

Presented in Conjunction with the UQ Solomon Islands Partnership:

**Societal Strengths for Conflict Prevention
and Peacebuilding in Solomon Islands:
Prospects for Localising the Responsibility to Protect**
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Sir Llew Edwards Building (Bldg #14), Room 216

Significant popular attention focuses upon the more interventionist elements of the Responsibility to Protect and, accordingly, on the role of international actors. This occurs despite the fact that core capacities for conflict prevention, community safety and the aversion of mass atrocities reside in local non-state actors and institutions. To explore the possibility of enhancing the capacity to protect by drawing upon local and societal strengths, this presentation reports upon research about prospects for enhanced cooperation between international, state, and local non-state justice and order actors in Solomon Islands. We provide an overview of capacity to protect in Solomon Islands before reporting our recent research findings about community views on the capacity, effectiveness and legitimacy of key justice and order actors in the local context. This allows us to analyse complementarity, incompatibility, and substitutability among international, state and local non-state actors. We will also report upon a draft framework, to be further developed in Solomon Islands later this year, which aims to provide guidance to international and state actors to enable them to better support and work with local non-state providers of order and security.