

## STAFF

**George Andreopoulos**, Director  
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George Andreopoulos is Professor of Political Science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and at the Graduate Center, CUNY. He studied history, law, and international relations at the Universities of Chicago and Cambridge. He has taught at Yale University, where he was the founding Associate Director of the Orville Schell Center for International Human Rights. He has written extensively on international security, international human rights, and international humanitarian law. His most recent publication (co-authored) is *International Criminal Justice: Critical perspectives and New Challenges* (Springer, 2011). He is the editor of the recently launched Springer Series on International Justice and Human Rights.

**Aferdita Hakaj**, Assistant Director

Aferdita Hakaj has studied Law, International Affairs and Economics at Pennsylvania State University, Cambridge University and John Jay College. Prior to joining the Center, Aferdita worked at the United Nations with the following divisions: the Department of Management, the Office of Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo where she researched and explored issues related to human resources, central emergency assistance projects, small developing security issues post 9/11, as well as humanitarian policy and economic development topics.

## RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Ksenia Armstrong**

Ksenia Armstrong is currently a junior at John Jay College, majoring in International Criminal Justice and minoring in Spanish. She grew up and attended school in Russia with advanced learning studies in foreign languages. Ksenia is fluent in Spanish, familiar in basic German and currently attending the French Institute Alliance Francaise to study French. Ksenia plans to apply to graduate school in International Relations.

**Shawna M. Brandle**

Shawna M. Brandle is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Political Science at the Graduate Center of CUNY, and a Writing Fellow at LaGuardia Community College. She holds a BSFS from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and an MA from Brooklyn College. She is currently finishing her dissertation on television news coverage of human rights in the US and UK. Her interests include international human rights, international law, and media and politics.

## STAFF (Continued)

**Trisha Gangadeen**, a graduate from John Jay College, earned her B.A. in International Criminal Justice with minors in Gender Studies and English. Trisha is interested in all aspects of human rights. However, she is particularly concerned with political violence and the politics of refugees and forced migration. Trisha is also interested in foreign policies and their effects on the infringement of human rights. Her long term goals are to pursue a career in human rights documentary-making and eventually a doctorate.

**Sarah Guillet**

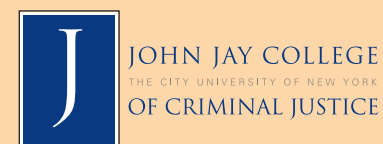
Sarah Guillet is currently a junior at John Jay College and a Honor's Program student. She is a CUNY BA student majoring in International Human Rights and Anthropology. Sarah is an executive member of the Amnesty International Student Chapter at John Jay College and plans to work for a non-profit organization after graduating.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR ACTIVITIES, CONTACT:

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# CIHR

# THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS



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**“Promoting Our  
Common Humanity,  
At Home and Abroad”**



## THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS



The Center for International Human Rights was established in 2001 with a mandate to study the main challenges to the promotion and protection of internationally recognized human rights norms; analyze and assess the intersections between human rights violations and international crimes; investigate genocide historically and in the contemporary world; and devise educational programs aimed at increasing public awareness of these norms.

### ADVISORY BOARD

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University of Michigan

### SELECTED CURRENT AND RECENT ACTIVITIES

#### HUMAN RIGHTS SEMINAR SERIES

Each academic year, CIHR invites five to six renowned scholars and/or practitioners to address cutting-edge human rights topics including humanitarian law, economic rights, women's rights, and immigration.

The focus of the 2011 – 2012 Seminar is: "Assessing Compliance: The Role of Human Rights Monitoring Mechanisms" and explores how

monitoring mechanisms are utilized to assess compliance with international human rights norms and standards. Additionally, the seminar will examine how these monitoring mechanisms can be used more effectively for accountability and advocacy purposes.

#### Thursday, October 20, 2011, Room 5200.07

Justice Abdulai Sheikh Fofanah, High Court of Justice, Sierra Leone, *Government Action in Monitoring Compliance with International Human Right Norms: The Sierra Leone Experience*. (6-8pm)

#### Thursday, November 3, 2011, Room C 203

Elsa Stamatopoulou, Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs Program; Former Chief of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues for the United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs, *The Monitoring of Cultural Human Rights*. (6-8pm)

#### Thursday, December 8, 2011, Room C 201

Event to commemorate the Anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. While not a treaty itself, the Declaration was explicitly adopted for the purpose of defining the meaning of the words "fundamental freedoms" and "human rights" appearing in the United Nations Charter, which is binding on all member states. For this reason, the Universal Declaration is the foundational document of the human rights regime. (*Details will follow, 6-8pm*)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Outsourcing Security: Private Military & Security Companies (PMSCs) and the Quest for Accountability (October 7th & 8th)

CIHR and the Institute for Criminal Justice Ethics are organizing a workshop to discuss the role and impact of PMSCs. The prominence of PMSCs in conflict zones has generated critical questions concerning the very concept of security and the role of private force, the rearticulation of the distinction between public/private and global/local in the context of the creation of new forms of "security governance," and the relevance, as well as limitations, of existing regulatory frameworks that include domestic and international law (in particular international human rights and international humanitarian law).

#### Migration and Security Workshop (December 16th & 17th)

CIHR, in collaboration with the Center for Security Studies of the Hellenic Ministry of Citizen Protection, is planning a research workshop that will focus on key political, economic and security developments influenced by migratory flows. The key themes to be addressed include the causes and consequences of migratory flows, the prospects for effective cross-border cooperation, the strengths and weaknesses of the relevant international, regional and domestic legal frameworks, and the challenges confronting the development of human rights-sensitive policies and practices on migration.

On **March 8, 2012**, the CIHR will hold an event to celebrate **International Women's Day**.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The CIHR's Director, George Andreopoulos served as the Guest Editor of a Special Issue of the Journal Criminal Justice Ethics (Vol. 29 Num. 2, August 2010). This special issue was the result of a joint workshop with the Institute for Criminal Justice Ethics, which took place at John Jay College on January 21 – 22, 2010. The title of this issue was: *The Ethics of Intervention/Protection: Contending Approaches*.

### RECENT ACTIVITIES

The CIHR at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the New York Liaison Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) organized an event on April 27, 2011, commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and the 50th Anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The event focused on *Protection Gaps and Responses*.

### ONGOING RESEARCH & PROJECTS

The CIHR is working on a study on Rule of Law (ROL) in UN peace operations. The project will critically examine key aspects of ROL issues and explore the building blocks of what constitutes a sustainable ROL component in UN Peace Operations, as well as analyze and assess key challenges that such an endeavor will have to address.