

Atrocity Prevention, the Responsibility to Protect and the Importance of Civil Society Partnerships

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Preventing atrocity crimes

Atrocity crimes occur as a process

There are early warning signs, risk factors and opportunities for intervention



An 'education centre' in Xinjiang, China, The Guardian, Photograph: Greg Baker/AFP/Getty Images



Majdanek concentration camp, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Michel Reynders

Atrocity crimes are most egregious crimes against humankind – they affect the “core dignity” of humans*

- War crimes
- Crimes against humanity
- Genocide
- Ethnic cleansing

*Framework of analysis for atrocity crimes

Early warning, risk assessment

Underlying risk factors

Situations of armed conflict or other forms of instability

Record of serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law

Weakness of State structures

Motives or incentives

Capacity to commit atrocity crimes

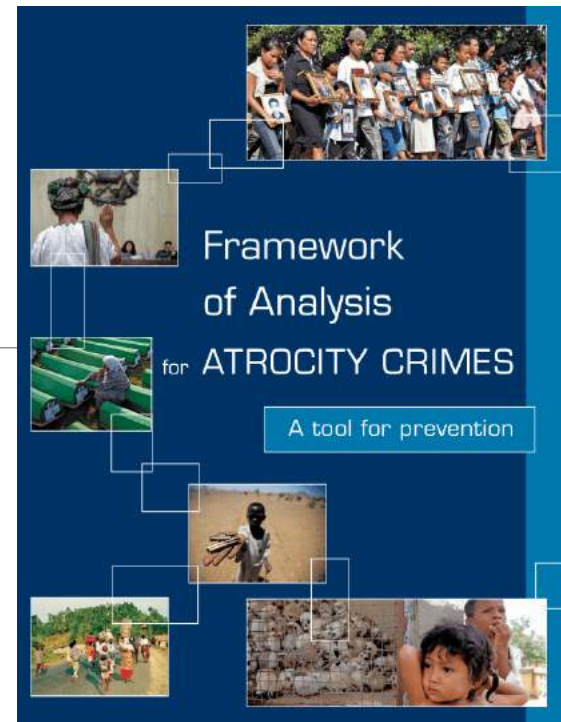
Absence of mitigating factors

Enabling circumstances or preparatory action

Triggering factors

Specific Risk Factors for Atrocity Crimes

- Intergroup tensions or patterns of discrimination against protected groups
- Signs of an intent to destroy in whole or in part a protected group
- Signs of a widespread or systematic attack against any civilian population
- Signs of a plan or policy to attack any civilian population
- Serious threats to those protected under international humanitarian law
- Serious threats to humanitarian or peacekeeping operations

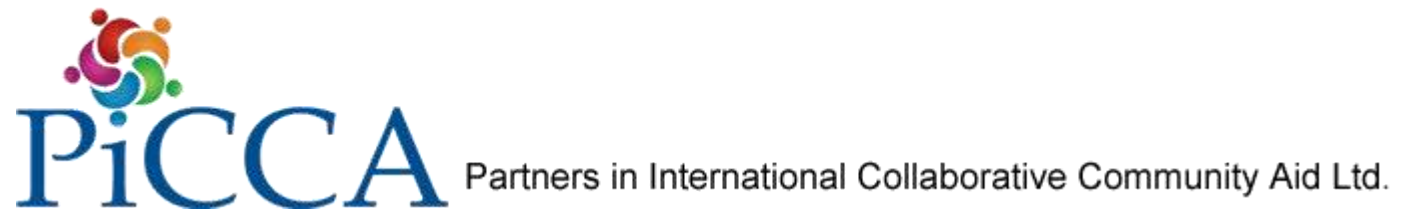


PiCCA – community development contributes to atrocity prevention

Human rights, community development and peacebuilding organisations often do work that relates to atrocity prevention

“PiCCA chooses to fund projects that work in partnership with local communities overseas to support equity, opportunity, justice and peace and help address the root causes of the community’s identified needs in a sustainable way.”

PiCCA projects – by addressing underlying risk factors for atrocities like socio-economic disadvantage, health care access, agriculture and social enterprise projects, you are also working towards the prevention of violence, conflict and atrocity crimes.



