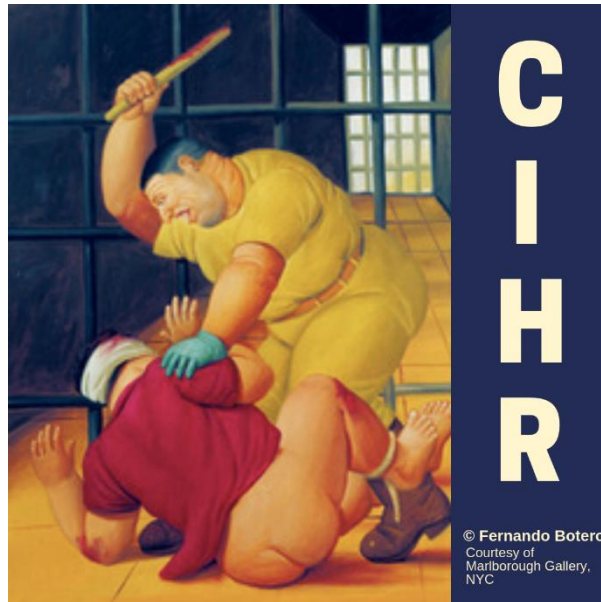


Center for International Human Rights (CIHR) Annual Report 2020-2021



The Center for International Human Rights (CIHR) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, was established with a mandate to study the main challenges to the promotion and protection of internationally recognized human rights norms; analyze and assess the interactions 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. The CIHR focuses on a critical examination of long-standing and emerging issues on the human rights agenda, as well as on equipping our students with the necessary background and experience to pursue their interests in human rights scholarship and advocacy. The Center regularly conducts research workshops, seminars (including panel discussions and lectures) and develops outreach programs. The workshops focus on cutting edge issues and bring together experts in the field to present and discuss their work and usually result in publications as books, or special issues in scholarly journals. In addition, CIHR is consistently looking for innovative outreach/awareness activities to actively involve the college community, as well as the broader public, on important human rights issues.

The following report outlines our activities for the 2020 – 2021 academic year.

Annual Theme

Each academic year, the CIHR identifies a theme based in topical human rights discourse around which we design research projects and organize events. Our theme for this year was ‘**Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights**,’ wherein we addressed a variety of issues concerning the human rights impacts of digitization and AI in the context of criminal justice, global security, rising ethnonationalism, and socioeconomic policies. Our theme-based work for this academic year included conversation series events, research papers, and the creation of a blog – all of which will be outlined in the following breakdown.

Research

The CIHR focused on two primary research initiatives for the 2020-2021 academic year. The first was our theme-based research on AI and human rights. As part of this initiative, our AI team—led by visiting scholars Dr. Marie-Michelle Strah and Dr. Carsten Momsen—authored and published the following two white papers:

[Towards a Concept of Digital Citizenship: AI and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.](#) March 2021. Marie-Michelle Strah, Ph.D., and Alexandra Johnson.

This paper explores the idea of establishing a new definition of digital citizenship that would encompass the individual both in the physical world and cyberspace concurrently. Looking at case studies highlighting the ways in which economic, political, and civil rights are increasingly affected by AI and digitization, we show how corporate actors play a significantly stronger role in the digital space than nation-states and thus posit that current human rights frameworks are no longer sufficient to protect against the challenges of the modern era.

[Transnational Supply Chains, Human Rights and Criminal Liability.](#) May 2021. Carsten Momsen, Ph.D., and Marco Willumat.

Should Western companies or their management be criminally liable for the violation of human rights, even if third parties such as subsidiaries or business partners and their employees outside the territory of western countries directly commit them? This question is becoming more complex and urgent as multi-stage supply chains increasingly dominate the modern global economy, so this paper develops a model of imputation for initiatives like the German “Supply Chain Act” that exemplify possible perspectives for potentially necessary legislative action. Such initiatives present difficulties connected to the expansion of national criminal law to overseas cases, however, and must therefore be carefully considered in order to design a more holistic approach to protect human rights against solely profit driven operations by multinational companies.

Our AI team also plans to write a series of follow-up white papers during summer 2021 and leading into the next academic year. Additionally, we launched a [blog](#) on Medium that will serve

as an interactive platform for CIHR research assistants, visiting scholars, and guest writers to explore emerging digital threats and other relevant human rights issues.

