



NUI Galway
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THE IRISH CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

OCTOBER 2013

REFLECTIONS OF A PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER

Shawan Jabarin is a human rights defender who has been a leading human rights advocate in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 1987. In 2006, Mr. Jabarin became the General Director of [Al Haq](#), which is an independent, Palestinian non-governmental organisation based in Ramallah, West Bank. The or-

ganisation was founded in 1979 by Palestinian lawyers and is the oldest human rights organisation in the Middle East. Through its field workers, who work across the West Bank and Gaza, Al Haq in-

vestigates possible violations of human rights by both Israeli and Palestinian authorities. The organisation is affiliated with the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva and works closely with non-governmental organisations across the national divide within Israel and the Occupied Territories, as well as internationally. Al Haq under

the leadership of Mr Jabarin was recently jointly awarded the Geuzen Medal with [B'Tselem](#). Both organisations previously won the Carter-Menil Human Rights Prize in 1989. Mr Jabarin was personally awarded the distinguished graduate award from the Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland in November 2010. Mr. Jabarin did the LLM programme in international human rights law at the Irish Centre for Human Rights (2004-2005), supported by a grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs through the Irish Aid Programme. During the afternoon talk on October 14, Mr. Jabarin spoke about what life was like for ordinary Palestinians under occupation and how the Israel government have not fulfilled many of its basic obligations under international law as an occupying power. Despite the persistence of an apartheid-like system, and the lack of political will in the international arena to affect change, Mr. Jabarin remains positive, insisting that raising awareness in civil society can impact on governments and that the current situation is unsustainable into the future. "No justice without human rights, no peace without justice. The future is for justice," he asserted. There was a huge turnout at the Centre for Mr. Jabarin's presentation, including two local politicians, evidence of the keen interest and affinity that we share with h

Mr Shawan Jabarin & Prof Ray Murphy



organisation was founded in 1979 by Palestinian lawyers and is the oldest human rights organisation in the Middle East. Through its field workers, who work across the West Bank and Gaza, Al Haq in-

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Prof Ray Murphy, Shawan Jabarin & Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh

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NEW HEAD OF LAW SCHOOL APPOINTED



The Irish Centre for Human Rights welcomes the appointment of Professor Donncha O'Connell as the new Head of the School of Law at NUI Galway having recently been appointed to an Established Chair in Law. Professor O'Connell is also a part-time Commissioner of the Law Reform Commission, the statutory body

charged with advising the government on law reform proposals, and a member of the Legal Aid Board. In 1999 Professor O'Connell was appointed as the first full-time Director of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL), an NGO founded in 1976 by Kader Asmal and Mary Robinson. In 2002 Donncha resigned as Director of the ICCL and returned to the Law School at NUI Galway. The same year he was appointed as the Irish member of the EU Network of Independent Experts on Fundamental Rights established by the European Commission on foot of a recommendation by the European Parliament LIBE Committee. Professor O'Connell edits the Irish Human Rights Law Review, published biennially by Clarus Press. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the London-based NGO, INTERRIGHTS from 2009-2012 and has been a member of the National Council of the Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC), the National Executive Committee of Amnesty International - Ireland, and the Advisory Board of the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA), a project of FLAC. Since 2006 Professor O'Connell has played an active part on the Board of Directors of the internationally-acclaimed, Galway-based, Druid Theatre Company. He is also a trustee of Counterpoint Arts based in Dublin and London.

2013 SAKHAROV PRIZE DEBATE

In conjunction with the European Parliament Office in Ireland, the Irish Centre for Human Rights held a meeting on the evening of Wednesday 2 October to debate the 2013 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, and thus to draw attention to the individual human rights issues advocated by each nominee. This was the fourth successive year in which the Irish Centre for Human Rights has hosted such a debate. As part of the event, each of the prize nominees was represented by BA, LLM or PHD students from the Irish Centre for Human Rights, who gave short presentations, arguing the case for the award to be given to "their" nominee. The Sakharov Prize nominees were represented by the following students: **Malala Yousafzai** - presentation by Fiona Duignan (LLM); **Eadaoin Donnelly-White** (1BHR1); and **Laura O'Donnell** (1BHR1); **Edward Snowden** - presentation by Danica Finger (LLM); **Reeyot Alemu and Eskinder Nega** - presentation by Anna Clements (LLM); **Ales Bialatski, Eduard Lobau and Mykola Statkevich** - presentation by Sadhbh O'Malley (1BHR1) and Aoife O'Donoghue (1BHR1); **Mikhail Khodorkovsky** - presentation by Aishling Heffernan (1BHR1) and Sophie Fitzpatrick (1BHR1); **"Standing Man" protesters** - presentation by Rachel Sweeney (2BHR1); **The CNN Freedom Project:**

Ending Modern-Day Slavery - presentation by Laura Ryan (3BHR1) and Aoife Staunton (3BHR1). Following the presentations, the floor was opened for debate among the attending students, with discussion on the merits of specific nominees and on the criteria for their selection. After the debate, Malala Yousafzai won the popular vote and was recommended for the 2013 Sakharov Prize.