PiCCA projects - an atrocity prevention lens

Improving hygiene practice and hand wash infrastructure in Huong Tra primary schools, Vietnam

- 10 new hand washing stations in primary schools, training in hygiene and sanitation practices
- Reduces risk of Covid spread and associated intergroup blame and hate speech



Kamrangirchor Composite Development Project in Bangladesh

- Community service hub including pre-school education, vocational training, women's self-help, health awareness (including nutrition, hygienic living and safe water), clinics in dental health, eye health, and antenatal, safe birthing and postnatal care.
- Alleviates financial strain, unemployment, and improves education and literacy, breaks the cycle of disadvantage
- Reduces the risk of social unrest and violence being triggered by alleviating underlying pressures and providing opportunities to disadvantaged groups (Bangladesh has a history of past atrocities, gendered violence and a range of other structural indicators)

Bougainville projects agricultural hub and community training centre in conjunction with Hako Women's Collective



Facilities for young people to learn building skills, supports social enterprise, addresses economic disadvantage and improves overall financial situation of the community
Bougainville risk factors – history of conflict, independence movement and political tensions with PNG etc

Agricultural hub - training in modern agricultural methods and developing a rice mill to enhance sustainable food security.

Climate change effects are a 'threat multiplier' for the risk of atrocities, and particularly for communities relying on agriculture and those who may face resource shortages. Reducing risk of food shortages and teaching sustainable methods could help prevent future conflict between communities that could lead to violence.



The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) – Three Pillars

1. All states have a responsibility to protect their population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity including incitement.
2. The international community should assist them to fulfill this duty.
3. The international community should take timely and decisive measures to protect populations from such crimes if the state manifestly fails to do so.



<https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/15th-anniversary.shtml>

Special Advisor Karen Smith on R2P's 15 anniversary

The Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P)

- Supported by UQ and DFAT
- Academic research, policy and local programs
- Courses at UQ, provides training on R2P in the region
- Early warning, eg, Regional Outlooks, Risk Assessments

ASIA PACIFIC CENTRE - RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ATROCITY CRIMES:

THE CHALLENGE IN THE PACIFIC

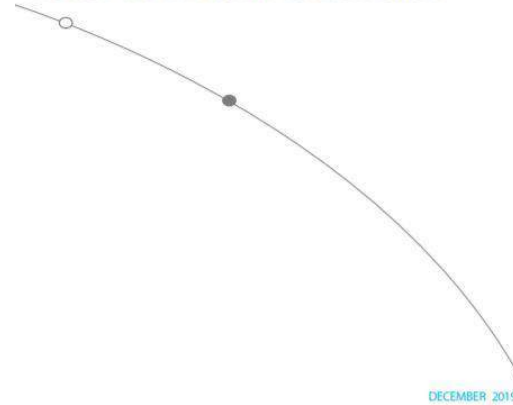


Asia-Pacific Centre for the
Responsibility to Protect

Thematic areas:
Gender
Climate change
Hate speech
Covid-19

ASIA PACIFIC CENTRE - RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

CENTRALISING GENDER IN MASS
ATROCITY PREVENTION: A TOOL FOR
ACTION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION



