



DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

AFFILIATED WITH THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

A training program for peoples of the Asia-Pacific region

DTP Alumni Profiles

Name: Charles Wea

Role: FLNKS Representative in Australia

Organisation: Front de Libération Nationale Kanak et Socialiste (FLNKS)

Active in Country: New Caledonia (currently studying in Australia)

DTP Program: 1992 3rd Annual Program



“DTP is important in the sense that it helps freedom fighters on how to use international mechanisms and processes to advocate and help them in their struggle. International relations have really changed, and these people need to control and understand how the international landscape is runned by different countries and international organisations.”

Charles is currently the FLNKS Representative in Australia and studying International Relations at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Victoria.

As a FLNKS representative in Australia, Charles’s work has seen him educating and advocating the Australian public on the independence movement in New Caledonia based on the FLNKS proposal for a Kanaky – New Caledonia republic separate from French rule. FLNKS (Front de Libération Nationale Kanak et Socialiste) is a pro-independence movement in New Caledonia made up of an alliance of political parties. FLNKS is predominantly made up of New Caledonia’s Kanak indigenous population which Charles identifies with. In July 2018, Charles was part of a delegation of FLNKS members touring Australia meeting with government officials and trade unions to rally support for self-determination. These meetings were important as New Caledonia will be holding a historic referendum on self-determination in November.

Charles participated in the 3rd Annual Program in 1992 and has found it very useful in his advocacy work.

“The program influenced me in terms of using all international mechanisms that are used in international relations in any levels and context. The program was also oriented in the field of negotiations with international organisations and particularly how you deal with your belligerents and how to find solution. It also guided me into the context of decolonisation process, which is very important for colonised peoples.”

Charles acknowledged the usefulness of the program based and the chance to meet experts within the field. Charles also commented on the opportunity to personally meet DTP Founder and Patron, José Ramos-Horta at the program.

“The most memorable moment in my DTP session was personally meeting José Ramos-Horta. José was still at DTP even during the struggling against Indonesian occupation and helping others fight for independence within their own country. It was such a memorable moment and very difficult to forget.”

Profile written July 2018