The event organisers were Dr Karen Da Costa and Dr Noelle Higgins of the Irish Centre for Human Rights in conjunction with Francis Jacobs of the European Parliament Information Office in Ireland. Students were informed of the timetable for the 2013 Sakharov Prize, and the result of the debate was transmitted to MEPs, including Irish MEPs and to the European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Parliament's Human Rights Unit. Malala Yousafzai went on to win the prize at the European Parliament and Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament acknowledged her incredible strength: "Malala bravely stands for the right of all children to be granted a fair education. This right for girls is far too commonly neglected. Malala has courageously recovered from a Taliban attack and now eloquently advocates through the world for this fundamental and just cause. Let us not forget that Malala is still threatened in Pakistan."



Debate winners: Fiona Duignan, Eadaoin Donnelly-White and Laura O'Donnell

STAFF NEWS & ACTIVITIES

ENDING REPRISALS AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Attacks and reprisals against people who cooperate with the UN remain widespread. According to the UN Secretary-General's report to the 24th session of the UN Human Rights Council, cases of intimidation and reprisals range from smear campaigns to arbitrary arrest, detention and even torture. To draw attention to the worsening situation, a High Level Panel was convened at the UN in Geneva on 10 September 2013. Professor Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights was one of the keynote speakers. Other panel members included: Flavia Pansieri, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights; Maryam Al-Khawaja, Bahrain Center for Human Rights and Co-Director of the Gulf Center for Human Rights and Madeleine Sinclair, Legal Counsel with the International Service for Human Rights and author of a new report on addressing reprisals for engaging with the UN. During the interactive panel, which was streamed online, a report was launched which reminded states of their responsibility "to respect human rights and to protect those who advocate for fundamental rights" and furthermore, if they fail to do so "the United Nations has to stand up and speak out." The panel discussed some of the concrete actions which States and the Council could take to protect those who cooperate with the UN human rights system. The report added detail on the role of national law and policy in combating reprisals.



Prof Michael O'Flaherty

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR YAHYAOUI KRIVENKO ON SECURING MARIE CURIE AWARD

Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, Lecturer at the Irish Centre for Human Rights and current LLM Programme Director, has been awarded a prestigious Marie Curie Career Integration Grant (CIG) amounting to €75,000 from the Research Executive Agency of the EU (7th Framework Programme) to fund her research for the next three years. The Integration Grants assist experienced researchers in integrating themselves in the EU with their own research budget. Dr Yahyaoui Krivenko will examine the relationship between human rights and international constitutionalism in its theoretical and practical dimensions. The project combines methodological approaches from philosophy, sociology and law to develop a deeper understanding of human rights as constitutional guarantees placing constraints on the exercise of power at the international level.



Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko

A HUMAN RIGHT TO CULTURE? DERRY/LONDONDERRY

In his capacity as Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, Professor O'Flaherty convened a major international event on Human Rights and Culture from 1 to 3 July 2013 as part of Derry/Londonderry City of Culture 2013. The Derry event gathered a panel of international experts on the human right to culture, including the UN Special Rapporteur on the topic, [Farida Shaheed](#). The event focused on the challenges post-conflict societies face in protecting and promoting the right to culture. Such themes were discussed as how to teach history and memorialise the past. Speakers also explored the role of art and culture in promoting reconciliation. During their stay in Derry/Londonderry the experts

adopted a set of recommendations that will be tabled at the United Nations in 2014. Of the event, Professor O'Flaherty stated: "Derry/Londonderry City of Culture is providing an opportunity for us all to recall how fundamental questions of culture are to our personal and shared identities. It is by knowing and celebrating who we are and where we have come from and by cherishing the diversity of those histories and stories that we ensure a strong thriving community. That is why culture is considered a legally binding human right." There is a short video of the first (public) day of the event at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72-Cp6cFHQc>.

EU-CHINA HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

After four and a half years of activities, the EU-China Human Rights Network project will conclude at the Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway on 30th November 2013.