DECEMBER 2019

Asia-Pacific Centre for the
Responsibility to Protect



Create change

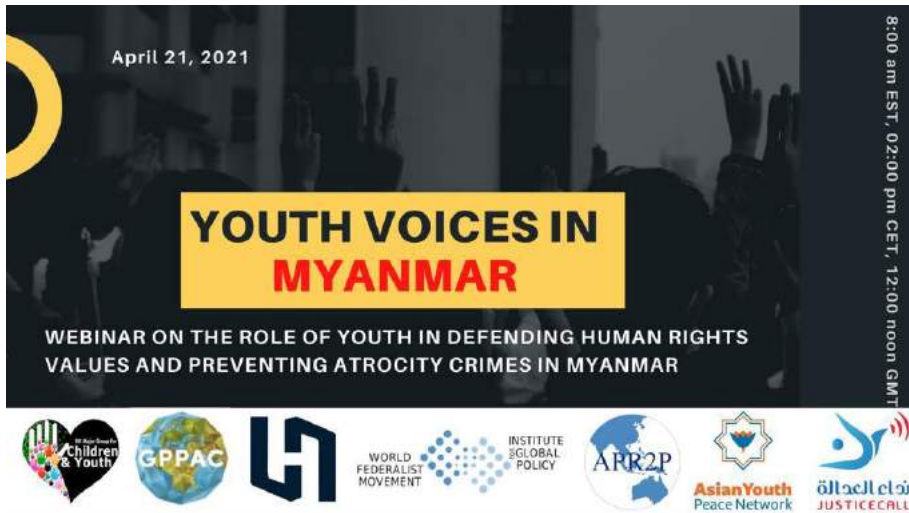
COVID-19 AND
IMPLICATIONS
FOR ATROCITIES
PREVENTION:
LESSONS FROM
EAST ASIA



17 June 2021

Asia-Pacific Centre for the
Responsibility to Protect

APR2P Youth Programs



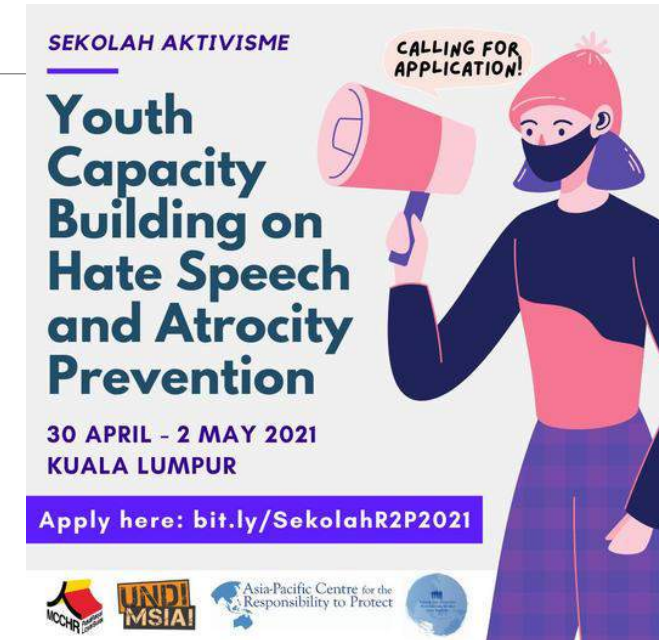
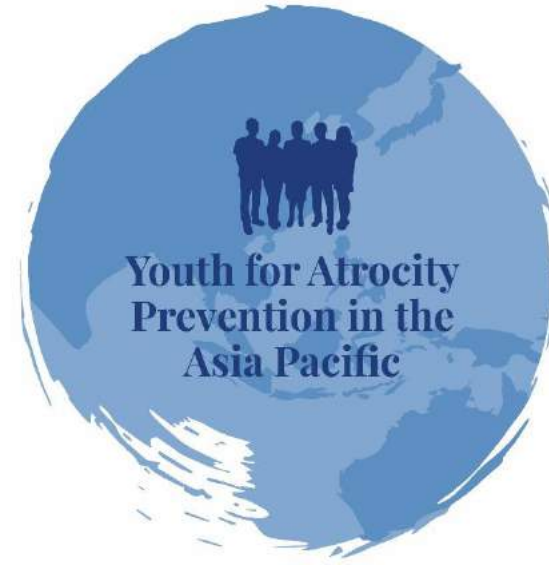
April 21, 2021

YOUTH VOICES IN MYANMAR

WEBINAR ON THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS VALUES AND PREVENTING ATROCITY CRIMES IN MYANMAR

8:00 am EST, 02:00 pm CET, 12:00 noon GMT

Children & Youth
GPPAC
WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT
INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL POLICY
APR2P
Asian Youth Peace Network
JUSTICECALL



SEKOLAH AKTIVISME

CALLING FOR APPLICATION!

Youth Capacity Building on Hate Speech and Atrocity Prevention

30 APRIL - 2 MAY 2021
KUALA LUMPUR

Apply here: bit.ly/SekolahR2P2021

NCHR
UNDI MSIAI
Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect

Youth programs

Youth Workshop on Hate Speech and Social Media Campaign Malaysia

- Projek Sayang Kita - <https://www.instagram.com/projeksayangkita>
- Projek Henci Benci - <https://www.instagram.com/projekhentibenci/>

Four Steps Closer to World Peace – Youth Peacebuilding Toolkit and Workshop

Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention (APPAP)

30 partners in Asia Pacific

Working groups

- ❖ Gender and atrocity prevention
- ❖ Hate speech and incitement
- ❖ Covid-19



The Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention (APPAP) is an alliance of organisations working towards the prevention of atrocity crimes and to fostering commitment to the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) principle.

