

Security Arrangements Between/Among Co-located Armed Actors in the Bangsamoro (Philippines) Conflict Zone

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Abstract:

The southern part of the Philippines, also known as the Bangsamoro area, is beset by complex security challenges from Islamic separatist and terrorist groups. This lecture looks at informal practices of security provisioning by co-located forces (state and non-state armed groups) in this conflict zone. It is explored how alternative security governance between the military, police, insurgents, private armies of warlords, and clans leads to tenuous and highly volatile security bargains. Findings from an Asia Foundation-funded research project, which entailed key informant interviews of military and rebel commanders and local government executives as well as focus group discussion among civil society representatives in four areas, are presented.