The overall objective of the EU-China Human Rights Network Project, which closely mirrored the 2002-2004 EU-funded Human Rights Network also led by the Irish Centre for Human Rights, was to strengthen the realisation of human rights in China and support China in its efforts to align its human rights policy with international norms.

Since 2009, the €1.5 million EU-funded project has enabled the Irish Centre for Human Rights to lead the development of the EU-China Human Rights Seminars process, which brings together Chinese and European academics, NGOs and government officials on a regular basis to analyse human rights practices and developments in both regions. The project has also given the Irish Centre for Human Rights the opportunity to contribute to the formulation of EU policy responses to key human rights developments in China through the provision of expert analysis of current practices delivered to the European External Action Service, to implement human rights education capacity building initiatives in participating Chinese universities and to present its view of the EU-China Human Rights Seminars process to the European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights on two separate occasions.

Throughout the project, the Irish Centre for Human Rights has cooperated closely with long-term partners in leading universities and research centres across the EU and China. Special thanks are due to all our colleagues in the Chinese Academy of Human Rights for their continued support and friendship.

PREVENTING ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF OLDER PERSONS IN EUROPE

On 17-18 June 2013, to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, the Regional Office for Europe of Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission held a joint regional symposium entitled "Preventing

abuse. In a presentation titled *In Defence of Dignity*, Professor O'Flaherty examined the findings of a study on the human rights of older persons in nursing homes. Professor O'Flaherty referred to existing human rights standards, found both in treaty law and soft law standards and queried whether there was a need to develop a new treaty on the rights of older persons.

"We owe it to older persons and societies at large to fight ageism in all its forms and enhance the dignity and human rights of older persons everywhere."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Jan Jařab, OHCHR Regional Representative, stated "It is vital to include a rights-based perspective in documents dealing with elder abuse and neglect and in to evaluations of quality of care for older persons." Jařab referred to *In Defence of Dignity*, as a clear example that a rights-based approach is not merely an academic issue, but a very practical one: "If quality of care evaluations are built on a purely technocratic rather than based on the actual experience of the rights-holders, they might overlook serious problems." Professor Quinn, Director of the Centre on International Disability Law and Policy, drew the parallel between the rights of persons with disabilities and those of older persons, "Both persons with disability and older persons were treated as objects of care and pity rather than as subjects with their own will and preference, with their own personal goals and with equal humanity. The change in framing the question – from welfare to rights – requires challenging the 'invisibility' of persons with disabilities or older persons." There was some consensus among the symposium participants on the following priorities: (1) the need to protect older persons from abuse and neglect in both institutional and community-based care; (2) the desirability of introducing the rights-based approach into health and social policy planning where it is still largely absent; and (3) the possible synergies between a rights-based approach and a social investment perspective. For further information on the symposium click this [link](#).

abuse and neglect of older persons in Europe." It brought together representatives of EU Member States and European Union institutions, civil society organizations as well as representatives of other international and regional organizations (UNECE, OECD and the Council of Europe). Presentations were made by Professor Michael O'Flaherty and Professor Gerard Quinn, both of NUI Galway. The event was the first such collaboration on the part of the European Commission and the European Regional Office of the OHCHR. The symposium was innovative in bridging the worlds of health and social policy and human rights. In his keynote address, the European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, László Andor, pointed out that according to demographic projections, 12% of Europeans will be over 80 by 2060, while there will be less caregivers available and it is in this context that we need to consider how older people can live in dignity, free from neglect and

PROFESSOR RAY MURPHY

Professor Murphy presented at a seminar on Investigating International Crimes in Arusha, Tanzania and lectured on the Third International Training Course on Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity run by INTERPOL in conjunction with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in September 2013. Earlier in September, Professor Murphy participated in a training seminar in Qatar organised by UN Women and Justice Rapid



Prof Murphy at the High Judicial Institute, Tripoli, Libya where he worked with the NGO, *No Peace Without Justice*, to provide training on transitional justice and international criminal law to prosecutors, defence lawyers and members of the judiciary in Libya. Prof Murphy also met with civil society groups and the Libyan Human Rights Council during the trip.

Response on Investigating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence as International Crimes. The seminar included participants from a variety of different organizations, including the United Nations, various NGOs, national police forces and international judicial institutions.

In June, Professor Murphy presented a paper and participated in a workshop on UN Peacekeeping organised by the Australian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade in New York. Professor Murphy lectured

at the 19th International Investigator Course which took place in May 2013 at the International Institute for Criminal Investigators headquarters in The Hague and at the Royal Netherlands Army School for

Peace Operations. The participants originated from around the world, representing a variety of organizations, including several national police units (with responsibility for war crimes), UN missions, the International Criminal Court, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the International Committee of the Red Cross and several human rights NGOs.

