

Timor-Leste: the long journey from colonialism to independence

Timor-Leste was the first nation-state to gain international recognition in the 21st century, as its independence was proclaimed 20 years ago on 20 May 2002. Before that day, Timor-Leste witnessed a long period of Portuguese colonization, a process of self-determination violently interrupted by an Indonesian invasion that lasted for 24 dramatic years during which its population resisted the annexation, and an UN transitional administration laying ground for independent statehood. This panel is open to contributions focusing on any aspect of this long process. We welcome papers on the colonial legacy, the struggle for independence, the role of international actors and transnational solidarity movements, as well as contributions on the political and identity challenges raised by the construction of the new state

Conveners

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Michael Leach, Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia

Discussant

Lucio Sousa, Open University, Lisboa, Portugal

Papers

We shall circulate a call for papers hoping to include a broader sample of researchers on this issue. We ask the organization to consider this as a proposal for a double session (2x90minutes)

Rui Graça Feijó, Institute for Contemporary History, NOVA University of Lisboa, Portugal
The originality of Timor-Leste process of self-determination

Zélia Pereira, Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra, Portugal
Citizen diplomacy: the impact of grass-roots solidarity movements in shaping a response to Indonesian rule

Pocut Hannifah, Independent Researcher, The Hague, Netherlands
The opposition to the annexation of Timor-Leste within Indonesia

Peter Job, Australian Defense Force Academy, Canberra, Australia
Turning a blind eye. Australia and the Indonesian invasion of Timor-Leste