

‘Addressing Social Cohesion and Effects of Migrants’ Integration in Europe and Asia’

“Civic engagement and civil-society in the social domain”

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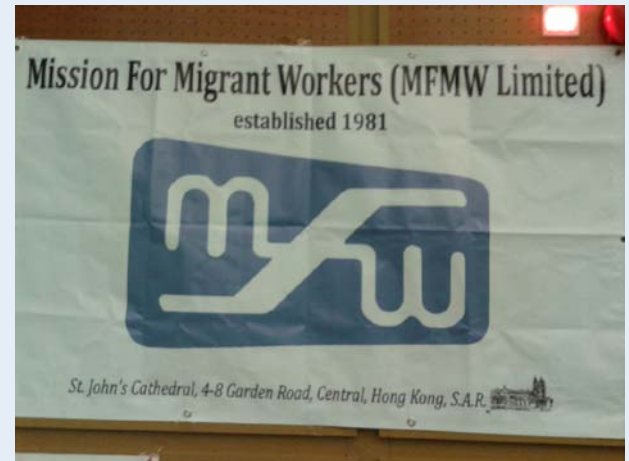


3-4 November 2014
Orchard Hotel
Singapore



Outline

- Transnational social movements
- The rise of migrant grassroots organisations & transnational social movements
 - Background
 - Capacities
 - Resources
 - Structure of political threats and opportunities
- Social cohesion? With whom?



Introduction

- ‘Networks and coalitions of sentiment that connect and act in ways that transcend national boundaries, and are sustained over considerable time’
- Hong Kong: 320,000 Foreign Domestic Helpers (FDH)
 - 150,00 from Philippines
 - 150,000 from Indonesia
 - Thais, Indians, Sri Lankans, Nepalis, Myanmarrese



Migrant grassroots organisations

Mission for Migrant Workers

External churches/funders

International alliances & networks:
Social cohesion at a supra-level, based on common values & principles; and common goals of alleviating suffering & social injustices of marginalised groups.

Local grassroots alliances/networks

Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants

Local churches/funders

CSPEM: network of shelters

International organisations (GAATW, UN AGENCIES)