Prof Murphy also presented a paper on “The Shared Responsibility of UN Peacekeeping Operations under International Law,” during a seminar on the Practice of Shared Responsibility in International Military Operations, Shares Research Project/Amsterdam Centre for International Law/Swedish National Defence College, 12 May 2013.

UN TREATY BODY STRENGTHENING PROCESS ROUNDTABLE

On May 24, 2013, the UCD Human Rights Network hosted a Round Table on *Strengthening the UN Human Rights Treaty System*. The specific objective of the event was to discuss the proposals made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in her [2012 report](#) which are currently being considered by an intergovernmental forum on the treaty body system. Panelists at the event included Professor Gerald Neuman (J. Sinclair Armstrong Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law at Harvard Law School, co-director of the school’s Human

Prof Gerald Neuman, Ms Anastasia



Rights Program and Member of the Human Rights Committee); Anastasia Crickley (NUI Maynooth and Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination) and Professor Michael O’Flaherty (Director, Irish Centre for Human Rights, Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and former member of the Human Rights Committee).

Professor O’ Flaherty initiated and led the “Dublin Process on the Strengthening of the Treaty Body System”, (http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/HRTD/docs/DublinII_Outcome_Document.pdf) which has generated most of the recommendations that are currently under consideration at the United Nations. Human rights experts from across Ireland, representing NGOs, statutory bodies and academia, participated in the round table discussion.

HEART PROJECT MEETING IN SERBIA

Representatives from partner universities working on the HEART project met in Serbia between September 22nd and 26th. The EU-funded TEMPUS project aims to include human rights education in the higher education curriculum in the Balkans. Academic staff

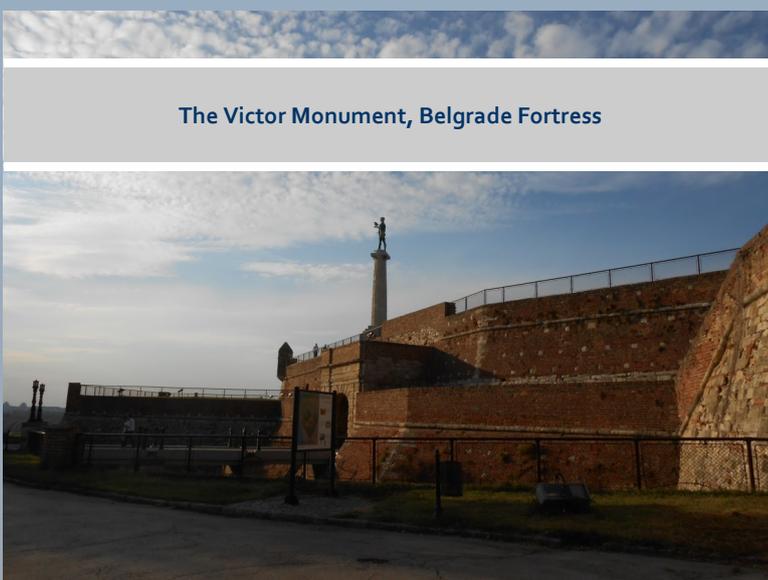
from universities in Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Albania and Kosovo met with the EU partner universities of Gothenburg, Mannheim, University of Roehampton (the project leader) and the National University of Ireland, Galway (represented by Dr Karen da Costa). A series of meetings and discussions were held in different universities, with the participation of lecturers, students, local civil society and

governmental representatives. Activities took place in several locations, namely, Belgrade, Kragujevac/Jagodina and Novi Sad. Copies of the executive summary of the document: “Best Practice Guide for Human Rights Education in Universities in the Western Balkans” were distributed during the meetings. The document was published in 2013 through the collaboration of all partner universities, and can be found on the consortium webpage at

www.humanrightsteaching.org. The production of a new report compiling best practices on “teaching sensitive issues in post-conflict societies” is currently underway, which will include experiences from the Balkan universities. In addition, partner universities

formed working groups to agree on pressing issues, including the organization of the next project event, a conference to take place in Prishtina in 2014. Asked about her impressions on the project, Dr Karen da Costa described the project as being very productive, especially in the exchange and collaboration between regional universities, enhanced through mobility funds to facilitate guest lectures taking place. Among all the sessions and presentations held during the week, two were particularly newsworthy: the first held in the University of Kragujevac/Jagodina, in which a local organization (Centre for Inde-

pendent Living, Serbia: www.cilsrbija.org) presented a “personal assistance” program providing individual support for individuals with physical disabilities, who would otherwise have very limited opportunities for getting out of the house and taking part in social activities, including working and moving to/from work. The scheme was based on a similar initiative set up in Ireland, and was launched thanks to the support of the Irish government. Another



