

# 第四屆國際人權教育研討會



## 全球接軌、在地實踐

The 4th International Conference on Human Rights Education  
“Global Convergence and Local Practice”



**主辦單位 / Host Organizers**  
東吳大學國際人權研究中心、人權學府、政治學系  
Chang Fo-chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights · Human Rights Program  
Department of Political Science

**協辦單位 / Co-Host Organizers**  
國家民主基金會、國際人權博物館籌備處  
Taiwan Foundation for Democracy · Preparatory Office of National Human Rights Museum

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Youth Synergy Taiwan Foundation · Thinking Taiwan Foundation · Kai-Cheng Construction

## Report on the 4th International Conference on the Human Rights Education: Global Convergence, Local Practice, 21-26 November 2013

*Soochow University, Taipei, Taiwan*

### 1. Introduction

The Fourth International Conference on Human Rights Education: Global Convergence and Local Practice was held from the 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of November 2013 in Taipei, Taiwan. The conference was host by Chang Fo-Chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights, Human Rights Program, and Department of Political Science at Soochow University, Taipei. Soochow University is the first private university in Taiwan, has students over 15000.

The Chang Fo-Chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights at Soochow University was founded in 2001, the first human rights research institute in Taiwan. It aims at the promotion of human rights education and research in Taiwan, the TRAINING OF human rights NGO workers and contributing to international exchange. The undergraduate Human Rights Program was set up in 2004 and then in 2008 the master human rights program was established. It is designed for students to deepen their understanding of human rights through the integration of theory with practice.

Day 1, 2, 3, 4 of the HREC 2013 took place on Waishuanghsi Campus, Soochow University. On the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> day of the HREC, two human rights tours were provided. One group visited the Jingmen Human Rights Park, the other group visited the Green Island Human Rights Park.

### 2. Conference Committee and Supporting Team

The Conference Advisory Committee consisted of :

#### **Dr. Shioh-duan Hawang : conference convener**

Director of Chang Fo-Chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights,  
Chair of Department of Political Science, Soochow University

#### ■ **Prof. Ho-Ching LEE (Taiwan)**

Professor of Institute of Construction Engineering and Management,  
National Central University (NCU).



■ **Dr. Wen-Chen CHANG (Taiwan)**

Professor of Department of Law, National Taiwan University.

■ **Dr. Chun-Hung CHEN (Taiwan)**

Associate Professor of Department of Political Science at Soochow University

■ **Prof. Song-Lih HUANG(Taiwan)**

Institute of Public Health, National Yang Ming University

■ **Prof. Mab HUANG (Taiwan)**

Joseph K. Twanmoh Chair Professor at Soochow University

■ **Prof. Iris Yi-shin Liou(Taiwan)**

Associate Professor, Ching Kuo Institute of Management and Health

■ **Prof. Sev Ozdowski (Australia)**

Director of Equity and Diversity at the University of Western Sydney, Adjunct Professor in the Centre of Peace and Conflict Studies at Sydney University, and President of Australian Council for Human Rights Education.

Support team

■ **Department of Political Science, Soochow University**

<http://www.scu.edu.tw/politics>

Ms. Hsin-lin Chang; Ms. Li-shiang Huang; Mr. Zhen-kai Yuan  
Mr. Jung-fang Chang; Ms. Li-hsin Hsu

■ **Human Rights Program** <http://www.hrp.scu.edu.tw/>

Ms. Xiao-j Hsieh; Ms. Yin-shuan Li

In addition, there were also more than 50 volunteer students from different departments of Soochow University to help, such as Departments of Political Science, English, Sociology...



### 3. Conference objectives

- support and promote the United Nations' objectives in human rights education;
- To explore the role of HRE in advancement of peace, democracy and multicultural understanding around the world
- To foster HRE across the Asia Pacific region and to build networks and dialogue.
- To discuss and compare how different countries dealing with the transitional justice during the period of political transition.

