



## **DTP – BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF ASIA-PACIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT 1990 – 2018**

We are continuing with our series of contributions on new human rights challenges and new developments affecting political, economic, social and environmental challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and what these mean for human rights and capacity building. We invite our readers and alumni to contribute.

- The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein has announced that he will be stepping down from his post. In his [Annual Report and Oral Update to the UN Human Rights Council](#) he outlined the many critical human rights situations around the world. He stressed the humanitarian catastrophes in Syria, Yemen and Myanmar and included his concerns about the situation in Fiji, Papua New Guinea and West Papua. In February he gave [this speech](#) in Jakarta to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of the UDHR

### **PLEASE DONATE**

- DTP relies on donations to provide quality training to human rights defenders so that they can promote and protect human rights effectively in their societies. Please help if you can. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Please send your donation to DTP now [online](#), or by credit card or EFT with this [donation form](#)

### **CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Schedule of DTP Program's, Brochure and Application Forms** [click here](#)

**For reports on completed DTP Training Programs** [click here](#)

- [The 2016 DTP Annual Report is now available on line](#)

### **Other training programs**

- [Geneva Summer School on "Global and Regional Migration Governance 2018"](#)

### **PROFILES AND NEWS OF DTP ALUMNI**

- Congratulations to:
  - [Sushil Pyakurel](#), appointed as Human Rights Advisor to President of Nepal
  - [Lopeti Senituli](#), appointed as Media and Political Adviser to the Hon Prime Minister of Tonga
  - [Mahendra Pandey](#), appointed last year as Investments Manager, Humanity United
  - [Nukila Evanty](#) – selected as the CSO speaker on SDG 15 and Right to Land at the UN Asia-Pacific Forum on the SDGs, Bangkok, March 29th.
- [Karen Gomez-Dumpit](#), Human Rights Commissioner speaking at UNSW on [human rights in the Philippines, April 9](#)
- [Ursula Rakova](#), DTP alumna from Papua New Guinea spoke at WOMADelaide's Planet Talks in March

- [Wensi Fatubun](#), West Papua was active in briefing OHCHR ahead of the first visit of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to Indonesia and the Pacific and met with the High Commissioner in Jakarta. [The High Commissioner](#) expressed his concern about conditions in West Papua among other human rights concerns.
- [Agustinus Mahuze](#), Merauke, Papua, has reported on some successful advocacy initiatives on mother-tongue education for children in Merauke since he participated in DTP's 2017 program and is now seeking advice and help from DTP alumni who have similar issues and concerns around language preservation/mother-tongue education.
- [Francis Solomantine](#), Program Coordinator, Middle East Centre for Training and Development MECTD, shares these [news links](#) on an agreement entered between the Permanent Committee of Labour Affairs (PCLA) and Jabel Ali Free Zone Authority to educate foreign workers about their rights

## WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS - NGO PROFILES

- [Fiji Women's Rights Movement \(FWRM\)](#) – Fijian NGO advocating for women's rights
- [LICADHO](#) – Cambodian human rights NGO

## RESOURCES

- [DTP Migrant Worker International Law Reference Tool](#)
- [Girl's Rights Platform developed by Plan International: A searchable database of human rights documents and conventions by the UN and regional bodies.](#)
- Amnesty International: ["State of the World's Human Rights" – Annual Report](#)

## JOBS/INTERNSHIPS

- [Rotary Peace Fellowship - Call for applications](#); All applications are due 31 May 2018

## DTP'S THEMATIC PRIORITIES

### Human Rights and Business

- Myanmar: From alumnus [Aung Kyaw Soe](#): [A New Mineral Resources Policy and Fresh Laws are Needed if Mining in Myanmar is ever to be Sustainable \(New report from the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business\)](#)
- India: [Report finds female migrant workers are subjected to conditions of modern slavery in factories supplying to garment brands](#)
- [Australian Mining Company defends Eritrea at the UN](#)
- [Sacrificing Labour Rights at the Altar of Ease of Doing Business](#)
- Indian [Government allows penal action against 199 companies over alleged non-compliance with corporate social responsibility norms](#)
- [The UN Global Compact: Mainstreaming Human Rights to Strengthen the Accountability of Trans-National Corporations](#)
- [Women, business and human rights: working towards a Binding Treaty with a gender perspective](#)

### Indigenous Peoples' Rights

- [Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues Seventeenth Session \(16–27 April 2018\) – Calendar of meetings](#)
- AIPP Statement: ["Philippines: End the Abuse of Power and Violence to Human Rights Defenders"](#)
- Petition: [Stop the Harassment & Intimidation of Indigenous Peoples' Leaders/Human Rights Defenders](#)
- [Indigenous women target of rape in land-related conflicts in Bangladesh](#)

### Migrant Workers' Rights

**DTP Monthly Migrant Workers Rights e-Bulletin.** [Issue No 8 is available here](#)

- Malaysia: [Death of young Indonesian domestic worker, Adelina Lisao sparks anger and concern](#)
- Malaysia: [Joint Statement – Halt Hiring of Migrant Workers until Safety can be Ensured](#)
- South Korea: [Migrant fishermen subject to human rights violations, say NGO and IOM](#)

## Women's rights

- From DTP alumnus [Nihal Chandrasiri](#): [‘Empowering Women in the Informal Sector: A Human Rights Agenda’](#)
- [UN Women report uncovers significant gaps for women’s empowerment, puts forth robust agenda to shift gears](#)
- [Parliamentarians Join with UN Women National Committee Australia to Leave no Woman Behind](#)
- [Civil Society calls to leave no woman or girl in rural communities behind in the quest for gender equality](#)
- [New Pacific Partnership addresses gender equality and violence against women](#)
- [CEDAW committee adopts General Recommendation on States' women's rights obligations with climate-related disaster risk reduction](#)

## HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL NEWS

- [Report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination](#)
- [UN Committee against Torture issues new guidelines on asylum seekers’ rights](#)
- [Report of the UN Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders](#)
- [Urgent steps needed to protect defenders of rights of people on the move](#)
- [Framework Principles on Human Rights and the Environment](#)
- **Take action:** [How to ensure strengthened UN wide action for prevention of, protection against, investigation into and accountability for reprisals](#)
- [71 States fail to respond to allegations of rights abuses revealed by UN Experts](#)

## 2018 Anniversaries: UDHR, Vienna Declaration, Declaration on HR Defenders

- The UN is calling on everyone to join it in making a difference: [Suggested actions](#).
- [Take the pledge](#): I will respect your rights regardless of who you are. I will uphold your rights even when I disagree with you. When anyone’s human rights are denied, everyone's rights are undermined, so I will stand up. I will raise my voice. I will take action. I will use my rights to stand up for your rights.

## Human Rights Council

- NGOs interested in being included in the Human Rights Council NGO mailing list should send an email to [hrcngo@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcngo@ohchr.org)
- [Draft annual programme of work of the Human Rights Council for 2018](#)

## UPR

- Deadline for other stakeholders submissions to 31st session set for 29 March – Reviewing [China](#), [Malaysia](#)

## Development

- [Towards new Guiding Principles: United Nations discusses the human rights impact of economic reforms](#)

## HUMAN RIGHTS – COUNTRY SPECIFIC NEWS

### Australia

- [Human rights under attack in Australia, says the UN](#)
- [Scathing UN migration report mars Australia's first week on UN Human Rights Council](#)
- [Australia pledges at UN Human Rights Council to improve its 'human rights situation'](#)
- [“I Needed Help, Instead I Was Punished”: Abuse and Neglect of Prisoners with Disabilities in Australia](#)

### Bangladesh

- [The Rohingya Crisis: Past, Present, and Future - Summary Report of Findings from Fact-Finding Mission to Bangladesh, 21-24 January 2018](#)
- [Civil society decries mass arrests amid worsening human rights situation](#)

### Burma/Myanmar

- [‘No other conclusion,’ ethnic cleansing of Rohingyas in Myanmar continues – senior UN rights official](#)
- UN: [Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar: concrete and overwhelming information points to international crimes](#)

## Cambodia

- [Rights defenders urge charges to be dropped against human rights defender Moeun Tola](#)
- [“Cambodia at a crossroads”: UN expert calls on Government to choose path of human rights](#)
- [Eight people killed after authorities opened fire on protesters over land dispute with rubber plantation](#)
- [Human rights defenders who challenge corporations at growing risk](#)

## Malaysia

- **Take action:** [Human Rights Defender Fahmi Reza sentenced to prison and fined](#)

## Philippines

- [Philippine government labels human rights defenders “terrorists”](#)
- FIDH: [Unfounded terrorist accusations against dozens of human rights defenders](#)
- [Front Line Defenders condemns the inclusion of human rights defenders in ‘terror list’ petition](#)
- **Take action:** [Philippines President Duterte’s Accusation of Activists and Indigenous People Leaders as Terrorists](#)
- [Duterte: Philippines to withdraw from International Criminal Court 'immediately'](#)
- [ICC Statement on The Philippines’ notice of withdrawal](#)
- [Rights advocates defend ICC mechanism to protect people](#)

## Singapore

- [ASEAN parliamentarians concerned by Singapore’s new public order bill](#)

## Sri Lanka

- From DTP alumnus [Nihal Chandrasiri](#): [Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka writes to the Telecommunication Regulatory Commission \(TRC\) on Lifting Restrictions on Social Media](#) and [‘Empowering Women in the Informal Sector: A Human Rights Agenda’](#)
- [Year-long protests in Sri Lanka highlight regional issue of enforced disappearances](#)

## Vietnam

- [“Shrinking Spaces: Assessment of the Human Rights Situation in Vietnam during the 2nd Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review”](#)
- [Vietnam denounced before UN Human Rights Council for stifling civil society](#)
- [Hmong Christians assaulted: repression continues under new Law on Belief and Religion](#)
- [Prisoners’ rights defenders detained and beaten by police](#)

## NEWSLETTERS/REGULAR PUBLICATIONS

In this section, we list contributions that appear on a regular basis that may be of interest to our readers

- [Australia Asia Worker Links](#)
- [AWPA Sydney News](#) from the Australian West Papua Association (AWPA)
- [Bangladesh Human Rights Monitoring Report, monthly from Odhikar](#)
- [Burma Human Rights Network Monthly Situation Updates Registration](#)
- [Centre for Migration and International Relations \(CMIR\)](#)
- [Chinese Responsible Investment Overseas Newsletter](#)
- [Forest Peoples Programme Newsletter](#)
- [HREA Upcoming E-Learning Courses](#)
- [Human Rights and Peace for Papua – The International Coalition for Papua](#)
- [Hurights-Osaka: Asia Pacific Human Rights Information Center](#)
- [INDIA NEWS - A publication of the India Committee of the Netherlands](#)
- [Kapaeng Watch](#) from Bangladesh
- [Stop Child Labour Newsletter](#)
- [United Nations Democracy Fund Monthly Newsletter](#)
- [Vietnam Human Rights Defenders Weekly](#)

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