The Victor Monument, Belgrade Fortress

VIENNA+20

Professor O’Flaherty was a guest of the Government of Austria, in Vienna for a series of events from June 24-28 to reclaim the primacy of human rights. Participants included representatives of UN organisations, regional and national human rights institutions, human rights defenders, independent human rights experts from civil society and academia, and government representatives. Vienna+20 marks the 20th anniversary of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and its Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action issued on June 25, 1993, which was a landmark in the realization and advancement of human rights. Twenty years later, there is reason to revive this consensus, and there is reason for

concern. The experts came together to build on the achievements of the World Conference and examine how the international human rights system can be strengthened further. Action-oriented recommendations were developed by several working groups to encourage States and other stakeholders to pursue further improvement of human rights protection. In recent weeks, Austria has presented the recommendations to the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly. As part of his participation in the process, Professor O’Flaherty has authored a chapter for the book that will commemorate the Vienna +20 events.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL O'FLAHERTY

Professor O'Flaherty delivered the keynote address at the Irish Human Rights Commission and Law Society of Ireland Annual Human Rights Conference on 12 October. He spoke to the topic of the protection of human rights in times of austerity, emphasising the extent to which international human rights law is of relevance and of the need to develop such tools for its application as human rights indicators, human rights budget analysis and standards for human rights in public procurement. The closing address at the conference was by Professor Donncha O'Connell, Head of Law School at NUI Galway.

Professor O'Flaherty was a speaker at the Academic Colloquium on Regional Mechanisms and Global implementation, convened by the Global Studies Institute of the University of Geneva, 9-10 October. The event, chaired by former President of Switzerland, Micheline Calmy Rey, brought together academics and regional and international policymakers from across the world to explore the potential and limits of the regional human rights protections systems. Professor O'Flaherty situated his presentations in the context of the reception of asylum seekers in Europe and the combatting of hate speech.

Professor O'Flaherty was plenary speaker at the annual conference of the International Consortium on Law and Religion Studies, Richmond, Virginia, USA (August 21 – 23, 2013) and delivered an address on the "Prohibition of Hate Speech."

Between June 24-25, Professor O'Flaherty co-led a discussion at the Human Rights Law School, University of Nottingham on the relationship between national and regional human rights protection systems in the context of freedom of expression. The other principal speaker on the topic was Mr Michael O'Boyle, Deputy Registrar, European Court of Human Rights.

From May 16-17, Professor O'Flaherty participated in the 2013 British and Irish Ombudsman Association Biennial Conference at Loughborough University, where he presented on the topic of integrating human rights standards into maladministration schemes of the offices of the Ombudsman. Participants included parliamentary, information, financial, children's and other ombudsmen and representatives from various other complaint handling bodies across England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland.

ICHR CONFERENCES, TALKS & SEMINARS

COLOMBIAN REFUGEES IN ECUADOR - A FIELD EXPERIENCE

On Monday, 30 September 2013, a former ICHR programme participant and a current student at the Centre together gave a talk on "Colombian Refugees in Ecuador - a field experience", covering the factual situation of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and refugees in Colombia and neighboring countries, and they also addressed some relevant issues for students preparing for a human rights placement abroad. The talk was given by Thaís Pinheiro and Susan Cahill, and it was followed by a Q&A session. Thaís Pinheiro holds an LLM in Peace Operations, Humanitarian Law and Conflict from the Irish Centre of Human Rights. She also holds a BA in International Relations from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Thaís reported on her experiences of working with an NGO in Ecuador in charge of assisting asylum seekers, including Colombian nationals detained in asylum detention centres. Susan Cahill is a staff journalist with Newstalk radio and is currently a part-time student in the LLM (International Human Rights) program at the Centre. She has extensive broadcast media experience and since 2006 has produced a wide range of news and feature documentaries, including on Climate Change, Human Trafficking & Migration, Hunger & International Development Aid. During the talk she spoke about her work producing the documentary "Living In Limbo: Los Desplazados En Colombia Y Venezuela" earlier this year. A slideshow on

the documentary is available at <http://www.newstalk.ie/Living-In-Limbo:-Los-Desplazados-En-Colombia-Y-Venezuela> and the two part documentary can be downloaded at: <https://itunes.apple.com/ie/podcast/different-voices/id360131233>. An engaging discussion following the presentations, which was well attended.