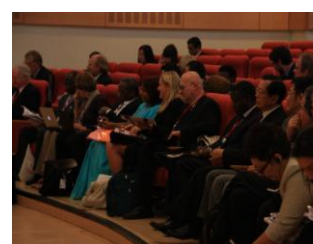
- To seek advancement of HRE in Taiwan through incorporation of best international practice in school curricula.
- To discuss and debate the entanglement Asian Values and Universal Human Rights Standards in Asia.
- To explore the interplay of the global, regional and local mechanisms within the process of implementation.
- To discuss the role of human rights museum in human rights education.
- To explore the relations on Globalization, Civic Education and Human Rights Education.
- To discuss and explore the diverse issues in different areas of human rights, such as LGBT, Abolition of Death Penalty, Migrant Workers and Marriage Immigration, and other Related Topics.
- Taiwan has left the United Nations for forty-two years and was not allowed to participate in many international organizations. Taiwanese organizers wanted to show their eagerness to keep contact with international and abide by the standards on International Human Rights; “GLOBAL CONVERGENCE AND LOCAL PRACTICE” was therefore named.

#### 4. Delegates

The Conference attracted high quality national and international speakers with diverse backgrounds and expertise – from leaders of national human rights organisations and well known HRE experts and researchers to NGO practitioners and students working in the area of HRE (see Appendix I: List of Participants).

There were over 538 participants, from 38 countries, with 274 male and 264 female. There were 145 international delegates from five different continents, with 5 sponsored by Aus AID. There was a broad representation of civil society with large numbers of students (41%), teachers, academics (23%), activists, human rights advocates, HRE practitioners, NGO workers(19%), professionals(1%), government representatives(3%), and others(13%) interested in human rights education.

Some of the represented organizations and institutions were the Legislative Yuan of Taiwan, Council of Europe, Centre for Architecture and Human Rights in Canada, Australian Council for Human Rights Education, Chinese Association for Human Rights, Presidential Advisory Committee on Human Rights in Taiwan, Human Rights Commission at Hamadan Bar association in Iran, Estonia Institute of Human Rights, Taiwan Foundation for



Democracy, Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center at Japan, Uganda Coalition for Human Rights Education, Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights Education at University of Leeds in UK, Indonesia's Coalition for Justice and Democracy, Institute for Population, Family and Children Studies (IPFCS) in Viet Nam, Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor.



## 5. ISSS Funded Delegates

ISSS supported candidates are:

	Name	Organization	Country
1	Myo Yan Naung Thein	Director, BAYDA Nation Building Institute (aka) BAYDA Institute	Myanmar
2	Soe Htet Win	Chairperson, Concord Institute	Myanmar
3	Abdullahi Saliu Ishola	Lecturer, Department of Law, College of Humanities, Management and Social Science, Kwara State University, Malete-Nigeria	Nigeria
4	Swee Seng Yap	Former Executive Director, The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development	Thailand
5	Cameron Murphy	President, NSW Civil Liberties Council, Sydney, NSW	Australia

## 6. Conference Contents

The Conference was composed of 3 oration, 28 concurrent sessions and 10 workshops. 128 speakers from 37 different nations addressed on a broad range of HRE issues ( Please see the Conference Handbook or Appendix II on agenda).





### a. Topics Covered:

The Conference program covered a broad range of HRE issues, the topic include:

- The Role of the Human Rights Museum

- Human Rights Education (four panels)
- National Report on the Implementation of the Two International Covenants
- UN and International Legal Framework
- Rights Defending Documentaries of China
- Women’s Rights and LGBT (two panels)
- On Democracy, Human Rights and Multiculturalism
- Education on abolition of Death Penalty (two panels)
- Human Rights Practice and Public Interest Groups in China
- Prison Reform in Taiwan
- Image of Human Rights, Taiwan
- Migrant and Refugee Rights
- Asian Regional NGOs (two panels)
- Translating Educators’ Commitments to Justice and Human Rights into Practice
- State in Transition (two panels)
- Environmental Rights (two panels)
- Labor Rights in Taiwan
- Legal Pluralism and the Rule of Law
- Training of Government Officials
- Taiwan Rural Front
- Rule of Law Education in Hong Kong
- Prison: Treatment and Reform
- Militarization of Border Islands and the Right to Peace
- Human Rights and Civilization
- Education on Rule of Law in China
- Reflection on Human Rights Journey: from Authoritarianism to Democratic Rule
- Social Welfare Rights
- Rights to Health and Children’s Rights




