



# ASIAN INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

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EAST-WEST CENTER

COLLABORATION • EXPERTISE • LEADERSHIP

## East-West Center

The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. Established by the United States Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options.

## WSD HANDA Center for Human Rights and International Justice

The WSD HANDA Center is dedicated to promoting the rule of law, accountability, and human rights around the world through education, critical scholarship, and policy advocacy. Seated within Stanford University's School of Humanities and Sciences, the HANDA Center supports academic and professional development opportunities for students interested in pursuing work in human rights or international justice.

AIJI

## Asian International Justice Initiative (AIJI)

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**THE ASIAN INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE (AIJI)** is a collaboration between the East-West Center (EWC) and the WSD HANDA Center for Human Rights and International Justice at Stanford University (previously known as the Berkeley War Crimes Studies Center). AIJI works in partnership with national and regional institutions in Asia to implement programs in the rule of law and human-rights education and capacity building. These programs promote understanding of internationally recognized fair-trial standards and accountability for serious human-rights violations, especially in international criminal trials and proceedings in national courts.

AIJI collaborates with war crimes tribunals around the world and with several university-based research centers, including the Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE), Pannasastra University (PUC), and the University of Cambodia in Cambodia; Universitas Udayana and the University of Indonesia (Depok) in Indonesia; the Ho Chi Minh City University of Law in Vietnam; the University of Zurich Human Rights Center in Switzerland; the University of Munich, the War Crimes Documentation Center at the University of Marburg, and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Germany; and the International Institute for Child Rights and Development at the University of Victoria in Canada.

## Strengthening the Performance of Anti-Corruption Law in Indonesia

Since 2003, AIJI has engaged in a variety of judicial capacity-building projects in partnership with the

Supreme Court and the Attorney General's Office of Indonesia. In 2015, AIJI initiated a three-year project, in partnership with the Institute for Policy Research and Advocacy (ELSAM) and the Institute of Judicial Independence (LEIP), to train lawyers to monitor proceedings in Indonesia's newly established Anti-Corruption Courts in five cities—Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Makassar, and Medan. Funded by the European Union, the project engages local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in each city and provides training in court monitoring and research-based advocacy.

One objective is to increase the capacity of law students, law-school teachers, and civil-society organizations to monitor and report on anti-corruption proceedings. The program will also help participants develop policy recommendations, including recommendations for improving the professional-development curriculum for anti-corruption judges and prosecutors.

## Mainstreaming Fair-Trial Rights in Cambodian Legal Education

In 2014, the AIJI team in Cambodia developed a fair-trial-rights curriculum that has been adopted in degree programs at the Royal University of Law and Economics and Pannasastra University. In 2015, AIJI used this curriculum as the basis for a new capacity-building program for Cambodian law instructors, who were trained and mentored to teach the course in a wider range of universities and to revise the curriculum in response to their classroom experience.

The long-term objective is to support capacity building for young Cambodian legal academics and to foster a collegial

atmosphere among these rule-of-law-oriented scholars who will, in turn, provide training and mentoring to a new generation of law students and build bridges between universities in Cambodia. In 2016, AIJI plans to expand the size of this group and host several workshops.

### **Improving Data Collection and Analysis on Human Trafficking in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)**

Concern over the issue of human trafficking in Southeast Asia has grown steadily over the past several years, with recent events elevating this problem to crisis levels. Following a preliminary assessment of information needs, the EWC and the HANDA Center are planning a two-part project.

The first component will involve creating a toolkit for anti-trafficking practitioners that highlights the importance of rigorous data collection and analysis and offers guidelines on best practices. The second component will document and evaluate methods currently in use by local prevalence studies as well as methods under development by large anti-trafficking organizations.

In light of the forthcoming ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Persons and Regional Plan of Action, the project will also examine best practices in human-trafficking data collection and analysis, with a focus on the Philippines, which is widely considered the regional leader on this issue. The goal is to synthesize current approaches and map the way forward toward more accurate estimates of human trafficking that can provide the basis for better policies.

### **ASEAN's Human Rights Resource Centre**

Together with a group of leading human-rights experts in the region, AIJI has played a central role in the development of ASEAN's Human Rights Resource Centre (HRRC) and AIJI has gone on to partner with the HRRC on many projects. Based in Jakarta, Indonesia, the HRRC draws on academic and

civil-society expertise through a network of universities in the region. The Centre provides reports, studies, and training related to a range of human-rights issues including, most recently, freedom of religion. More information is available at <http://hrrca.org>.

### **Summer Institutes in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights**

AIJI's annual Summer Institutes in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights are regionally based workshops held in partnership with the HRRC and other organizations in Southeast Asia. Summer Institutes provide a forum for Commissioners from the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), the ASEAN Commission on Women and Children (ACWC), the ASEAN Commission on Migrant Workers, and the ASEAN Secretariat to come together with academics and practitioners from the region to discuss timely and important human-rights topics. The topic of the ninth annual institute, to be held in 2016, will be Human Rights Implications of ASEAN Integration.

### **Khmer Rouge Tribunal Monitoring and Community Outreach in Cambodia**

AIJI has managed a regionally based trial-monitoring program in Cambodia since the Khmer Rouge trials began in 2009. The goal is to boost public awareness of the trials through weekly reports that summarize and analyze the proceedings as they unfold. Another goal is to offer young lawyers and human-rights advocates experience in trial monitoring and legal analysis at an international tribunal under expert supervision. Weekly reports are published in English and Khmer and have attracted strong social-media engagement through Facebook, Twitter, and the program's blog at <http://krtmonitor.org/>. AIJI will be monitoring all four currently active cases in 2016.

In 2015, AIJI completed a final evaluation of its recently completed "Voices for Reconciliation" program.

This two-year initiative, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), fostered dialogue at the grassroots level about the Tribunal's impact on ordinary Cambodian lives, using an innovative people-to-people approach that combined broadcast media with community-based forums. AIJI is currently seeking funding for a follow-on program, linking awareness of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and crimes against minorities during the Khmer Rouge period with the ongoing prevalence of these abuses today.

### **Recent Publications**

- Brunner, Jessica (2015). *Inaccurate numbers, inadequate policies: Enhancing data to evaluate the prevalence of human trafficking in ASEAN*. Honolulu: East-West Center.
- Cohen, David, and Leigh-Ashley Lipscomb (2015). *Justice at the crossroads*. IPAC Report No. 22. Jakarta: Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict.
- Cohen, David, Melanie Hyde, and Penelope Van Tuyl, with Stephanie Fung (2015). *A well-reasoned opinion? Critical analysis of the first case against the alleged senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge (Case 002/01)*. Honolulu: East-West Center. This report was featured in Cambodian media outlets, with front page stories in the *Cambodia Daily* and the *Phnom Penh Post*.
- Sperfeldt, Christoph (2014). *Broadcasting justice: Media outreach at the Khmer Rouge trials*. Asia Pacific Issues No. 115. Honolulu: East-West Center.
- Cohen, David (2010). *ASEAN's Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and civil society initiatives in Southeast Asia*. Asia Pacific Bulletin No. 51. Washington, DC: East-West Center.