REFUGEE LAW CLINIC - PRACTITIONERS' SEMINARS

The second seminar in the Refugee Law Clinic Practitioners' series was held at the Irish Centre for Human Rights on Friday 21 June. The title of the morning session was "International Protection and Judicial Review." Sinead Costello BL and Albert Llussa, Solicitor & Advocat and Michael Lynn BL were the expert speakers. The seminar coincided with the Legal Aid Board conference, which was held in Galway the previous day. The seminar was very well attended by practitioners.

LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES

“SEVERE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND WHAT THEY CAN TELL US ABOUT THE (NON)OBJECTIVITY OF MORALITY”

Marie-Luisa Frick works as Assistant Professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Innsbruck, Austria. Her main research fields are human rights, ethics, philosophy of law and philosophy of religion. Her publications include a co-edited volume on "Islam and International Law" that is being pub-



Marie-Luisa Frick

“YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT: MIRANDA AND ITS INTERNATIONAL COUNTERPARTS”

Professor Megan Fairlie, Florida International University gave a lunchtime seminar on the right to remain silent on Wednesday 19 June at 1.30 pm in the Seminar Room, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway.

“LIBYA - IMPRESSIONS OF A STATE IN TRANSITION”

Professor Ray Murphy gave a lunchtime seminar on the current challenges facing Libya with a focus on transitional justice and human rights on Tues 15 October in the Seminar Room, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

HUMAN RIGHTS, MIGRATION AND GLOBALIZATION

The inaugural Summer School on Human Rights, Migration and Globalization took place at the Irish Centre for Human Rights from 8 to 12 July 2013. This year's focus was “Defining and Promoting Human Rights of Migrants in an Era of Globalization”. Stimulating

participants were also afforded the opportunity to present their research on areas ranging thematically from “Seasonal Workers” to “Environmental Migration”, with studies covering a wide geographical spread. Presentations were intermixed



Human Rights, Migration & Globalization, July 2013. Prof François Crépeau stands in back row, to the centre of the shot

with illustrative film screenings which grounded theoretical discussions in real life experiences. The programme also included a range of social activities which allowed the participants to network with each other and the experts outside the confines of the classroom. An intimate and friendly environment throughout the week facilitated a lively and interactive discussion and inspired numerous innovative ideas aimed at combatting the contemporary challenges of migration and human rights. The Summer School was directed and organised by Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, Lecturer at the Irish Centre for Human Rights and current LLM Programme Director. Administrative and organisational support was provided by Caroline Sweeney, a doctoral fellow at the Irish Centre for Human Rights. For more information, please visit the Summer School's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/HumanRightsMigrationAndGlobalizationSummerSchool>.

presentations were received from an illustrious panel of experts, comprising both practitioners and academics, and led by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, Pro-

www.facebook.com/HumanRightsMigrationAndGlobalizationSummerSchool.

CINEMA, HUMAN RIGHTS & ADVOCACY SUMMER SCHOOL 2013

From June 27 to July 6, the Huston School of Film & Digital Media and the Irish Centre for Human Rights successfully hosted the 4th Summer School in Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy (CHRA) in Galway. The CHRA summer school took place in the seminar room of the Huston School of Film & Digital Media, and reflected upon the use of film and video advocacy as an instrument for enhancing human rights awareness on critical social, political and environmental issues, and to influence change. This year, fifteen students and professionals from Jordan, India, Hong Kong, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, USA, UK, Ireland, Denmark, and Australia joined together for the ten-day training course, where ideas and projects were developed and challenged by internationally acclaimed experts in film, television and human rights. During the course of the school participants were given the opportunity to screen their current or past documentaries and discuss them with their fellow participants. The program included the possibility for participants to assist films screenings at Films That Matter, a three-day human rights film event organized in collaboration with Amnesty International Ireland and Galway One World Centre. The screened films touched on the issues of freedom of expression, refugee protection, and LGBT rights. The CHRA Summer School started in 2005 in Venice, Italy and since 2010 it has received the support of the Open Society Foundations (OSF). This year, three participants received a full scholarship to attend the summer school in Galway.