### **b. Taiwanese Political Leaders**

	<p>The Honourable Chin-Tien YANG, Secretary-General to the President, Republic of China. Mr. Yang representing President Ma, discussed the role of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Human Rights in Taiwan.</p>
	<p>The Honourable Jin-Pyng WANG, President, The Legislative Yuan of Republic of China. He spoke how the role played by the Legislative Yuan in the process of political democratization in Taiwan.</p>
	<p>The Honourable Annette Hsiu-lien LU, Former Vice President, Republic of China, Taiwan. To reflect the development of human rights and democratization in Taiwan, she emphasized on non-violence and bloodless, women’s emancipation and participation.</p>
	<p>Yi-Chun WANG , Director, Preparatory Office of National Human Rights Museum, Taiwan. Mr. Wang was in charge of moderating the first panel of the conference on the role of Human Rights Museum.</p>






### **c. International HRE Experts and civil society representatives**

	<p>Abdullahi A. An-Na'im (USA), Charles Howard Candler Professor of Law at Emory Law School.</p> <p>Topic: Questioning Founding Assumptions: What Does “Rights” in Human Rights Mean?</p>
	<p>Audrey Osler (UK) Director, Center for citizenship and Human Rights Education, University of Leeds, UK</p> <p>Topic: Human rights education, scholarship and action for change</p>
	<p>John Mubangizi (South Africa), Dean, College of Law and Management Studies, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</p> <p>Topic: Human Rights Education in South Africa: Whose Responsibility is it anyway?</p>
	<p>Kyong-Whan AHN (Korea), Professor, School of Law, Seoul National University; Former Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission, Korea</p> <p>Topic: The Human Rights Education in Korea</p>
	<p>Máté Szabó (Hungary), Professor, Political Science and Public Law, Faculty of State and Law, the University Eötvös Loránd, Hungary</p> <p>Topic: About LGBT Pride in Hungary and in Europe from the Ombudsman’s Perspective</p>
	<p><u>Reinhild Otte</u> (German), Former Chair, the Ad-Hoc Advisory Group on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights, Council of Europe, France</p> <p>Topic: Education for Democracy and Human Rights - European Experiences in a Global Context</p>
	<p>Sev Ozdowski (Australia), E&amp;D Director, University of Western Sydney; President, ACHRE; Hon. Professor, CPACS, Sydney University, Australia</p> <p>Topic: Human Rights and Multiculturalism</p>
	<p>Boguslawa Bednarczyk (Poland), Dean and Director, International Relations and the Human Rights Center; Political Science and International Relations, Jagiellonian University, Poland</p> <p>Topic: Globalization , Civic education and human rights education</p>
	<p>Stuart Murray (Canada), President and CEO, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Canada</p> <p>Topic: The Role of the Human Rights Museum in Canada</p>
	<p>Wan-Hong ZHANG (China) ,Associate Professor and Executive Director, Public Interest and Development Law Institute, Wu Han University, China</p> <p>Topic: Ethics/Emotional Training, Simulation Training, and Practical Training in Human Rights Law Education</p>

