



## CSOs and NGOs working for Human Rights<sup>1</sup>

**Name of Organisation:** FORUM-ASIA (Asian Forum for Human Rights & Development)

**Website of Organisation:** <https://www.forum-asia.org/>

**Facebook of Organisation:** <https://www.facebook.com/FORUMASIA/>

**Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N:** Yes

The Asian Forum for Human Rights & Development (FORUM-ASIA) actively works to promote and protect human rights through the established partnerships and relationships of various actors of civil society across the Asian region. Their role is to also identify those that are often poor, marginalized and discriminated within society.

Founded in 1991 in Manila, the Philippines, FORUM-ASIA is made up of a network of 58 members in 19 countries across Asia. Since then, several offices have been established in Geneva, Jakarta and Kathmandu with its regional secretariat based in Bangkok, Thailand.

FORUM-ASIA acts as a main proponent in building peaceful, equitable and ecologically sustainable communities for the Asian region based on the standards of human rights norms and conventions. This is achieved through their consultative status to United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC Status) since 2004, and a consultative relationship with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) since 2017.

FORUM-Asia's main goals are,

- Bringing together activists and stakeholders to tackle human rights issues;
- Protecting human rights defenders in Asia that find themselves in emergency situations;
- Advocating for human rights at the national, regional and international level; and
- Building the capacity of its members and partners.

In November 2017, FORUM-ASIA in collaboration with the 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit organized the ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN People's Forum to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary of the ASEAN. The conference titled "Beyond Boundaries: Strengthening People's Solidarities for a Just, Equitable and Humane Southeast Asia", provided a platform for various Southeast Asian civil society organisations to represent ASEAN peoples' voices.

**Contact address:** S.P.D Building 3rd Floor, 79/2 Krungthonburi Road, Khlong Ton Sai, Khlong San Bangkok, 10600 Thailand

Tel: +66 (0)2 1082643-45 Fax: +66 (0)2 1082646

**Email:** [info@forum-asia.org](mailto:info@forum-asia.org)

**Website:** <https://www.forum-asia.org/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/FORUMASIA/>

*Profile written November 2017*

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<sup>1</sup> The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, It has provided training to over 2600 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights – in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP ([www.dtp.unsw.edu.au](http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au)) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote the rights of migrant workers and human rights more broadly.