Participants: Cinema, Human Rights & Advocacy Summer School 2013

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT SUMMER SCHOOL

This year's annual Summer School on the International Criminal Court (ICC) took place from June 17th to 21st at the National University of Ireland, Galway. The keynote speaker was Professor William Schabas, who set the tone for a successful week. Other speakers included: Professor Ray Murphy and Dr. Noelle Higgins of the Irish Centre for Human Rights; Professor Siobhán Mullally of University College Cork; Mr John McManus of the Canadian Department of Justice; Dr. Nadia Bernaz and Professor Don Ferencz of Middlesex University; Professor Megan Fairlie of Florida International University; and Dr. Mohamed Elewa Badar of Brunel University. Lectures were also given by professionals based at the ICC: Dr. Fabricio Guariglia, Dr. Mohamed El Zeidy and Dr. Rod Rastan. Sixty-five individuals registered for the summer school, travelling to Galway from all over the world, including the Lebanon, Nepal, India, South Korea and the United States. Aside from the informative lectures on the workings of the court and related issues, this year's ICC Summer School included a one day field trip to the Aran Islands and the launch of Dr. Mohamed Elewa Badar's recently published book, *The Concept of Mens Rea in International Criminal Law*. The summer school finished with a lively moot court session held in the Galway Courthouse, followed by a closing dinner in Galway City. Details of our 2014 ICC Summer School will be published later in the year.



ICC Summer School participants enjoy a break from lectures on the Aran Islands, June 2013



Participants of the New England Law Summer School which was hosted by the Irish Centre for Human Rights during June and July. With the students are Prof Ray Murphy, Prof Phil Hamilton and Prof Katya Lewinbuk

Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington Summer Visit to Galway



For the sixth year in a row (25 August – 9 September), the explorative seminar on 'Challenges of International Justice' took place at the Irish Centre for Human Rights. Twenty one students from the Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, visited Galway and received lectures on topics related to 'Challenges of International Justice' by current PhD students. The topics included the International Criminal Court, principles of universal jurisdiction, issues of transitional justice, current developments in Syria and Libya and the doctrine of the responsibility to protect. This year's programme was enriched by a visit from Justice Theresa Doherty, Special Tribunal on Sierra Leone, and her exclusive insight of the Charles Taylor trial. Furthermore, the Irish Defence forces hosted a day at Renmore barracks in Galway and a half-day at the Collins Barracks in Dublin. After their stay in Ireland, the students travelled to The Hague, accompanied by Tanja Florath (PhD student) and Everard O'Donnell (former prosecutor at the Special Tribunal of Rwanda), where they observed trials at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, the International Criminal Court and the Special Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. The seminar on 'Challenges of International Justice' is a successful cooperation between the Jackson School of International Studies in Seattle, the Irish Centre for Human Rights in Galway, and the Irish Defence Forces, providing undergraduate students with first insights into international criminal law proceedings and aspects of international human rights law. It encourages contacts between students from both institutions and provides the forum for lively debates. We are looking forward to next year's event.

ALUMNI NEWS



Professor Gerard Quinn, Professor Ray Murphy, Dr Ciara Staunton, Professor Laurent Pech and Professor Roger Brownsword after Dr Staunton successfully defended her PhD thesis, "The Regulation of Stem Cell Research in Ireland", on 24 June 2013.

JAMEEN KAUR

"I participated in the LLM in International Human Rights Law in 2006-2008, I did it part-time given that I was working full time too. Having gone back to education after a number of years since doing my BA I was slightly anxious and daunted at the prospect of entering the world of lectures, reading lists and essay deadlines. However, once I got the bibliographic essay out of the way, it got much easier. A guest lecture at the start of the LLM given by Dr Colin Gonsalves, Human Rights Law Network ([HRLN](#)), India, opened a completely new window for both my professional and personal life. I was very impressed with how HRLN had used the public interest litigation system to bring voice, accountability and redressal for human rights violations experienced by people living in poverty and those most marginalised. After completing the LLM, I decided I wanted to gain field experience with HRLN. I felt that I would be able to contribute to the work of HRLN, and use my skills gained with Amnesty International Ireland and those gained via the LLM. Importantly for me, I wanted my internship to be an opportunity where I could actively engage both on a human and professional level with Indian civil society, both those living in poverty and marginalisation and those of other socio-economic backgrounds and in that regard my language skills in Punjabi and Hindi stood me on good ground.

After completing my three month internship I was recruited by HRLN to set up and manage the Reproductive Rights Unit. We worked on a number of cases involving women and girls reproductive rights violations. One of the cases I worked on involved a



woman called Shanti Devi, a poor Dalit woman, who when we initially took the case had been denied maternal health care (her foetus had died in her womb) because her family could not pay the fees being demanded, despite the fact that she should have been treated for free because she was living below the poverty line. I led

a team that took the case to the Delhi High Court. We also used Shanti's case to highlight the wider reproductive rights violations that were being suffered by women and girls in India. The case eventually secured a ground breaking historic [judgement](#), for the first time ever a state government was held accountable for failing to protect, respect and fulfill the reproductive rights of women and girls. My experience in India has left a profound imprint in my heart; it has deepened my understanding, my knowledge on the practicalities, the challenges, the opportunities of working in the south and with rights holders, communities and civil society directly. It has been an incredibly rewarding and inspiring experience. I have established many friendships and have a great deal of respect and admiration for those that risk everything to bring justice and shed light on the truth.