	<p>Yan-Wing LEUNG (Hong Kong), Associate Professor, Department of Educational Policy and Administration, The Hong Kong Institute of Education, Hong Kong</p> <p>Topic: The Construction of Civic Education: Conceptual, Curricular and Pedagogical Responses to Civic Education in Post-National Education Controversies of Hong Kong</p>
	<p>Biao TENG (China), Lawyer and Human Rights Activist, China Against Death Penalty, China</p> <p>Topic: Abolition of Death Penalty Movement in China</p>
	<p>Jefferson R. Plantilla (Japan), Chief Researcher, Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center OSAKA, Japan</p> <p>Topic: Human Rights Education for Government Officials in Asia</p>
	<p>Kelsang Gyaltzen (Exile Government of Tibet), MP, Exile Government of Tibet, Tibet</p> <p>Topic: Tibetan Culture and Universal Human Rights</p>
	<p>Kyohairwe Kay (Uganda), President, Uganda Coalition for Human Rights Education (UCOHRE), Uganda</p> <p>Topic: A Reflection of Uganda's Human Rights: A Case for Uganda Coalition for Human Rights Education</p>
	<p>Maria Damairia Pakpahan (Indonesia), General Secretary, Indonesia's Coalition for Justice and Democracy, Indonesia</p> <p>Topic: Indonesia's President and Human Rights Discourse and Practices: Impunity and Absence of Apparatus</p>
	<p>Mehrnoush NajafiRagheb (Iran), Head of Human Rights Commission, Hamadan Bar Association, Iran</p> <p>Topic: Gendered view in the Transitional Justice: Iraqi Kurdistan</p>
	<p>Merle Haruoja (Estonia), Member of the Board, Estonian Institute of Human Rights</p> <p>Topic: Human Rights Education for All: Estonian Action</p>
	<p>Vu Ngoc Binh (Viet Nam), Senior Adviser, Institute for Population, Family and Children Studies (IPFCS), Viet Nam</p> <p>Topic: Towards Human Rights Education for All - the Case of Viet Nam</p>
	<p>Chin-Huat WONG (Malaysia), Fellow, Penang Institute, Malaysia</p> <p>Topic: Differentiated Citizenship and Authoritarian Resilience in Malaysia</p>

	<p>André Laliberté (Canada), Professor, School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa, Canada</p> <p>Topic: Right to Believe and Right not to Believe: International Rights Education and its Effect on the Different Trajectories of the Taiwanese and Chinese Secular States</p>
	<p>Bill Black (Canada), Professor, Emeritus of Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia, Canada</p> <p>Topic: Canada and the International Human Rights Regime</p>
	<p>David Matas (Canada), International Human Rights Lawyer, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Adjunct Professor, University of Manitoba, Canada</p> <p>Topic: The Death Penalty in China and Falun Gong</p>

#### **d. Taiwanese HRE experts and civil society representatives**

	<p>Prof. Mei-Ying TANG, Department of Education, University of Taipei</p> <p>Topic: The Transformation of Citizenship Education in Taiwan: The Challenges to Democratization and Globalization</p>
	<p>Tsyrr LIOU, Director, Civil Service Development Institute, Taiwan</p> <p>Topic: The DGPA's overview of Human Rights Training for Government Officials in Taiwan, R.O.C</p>
	<p>Prof. Shang-Luan YAN, Professor of Department of Social Work, Shih Chien University</p> <p>Topic: Implementing CEDAW in Taiwan: Women's Employment Rights</p>
	<p>Prof. Wan-Ying YANG, Chair of Department of Political Science, National Cheng-chi University</p> <p>Topic: Transforming Women's Politics</p>
	<p>Mr. Yu-Liam SON, Secretary General, Taiwan Labour Front</p> <p>Topic: Structural Problems in Taiwan Workers' Rights</p>

#### **e. Opportunity to network**



The Conference provided an opportunity for participants and presenters to network and discuss issues pertaining to human rights education, to share knowledge and skills in the facilitation of human rights education and best practice ideas in the area of human rights, peace and social





justice. One of the most prevalent comments at the Conference was appreciation of the opportunity to network with like-minded practitioners and academics. The request for further networking has been addressed by referring all participants to the existing Human Rights Education Network at <http://www.hre2013.org.tw/>



#### **f. Tour to Jingmei and Green Island Human Rights Parks**

The conference provided an opportunity for our participants to visit Jingmei Human Rights Park and Green island Human Rights Park. There were 30 participants who joined the tour to Jingmei Human Rights Park in Taipei. In Jingmei Human Rights Park, the conference participants had a conversation with two former political victims during the era of the White Terror. In the afternoon, conference participants taken to visit the February 28th Memorial Hall, and the Machangding Memorial Park where political prisoners were executed during the White Terror. The next day, the conference participants visited the Palace Museum and Longshang Si and the historical part of the city of Taipei.