The second research initiative of the CIHR focused on human rights abuses in the Philippines. Working in conjunction with local human rights NGO Karapatan, our team of research assistants led by visiting scholar Dr. Nerve V. Macaspac and Dr. George Andreopoulos have been developing training modules on (1) digital literacy and (2) international human rights law (IHRL) and international humanitarian law (IHL) that will be used to train Filipino human rights advocates and activists working in the field. There are three guiding principles that underpin this project: (1) a commitment to upholding the international legal framework; (2) an emphasis on the experiences of and lessons learnt by human rights defenders; and (3) the centrality of democratic civic space. We are currently in the process of seeking grant funding for this endeavor and will continue this project into the next academic year. This grant initiative builds on the Center's earlier work on the subject; more specifically, on last year's report on the [Closing of Civic Space in the Philippines](#) co-authored by Prof. George Andreopoulos, Prof. Nerve Macaspac and Efim Galkin which was submitted to the UN Human Rights Council, and on an article entitled "[Whole-of-Nation" Approach to Counterinsurgency and the Closing of Civic Space in the Philippines](#)" (by the same authors), published in *global-e*.

Seminars, Panel Discussions, and Lectures

Theme Events

AI, Policing, and Digital Human Rights

A Conversation with Dr. Carsten Momsen

November 10th, 2020

A discussion on the impact of artificial intelligence on modern day policing in the context of rising populism, ethnonationalism and white supremacy movements worldwide wherein the speakers explored the innovations and limitations of technology-driven policing, with particular attention to the challenges posed by an emerging digital human rights framework.

Moderator:

- **Marie-Michelle Strah, Ph.D.**, Adjunct Professor of International Criminal Justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Visiting Scholar at the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College

Co-Sponsors:

- International Crime and Justice M.A. Program at John Jay College
- The Institute for Criminal Justice Ethics (ICJE)
- Minor in Human Rights Studies at John Jay College
- Students Without Borders

About the Speaker



Carsten Momsen, Ph.D., heads the Department of Comparative Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure Law, White Collar/ Economic and Environmental Criminal Law at Freie Universität Berlin. He is an ongoing visiting scholar at the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College and holds a position as scholar in residence at New York Law School. He was also a visiting professor at the University of Toronto in 2016 and 2019. Dr. Momsen is a Founding Member and PI of the Berlin based “Einstein Center Digital Future” and a permanent member of the Program Committee of the international conference series "SADFE - Systematic Approaches on Digital Forensic Engineering". In addition to various compliance issues, his projects are focused on corporate responsibility for human rights violations. His research also includes data protection issues, digital evidence, digital forensics, and the discriminatory effects of predictive policing based on the use of 'Big Data' and 'AI' and the subsequent impact on human rights.

About the Moderator



Dr. Marie-Michelle Strah is an adjunct professor teaching in the International Criminal Justice program at CUNY John Jay College. She is also currently a Visiting Scholar in the John Jay Center for International Human Rights in artificial intelligence. Dr. Strah is a US Army veteran and holds a PhD from Cornell University as well as an MA and Advanced Certificate in Transnational Organized Crime from John Jay College. She has over 20 years’ experience in cybersecurity, cybercrime, digital transformation, data security, governance and compliance for public and private sector entities worldwide. After her military service, Dr. Strah held global leadership roles specializing in highly regulated industries with General Dynamics, Microsoft and NBCUniversal and has provided executive and cabinet level advisory services on cybersecurity and cybercrime prevention. She is a recognized expert in the field of disinformation and the terror-crime nexus. Her current research covers disinformation and financial fraud, cyber-enabled crimes, and the ethics of artificial intelligence in international crime and justice.

Annual Events

The CIHR continued its long-standing tradition of holding events in celebration of the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in December and International Women’s Day in March.

Discourses and Practices of Exclusion: Human Rights at a Crossroads

December 10th, 2020

In honor of the UDHR, the CIHR hosted a panel discussion based primarily on Article 28 ("Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized") wherein our panelists discussed discourses and practices of exclusion that are affecting human rights around the globe. The issues our speakers



addressed included the normalization of white nationalist terrorism, the rise of far-right nationalism in Brazil and India and its effects on human rights, human rights challenges posed by online discourse, and the ways in which the UDHR is used and abused.