I am currently back with Amnesty International, this time at the International Secretariat where I work on economic, social and cultural rights on the [Demand Dignity](#) campaign.

Most importantly, I would like to give a very special thank-you and show of appreciation to Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh, who both as a mentor and friend has always encouraged, guided and supported me, in both my happiest and most challenging moments and for that I feel incredibly fortunate. "

RASMUS SOELBERG

"I am currently working in my own law firm in Copenhagen, Denmark, with an emphasis on criminal defence cases. I have all sorts of cases but I try to focus on terrorism and other crimes that have an international element. Here my LL.M. from the Irish Center of Human Rights in International Human Rights Law is very useful (I graduated in November 2011). The terror laws of the world vary according to the jurisdiction, but they are all made under the same UN legal framework, which I learned a lot about during my year in Galway. Furthermore, the legal English I learned helps me immensely with the increasing number of English speaking clients I receive."



TAMER SOLIMAN



"I joined the Irish Center for Human Rights in 2005, participating in the LLM programme in international human rights law. I wrote my thesis under the supervision of Professor Ray Murphy. Currently I'm working as a Human Rights Officer with the United Nation Mission in South Sudan, and my work directly relates to subjects we examined in the LLM programme. In the Kuajok Warrap state of South Sudan I assist in

collecting and analyzing human rights indicators, including gender-specific indicators and follow up on individual cases and issues with authorities. Our team develops and implements human rights training programmes and promotes human rights mainstreaming into various social and political policies at local level. We emphasise the integration of gender perspectives, with specific attention to issues related to women and girls, within all assigned human rights activities. I owe a debt of gratitude to the Irish Centre for Human Rights, and in particular, my mentor, Professor Murphy."

DR KHADEIJA E. MAHGOUB



"I am an Assistant Professor of International Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Khartoum, Sudan. Part of my academic responsibilities includes delivering of undergraduate and postgraduate courses on International Human Rights Law; and International Human Rights Law and Islamic Law. I am a member of a committee for the establishing of a new centre for human rights at the Faculty of Law, University of Khartoum. We are being sponsored by the British embassy in Khartoum and we are also working in collaboration with the Human Rights Centre, University of Nottingham. The centre is expected to be the first of its kind in Sudan.

I am also trying to play a role in widening the knowledge on children's rights in Sudan and in improving the perception and practice of human rights in the country with special focus on children's rights. For this purpose, I have published five weekly articles on a popular local newspaper advocating for the better realization of children's rights in Sudan. I was also interviewed on the national

main TV channel regarding children's rights. I published in international journals on children's rights in general and to Sudan in particular. I have also contributed to and participated in various locally organized and international academic events concerned with human rights in general and children's rights in particular.

I graduated from the ICHR's doctoral programme in 2010 and gained lots of experience and knowledge from my years at the Irish Centre for Human Rights. For instance, participating in the PhD seminars provided an excellent opportunity for me to represent the experiences of people coming from different backgrounds. My study at the Irish Centre has stimulated my passion for studying and advocating human rights. The PhD has consolidated my critical thinking and intellectual rigour, which I try to implement in my daily academic roles.

The tireless mentoring and discussions with my supervisor Professor William Schabas have broadened my research skills and empowered me to further my future career. I have learned a lot from him."

http://www.nuigalway.ie/human_rights/

Yvonne McDermott successfully defended her doctoral thesis entitled "The Right to a Fair Trial in International Criminal Law." L to R: Dr Noelle Higgins, Yvonne, Prof Andrew Ashworth, Prof Ray Murphy & Prof William Schabas



RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ Cavanaugh, Kathleen: *Minority Rights in the Middle East*, Oxford University Press, (April 2013) (with Joshua Castellino)
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- ◆ O'Flaherty, Michael: *The High Commissioner and the Treaty Bodies*, in F. Gaer and C. Broecker, *THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS; CONSCIENCE FOR THE WORLD*, Martinus Nijhof, 2013.
- ◆ O'Flaherty, Michael: *Foreword*, in S. Joseph and M. Castan, *THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS*, 3rd edition, OUP 2013.
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