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ASIA PACIFIC CHAPTER

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REFUGEE AND MIGRATION JUDGES

MIGRATION and PROTECTION

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# 75 years of the Convention – *where to from here?*




**25–27 NOVEMBER 2026**

**RNZYS**
AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND

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## PROGRAMME

KNOWLEDGE • INDEPENDENCE • FAIRNESS • DIGNITY

# THE PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

## The Quarterdeck, RNZYS - 25 November 2026

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| 8:15-8:45 | **Check-in, early registration, and coffee** |
| 8:45 – 9:00 (15m) | **Introduction and Karakia**<br>Judge Martin Treadwell, Chair, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand |
| 9:00 – 10:00 (1 hr) | **Psychological Vulnerability and Decision Making**<br>• Guy Coffey, clinical psychologist, Foundation House, Sydney, Australia<br>• Professor Zac Steel, University of North South Wales, Australia |
| 10:00 – 10:45 (45m) | **The Keyboard Warrior and Freedom of Expression**<br>• Louise Moor, Head of Protection Stream, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand |
| 10:45 – 11:00 (15m) | **Morning tea** |
| 11:00 – 12:00 (1 hr) | **Internal Protection/IFA and the Reasonableness Battleground**<br>• Fraser Robertson, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia<br>• Judge Declan O'Callaghan, AIT (Upper Tribunal), United Kingdom<br>• Dr Greg Weeks, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia |
| 12:00 – 1:00 (1 hr) | **Climate, Migration and Protection Pathways Working Party**<br>• Bruce Burson, Member, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand |
| 1:00 – 2:00 (1 hr) | **Lunch** |
| 2:00 – 3:00 (1 hr) | **Assessing Merit in Claims – Processes and Safeguards**<br>• Judge Martin Treadwell, Chair, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand<br>• Sean Baker, Senior Member, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia |
| 3:00 – 3:30 (30m) | **Afternoon tea** |
| 3:30 – 4:00 (30m) | **Access to Work and Education in South-East Asia**<br>• Atty Paulito De Jesus, State Counsel and Assistant Head of Refugees and Stateless Persons Protection Unit, Department of Justice, Philippines |
| 4:00 – 5:00 (1 hr) | **Deportation and "one's own country"**<br>• Andrew Molloy, Member, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand<br>• Professor Yukari Ando, Toyama University, Japan |
| 5:00 – 6:00pm | **Drinks and canapés on the Terrace** |

# THE CONFERENCE

## CONFERENCE DAY 1 – Thursday, 26 November 2026

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| 7:30 – 8:45 (1hr) | **Mihi Whakatau – gather in lobby of RNZYS by 7.30am** |
| 8:45-9:00 (15 m) | **Cup of tea and registration** |
| 9:00 – 9:30 (30m) | **Session 1** Chair: Judge Maria Josefina (Joy) G San Juan-Torres, Philippines - Chapter President<br>**Opening Ceremony**<br>• Justice Russel Zinn, Canada - President, IARMJ<br>• Katherine Cox, Assistant Protection Officer, UNHCR Multi-Country Office, Canberra |
| 9:30 – 10:30 (1 hr) | **Session 2** Chair: Judge (retired) Rolf Driver, Australia<br>**The Bali Process in Practice: Strengthening access to international protection**<br>• Indah Nuria Savitri, Director, Human Rights and Migration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia<br>• Ben Reeves, Co-Manager, Regional Support Office of the Bali Process |
| 10:30 – 11:15 (45m) | **Refreshments and Conference Photo** |
| 11:15 – 12:00 (45m) | **Session 3** Chair: Judge Marcel Gunster, Court of the Hague, Netherlands<br>**The Role of Domestic Courts in non-signatory countries**<br>• Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, Supreme Court of Pakistan |
| 12:00 – 1:00 (1 hr) | **Session 4** Chair: Judge Martin Treadwell, Chair, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, NZ<br>**Gender Apartheid in Afghanistan**<br>• The Hon Justice Susan Glazebrook, Supreme Court of New Zealand<br>• Raihana Ataee, former Judge of the Court of Elimination of Violence Against Women, Nangarhar province, Afghanistan |
| 1:00 – 2:30 (1hr 30m) | **Women Judges Lunch – Guest speaker Dame Silvia Cartwright** |
| 2:30 – 3:30 (1 hr) | **Session 5 Breakouts** Moderator: Shyla Vohra, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia<br>**A. The semiotics, categorisation and practical aspects of risk assessment in cases of intimate partner violence**<br>• Sharelle Aitchison, Member, IPT, NZ<br>• Adrienne Anderson, Member, ART, Au<br>**B. Heuristics and Bias**<br>• Judge Maria Josefina (Joy) G San Juan-Torres, District Court, Philippines |
| 3:30 – 3:45 (15m) | **Breakouts – reporting back** |
| 3:45 – 4:00 (15m) | **Refreshments** |
| 4:00 – 5:00 (1 hr) | **Session 6** Chair: Greg Weeks, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia<br>**Decision-Makers and AI: Friend or Foe?**<br>• Judicial Registrar Christine Cody, Federal Court, Australia<br>• Judge John Keith, AIT (Upper Tribunal), United Kingdom |
| 7:00 | **Official Conference Dinner at Sky Tower**<br>**(Meet at SkyBar at 7pm for pre-dinner drinks before dinner at 8pm)** |