Local & international media

Bethune House

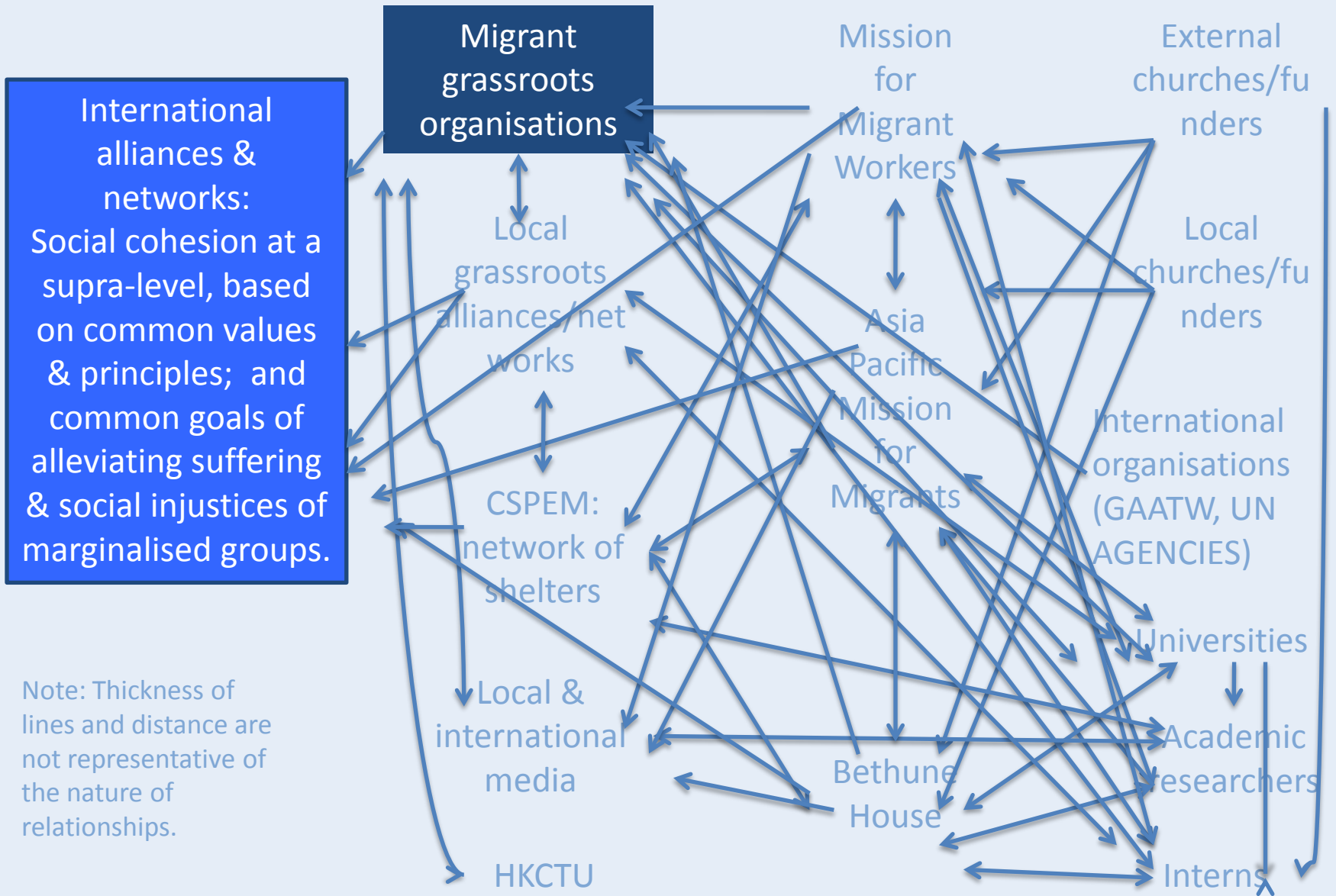
Universities

Academic researchers

HKCTU

Interns

Actors in Hong Kong: migrant worker transnational social movements



Actors in Hong Kong: migrant worker transnational social movements

Key NGOs

- Mission for (Filipino) Migrant Workers: MFMW
- Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants: APMM
- Bethune House (shelter for migrant women)

Goals: assistance, welfare and education



The screenshot shows the TIME magazine website. At the top, there's a red header with the TIME logo and a 'Subscribe' button. Below it, a navigation bar includes 'TIME 100', 'MAGAZINE', and 'VIDEOS'. The main article is titled 'The 100 Most Influential People' and is categorized under 'ICONS'. The featured person is Erwiana Sulistyaningsih, with a sub-headline 'The migrant worker who fought back'. The article text describes her experience as a migrant worker in Hong Kong, where she suffered from burns, bruises, and open wounds, and was struggling to see and barely able to walk. A portrait of Erwiana is shown on the right side of the article.

- Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers: ATKI
- Alliance of Indonesians Against Overcharging: PILAR
- Indonesian Muslim Migrants Alliance: GAMMI
- Asian Migrant Coordinating Body: AMCB
- UN WTO (GATS) GFMD (Mode 4)
- NGOS+Grassroots organisations IMA (International Migrants Alliance
- IMA+Refugee groups IAMR (International Alliance of Migrants & Refugees

Capacities

- Knowledge
- Ability to undertake independent analyses
- Social capital: connections with NGOs and other grassroots organisations
- Organisational development skills
- Confidence (e.g. in public speaking and in dialogue with officials, members of the public, media)
- Leadership
- Effective use of social media



Resources

Churches: funding, space and interns

NGOs

Public spaces

Standard employment contract: 1 rest day

Universities: Lecture halls, academics and interns

Religion as social capital

Local Trade Union membership



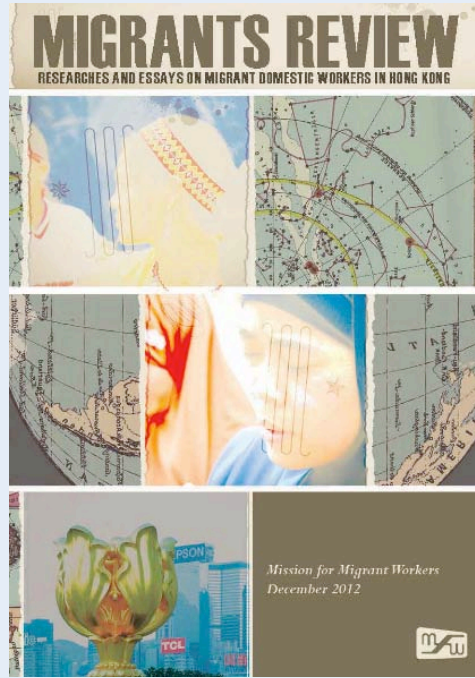
Political opportunities...

- Announcements of new polices, rules and practices: e.g. adjustments to food allowances, minimum allowable wage
- Day to day phenomena: e.g. cases of agency fraud, abuse of FDH
- Campaign for Justice for Erwiana
- Local and international media
- One Billion Rising
- Time magazine: 100 Influential people
<http://time.com/70820/erwiana-sulistyaningsih-2014-time-100/>



'Social cohesion' & 'integration'

- **Social cohesion with whom?**
- **Desire for integration for what?**



Migrants Review is an annual publication of interns' research essays on various aspects of the lives of FDH in Hong Kong: such as laws, policies, international conventions, practices.





Social media: A Worldwide Audience

Selamat Malam Sobat Migran



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Thank you!