**Green Island** is a small volcanic island in the Pacific Ocean, about 33 km off the eastern coast of Taiwan. During the period of martial law, the island was a place for political prisoners and those who are considered the most dangerous criminals and gangsters. It was an isolated island, which served as a perfect spot for political prisoners and can be easily compared to Robben Island of South Africa.

There were 65 participants visited Green Island and also had conversation with two former political prisoners, Mr. Tsai and Mr. Chen. Mr. Tsai was sentenced to 10 years in 1950, and sent to Green Island in the following year. The reason for his arrest was to participate in a study group. Mr. Chen was arrested in 1971 for the crime he did not commit, he was originally jailed in Jingmei, then in 1972 was sent to Green Island. He was finally released in 1983.

After the conversation with two political victims, the participants decided to do something for them, therefore, a resolution was made to urge the Taiwan Government to concern the unresolved situation of former political prisoners.



## Resolution adopted at the 2013 International Conference on Human Rights Education

The participants of the 4th International Conference on Human Rights Education heard directly from former political prisoners in Taiwan while discussing the situation of human rights education in the world. They acknowledge the positive activities of the Taiwanese Government to compensate the victims of the human rights violations during Martial Law in Taiwan and their efforts to establish a human rights museum in Taipei and on Green Island but are also concerned about the unresolved situation of former political prisoners.

This conference therefore calls on the government of Taiwan to:

1. Provide a formal public apology from the Government of Taiwan to former political prisoners for their suffering under martial law;
2. Provide publicly funded rehabilitation services to all former political prisoners;
3. Provide unrestricted public access to all government records about political prisoners;
4. Ensure that the past human rights violations are acknowledged and taught to school children in Taiwan in order to promote democracy and the rule of law;
5. Ensure that Individuals responsible for human rights violations during martial law are prosecuted;
6. Establish an independent commission of truth and justice to record the stories about persecution from former political prisoners and to facilitate reconciliation and prosecution of those that are responsible for human rights violations;
7. Remove the criminal records of former political prisoners.

### g. Promotion of HRE

The human rights education theme of the Conference was promoted widely across a broad range of mediums, an extensive media and communications strategy that included media releases, articles and advertisements in internal and external publications, web presence was maintained via the Conference website, Facebook, Twitter. There were media exposures on print media and TV media, especially the Symposium on Human Rights Museum and speeches of former vice president and the Speaker of the Legislative Yuan. The news of 2013HRE conference can be searched via CNA News, Udn News, Liberty Times, Taiwan Times, TSSD News, Epoch Times, Coolloud, New Net News, Lipao News, SETTV, FTV, CTV, TVBS, CtiTV.

### h. Cultural and social events

Abolitionist Poster Exhibition	FU Cheng's Exhibition	Visit the Palace Museum
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Conference Dinner

The reception dinner was held in the campus and attended by over 200 Conference participants.

The Conference dinner was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Silks Palace Restaurant . Silks Palace is located adjacent to the National Palace Museum, takes on Museum’s unique character of tradition. Over 120 conference participants attended the dinner banquet.



## 7. Future

1. Due to the successful nature of the Conference, the next Conference in the American University will benefit from the feedback received from this Conference and the familiarisation with experts in the human rights area as well as the pertinent issues of interest to participants.
2. One of the most prevalent comments at the Conference was appreciation of the opportunity to network with like-minded practitioners and academics. There will be a website network for those human rights experts and advocates to share their opinions and information.
3. The Conference papers will be published either in a book or in *Taiwan Human Rights Journal*. The promulgation of the Conference papers in this way will promote academic and policy inclusion of the Conference content and will further the progress of human rights education in Taiwan and beyond.
4. Taiwan and other nations’ HRE experts and civil societies will certainly benefit from the Conference for future human rights education and implementation.

[See Appendix I: List of Participants](#)

[Appendix II: Conference Agenda](#)