Handa Center's 'Community of Practice': Teaching Human Rights and Digital Rights

Saturday 26 August 2017 – 9 AM - 11:30 AM

The WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice's Cambodia Program conducted a 'Community of Practice' meeting on 26 August 2017. This is the fifth and final planned session in the series focusing on teaching human rights.

Approximately 11 participants gathered from the different universities including Royal University of Phnom Penh, as well as civil society organizations such as the Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR), and the Center for the Study of International Humanitarian Law to discuss digital rights.

Mr. Tay Lina, Acting Director of the WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, introduced a new learning activity called 'Cross the Line'. The activity begins by asking participants to gather in the center in the room. They are then asked to walk across a line to indicate whether they agree or disagree with any particular statement. For this activity we used statements taken from CCHR's briefing note on digital rights in Cambodia (February 2016). This activity led on well to an interactive discussion on the topic.





After the participants were warmed up and reminded of the background to digital rights in Cambodia, Mr. Kong Pisey, Senior Lawyer at the Cambodian Center for Human Rights, then introduced his organization's project on promoting and protecting digital rights in Cambodia. This project falls under protecting fundamental freedoms and led to an interesting discussion about the definition of defamation and incitement.

The Handa Center's monthly 'Community of Practice' meetings provide academics, lecturers and legal practitioners with a friendly, open environment to share their experiences and support each other in research and teaching methodologies. Although this session was the final planned for the moment, a follow-up evaluation and feedback session is planned for early October, to bring all members of the cohort back together to exchange ideas on how to improve the program. At this session participants will be also receive certificates from the Handa Center to commemorate their participation in the program. More information will be circulated shortly.

If you have any questions or would like to register for future sessions, please contact Mr. TAY Lina by email: <u>lina.tay@handacentercambodia.org</u> or by phone: 096 8181145



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