Women launches first ever database mapping gender provisions in constitutions worldwide](#)
- [Report on the promotion of a comprehensive approach to protection of Women Human Rights Defenders](#)
- From Asia Pacific Forum on Law and Development: ["Trans-Pacific Women versus Trans-Pacific Partnership"](#)

Disability

- [Convention and Optional Protocol Signatures and Ratifications](#)

JOBS/INTERNSHIPS

- [The International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights \(ESCR-Net\) is seeking a Senior Legal Officer](#)
- [Forum Asia is seeking an Executive Director to be based in Thailand. The deadline has been extended to 8 May](#)
- The Food First International Network (FIAN) seeks [Public Relations and Media Coordinator](#); apply by 21 May
- OHCHR: [Human Rights Officer, P-3 Research and Right to Development Division, Millennium Development Goals Section](#) and [Human Rights Officer, P-3 Human Rights Treaties Division, Groups in Focus Section](#)

EVENTS

- [Places are still available for the Human Rights Forum "Power Through Action", a gathering of LGBTI activists from the Asia-Pacific region taking place in Darwin on 14-16 May in conjunction with the OutGames](#)

AWARDS

- [UNESCO seeks nominations for the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence 2014](#)

NEW PUBLICATIONS/WEB/BASED RESOURCES

- [The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Commentary, Cases, and Materials](#) - by Ben Saul, David Kinley, and Jaqueline Mowbray
- [Media Handbook for National Human Rights Institutions](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL NEWS

- UN Secretary Message: [International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims](#)

Treaty Bodies

- [UN strengthens key human rights reporting system](#)
- [Concluding Observation on Nepal's Report to the Human Rights Committee](#)
- OHCHR improves the visibility and accessibility of treaty bodies: Search by countries available [here](#)
- [2014 Deadlines for the submission of documentation to the Treaty Bodies](#) also available in [monthly calendar view](#)

UPR

- Twentieth Session, October-November – [Fiji will be under review](#)
- [Submission deadlines for stakeholders](#): **Kiribati, Lao PDR** - 15 June 2014; **Maldives, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea** - 15 September 2014; **Australia, Micronesia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal** - 1 February 2015; **Palau, Singapore, Solomon Islands** - 1 June 2015; **Samoa, Thailand** - 1 September 2015; **Timor Leste** - 1 February 2016

Human Rights Council

- [Human Rights Council Adopts a Resolution on Reconciliation, Accountability and Human Rights in Sri Lanka](#)
- [Human Rights Council Extends Mandates on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, Minority Issues, Torture and Foreign Debt](#)

Development

- OXFAM: [Chronic Poverty Report \(2014-2015\)](#)
- [Report by UN Special Rapporteur on right to food says "current food systems efficient only \[at\] maximizing agribusiness profits", fail to feed the hungry](#)
- ["Corporate capture" of post-2015 UN Millennium Development Goals agenda threatens the key human rights principle of accountability](#)
- Speech by Helen Clarke, UNDP Administrator: [Role of the Rule of Law and Access to Justice in Development](#)
- [The Small Islands Developing States \(SIDS\) Conference will be held in Samoa from 1-4 September. Organizations with ECOSOC status can now register by 1 August. Other NGOs should register by 12 May](#)
- [Doing Business with the World Bank: When 'Development' Drives Inequality and Poverty](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – REGIONAL NEWS

- [Consultation between the AICHR and ASEAN Sectoral Bodies/Organs/Entities](#): A two days consultation will be held in Jakarta this April 2014 hosted by Indonesia
- Joint NGO press release: [ASEAN governments must develop mechanisms for protection of all human rights](#)
- [Statement of the ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN Peoples' Forum \(ACSC/APF\) 2014](#)
- [Nepal to host the 18th SAARC Summit in Kathmandu in November](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS – COUNTRY SPECIFIC NEWS

Australia

- National Congress of Australia's First Peoples: [Proposed Changes to the Racial Discrimination Act Threaten Racial Cohesion](#)

Bangladesh

- [Abduction of husband of human rights defender Ms Rizwana Hasan](#)

Burma/Myanmar

- International Human Rights Clinic: [“The Myanmar military must reform policies and practices that threaten civilian populations in the country”](#)
- New Report: [“Marching to Genocide in Burma”](#)
- [United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Myanmar \(a.i\) Mr. Toily Kurbanov - Statement on attacks on UN and INGO personnel in Sittwe, Rakhine State](#)

Cambodia

- [CCHR launches “Where is My Justice?” campaign](#)
- Committee for Free and fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL): [Democracy, Elections and Reform in Cambodia, April 2014](#)
- Time-lapse video: [State-Involved Land Conflicts in Cambodia](#)

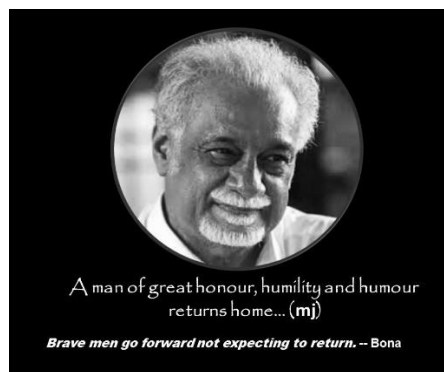
China

- Frontline: [Four human rights lawyers detained following investigation into black jail](#)
- [Released lawyer reports beating in custody while three colleagues remain in detention](#)

Indonesia/West Papua

- National Human Rights Commission: [Privatization of water in Jakarta violates human rights](#)

Malaysia



- [Civil rights stalwart Karpal Singh dies, but his legacy lives on](#)
- [Excessive Use of Force, Shootings, Deaths in Custody ‘A Major Problem’](#)
- Following Criticism for Failing to Act on Police Brutality, [Suhakam Says Hamstrung By Lack Of Enforcement Powers](#)

Laos

- [Australian Parliament Calls for Credible Investigation into the disappearance of Sombath Somphone](#)

Nepal

- [Lawyer threatened for raising the issue of police torture](#)

Philippines

- Church people targeted because of their work for the rights of the rural poor of Northern Mindanao

Sri Lanka

- [Update – Two human rights defenders banned from speaking to international media](#) – The two were the subject of an urgent Appeal in last month's E Newsletter

Thailand

- Human Rights Watch: [More Uighurs Face Forced Return to China](#)
- [Prominent Karen Activist Feared 'Disappeared'](#)

Timor Leste

- HURIGHTS: [From a Dark and Brutal History: Enforced Disappearances in Timor-Leste](#)
- Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao: ["Timor-Leste and ASEAN: Perspectives and Challenges"](#)

Vietnam

- [UN human rights experts say that Viet Nam land grabbing case needs to be urgently addressed](#)

April 2014 E Newsletter compiled, edited and designed by André Frankovits and Patrick Earle