News and events



RENCANA AKSI UNTUK PARA PEMIMPIN
EAGAMAAN DAN AKTOR-AKTOR TERKA
UNTUK MENCEGAH PENGHASUTAN
KEKERASAN YANG DAPAT MENGARAH
PADA KEJAHATAN KEKEJAMAN BERAT

23 July 2021



17 June 2021



7 April 2021

<https://appap.group.uq.edu.au/>

Partnerships with civil society – APPAP projects

Interactive theatre in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, highlighting sexual and gender-based violence in the camps
"Kurma: the Turtle that Brings Equilibrium"



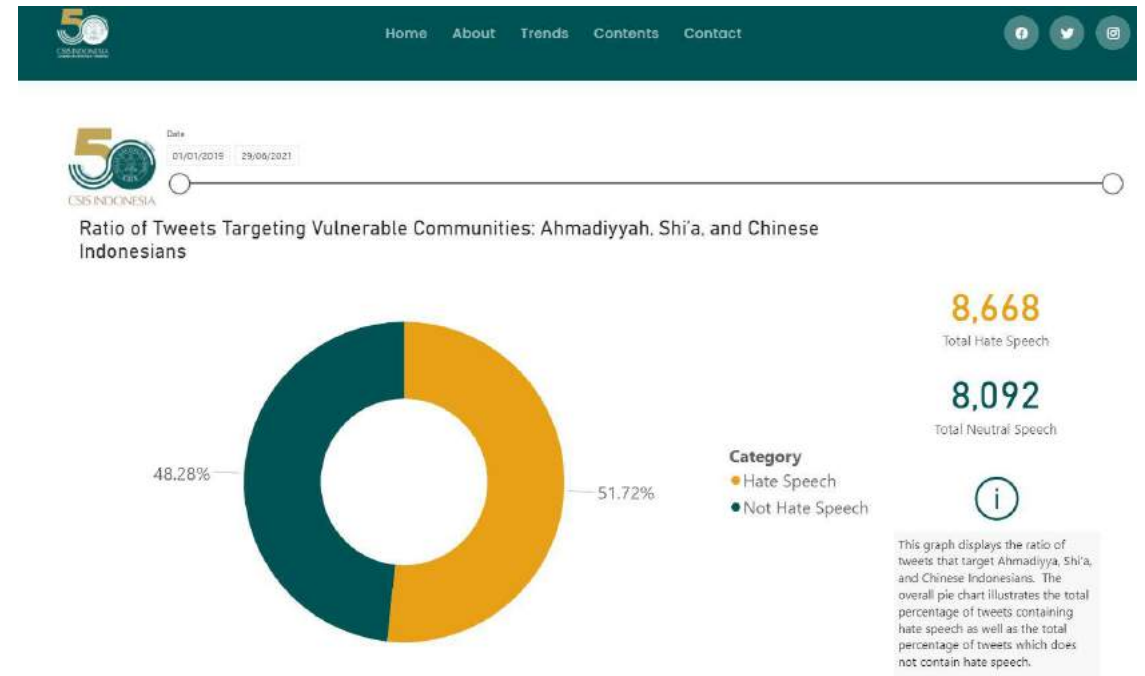
APPAP's Warning and Response Network for Sexual and Gender-based Violence, Bangladesh and Timor Leste

- Early warning system (app) to capture SGBV
- Belun Timor Leste - <https://www.belun.tl/en/>



CSIS National Hate Speech Dashboard

- A trend aggregator of tweets containing hate speech against vulnerable minorities in Indonesia



<https://dashboard.csis.or.id/hatespeech/#home>

More information and contact details

<https://r2pasiapacific.org/>

<https://appap.group.uq.edu.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/r2papuq>

Twitter: @APR2P

E: n.marczak@uq.edu.au