## CONFERENCE DAY 2 – Friday, 27 November 2026

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| 7:00 – 8:00 (1 hr) | **President's breakfast (by invitation)** |
| 8:30 – 10:00 (1 hr 30m) | **Session 7** Chair: Louise Moor, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand<br>**Psychological Research on Credibility**<br>• Professor Hilary Evans Cameron, Toronto Metropolitan University |
| 10:00 – 11:00 (1 hr) | **Session 8** Chair: Bruce Burson, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand<br>**Human Security Nexus in Asia Pacific in Terms of Geo-Political Dynamics**<br>• Dr Anna Powles, Centre for Defence and Security Studies, Massey University |
| 11:00 – 11:30 (30m) | **Refreshments** |
| 11:30 – 12:15 (45m) | **Session 9** Chair: Supreme Court Associate Justice Jhosep Y Lopez, Philippines<br>**Advancing Protection in ASEAN**<br>• Professor Prapaporn Tivayanond Mongkhonvanit, Thailand Representative for Children's Rights to ACWC, ASEAN Commission on the Promotion & Protection of the Rights of Women & Children<br>• Atty Melvin Suarez, State Counsel and Senior Protection Officer of the Refugees and Stateless Persons Protection Unit, Department of Justice, Philippines |
| 12:15 – 1:15 (1hr) | **Session 10** Chair: Clare Thompson SC, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia<br>**Determining Character**<br>• Judge Arran Gerrard, Federal Cicruit and Family Court of Australia |
| 1:15 – 2:15 (1 hr) | **Lunch** |
| 2:15 – 3:15 (1 hr) | **Session 11** Chair: Debra Smallholme, Deputy Chair, IPT, New Zealand<br>**Empathy – Frenemy of the Decision-Maker**<br>• Larissa Wakim, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand |
| 3:15– 3:45 (30m) | **Refreshments** |
| 3:45 – 4:45 (1 hr) | **Session 12** Convenor: Alison Murphy, Deputy President, Administrative Review Tribunal, Australia<br>**After 75 Years, Where to From Here? – A Panel Discussion**<br>• Judge Declan O'Callaghan, AIT (Upper Tribunal), United Kingdom<br>• Professor Hilary Evans Cameron, Toronto Metropolitan University<br>• Andrew Molloy, Member, Immigration and Protection Tribunal, New Zealand<br>• Katherine Cox, Assistant Protection Officer, UNHCR Multi-Country Office, Canberra<br>• Atty Melvin Suarez, State Counsel and Senior Protection Officer of the Refugees and Stateless Persons Protection Unit, Department of Justice, Philippines |
| 4:45 – 5:15 (30m) | **Closing Remarks – Judge Maria Josefina (Joy) G San Juan-Torres**<br>followed by<br>**Chapter Annual General Meeting** |