Panelists:

- **Tarsis Barreto, Ph.D.**, Professor of Law at the Federal University of Tocantins and State University of Tocantins
- **Louis Charbonneau**, United Nations Director at Human Rights Watch
- **Kavita Khory, Ph.D.**, Professor of Politics at Mount Holyoke College
- **Bharath Ganesh, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Media Studies, Centre for Media and Journalism Studies at the University of Groningen
- **Representative Erin Maye Quade**, Advocacy Director at Gender Justice

Moderator:

- **George Andreopoulos, Ph.D.**, Professor of Political Science, City University of New York and Director of the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College

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- Department of Political Science at John Jay College
- Minor in Human Rights Studies at John Jay College

About the Speakers



Dr. Tarsis Barreto has a Doctor of Law from the Federal University of Bahia. He is currently an Associate Professor of Law at the Federal University of Tocantins as well as an Adjunct Professor at the State University of Tocantins. He is also a member of the International Association of Criminal Law.



Louis Charbonneau is the United Nations Director at Human Rights Watch. Prior to joining HRW in 2016, he was a journalist for more than two decades in the U.S., Europe and Asia. His last post was as U.N. bureau chief for Reuters. He won several awards for his reporting on the U.N. He is also working on a PhD in political science at the City University of New York Graduate Center.



Kavita Khory is the Ruth Lawson Professor of Politics and Carol Hoffman Collins Director of the McCulloch Center for Global Initiatives at Mount Holyoke College. Khory is a specialist on the contemporary politics of South Asia, nationalism and migration. She is the editor of *Global Migration: Challenges in the 21st Century*; her most recent essay, “Regional Migration and Indian Security,” was published in the *Oxford Handbook of Indian Security*. She teaches courses

on international security, global migration, nationalism and ethnic conflict, and the politics of South Asia.



Dr Bharath Ganesh is a researcher focusing on new media, political communication, and cultures of hate and intolerance. His recent work explores far right exploitation of social media platforms in North America and Western Europe, the role of racism and Islamophobia in far-right communication, and international and corporate responses to hate and intolerance online. Bharath teaches courses in cultural studies, media policy, and social media analysis at the Centre for Media and Journalism Studies at the University of Groningen (NL). Before joining the University of Groningen, Bharath was a postdoctoral researcher at the Oxford Internet Institute and Senior Researcher at Tell MAMA, a British charity dedicated to mapping and monitoring anti-Muslim hate crime. Bharath completed his PhD in Geography at University College London in 2017.



Erin Maye Quade is the Advocacy Director at Gender Justice, where she works to advance gender justice through public education, legislative outreach, strategic partnerships, and coalition-building. She is a former Minnesota State Representative who was first elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2016. There, she quickly established herself as a candid and fierce advocate for Minnesotans championing paid family leave; expanding access to affordable child care; ending childhood hunger; eliminating gun violence; and investing in treatment for mental health and substance abuse issues. In 2018, Rep. Maye Quade founded the Childhood Hunger Caucus, a coalition of businesses, nonprofits and policymakers dedicated to ending childhood hunger in Minnesota. After legislation to prevent gun violence was stopped by Republican lawmakers, Rep. Maye Quade held a 24-hour sit-in on the House floor to protest Republican inaction on the issue and shared stories of victims and survivors of gun violence. In June 2018, Rep. Erin Maye Quade became the first LGBTQ person – and among the youngest – to be endorsed as the DFL candidate for Lt. Governor.

In Pursuit of Gender Equality: Challenges and Prospects

March 8th, 2021

A panel discussion in honor of International Women's Day and addressing some of the most pressing challenges facing gender equality today. The questions and focal points our panelists examined included:

- How can a human rights-based perspective promote gender equality?*
- How can women in leadership roles advance gender equality in times of crisis?*
- Bearing in mind existing variations in national and regional perspectives of gender equality, how can a constructive cross-cultural dialogue on this issue be advanced? What are possible obstacles?*

--How should issues such as gender-based violence, unpaid care work, poverty, and unemployment be addressed to ensure gender equality?

Panelists:

- **Gabrielle Bardall, Ph.D.**, Founder of Herizon Democracy
- **Gary Barker, Ph.D.**, President and CEO of Promundo-US
- **Humberto Carolo**, Executive Director of White Ribbon
- **Charlotte Ku, Ph.D.**, Professor of Law and Director of Global Programs at Texas A&M University School of Law
- **Rosemary Morgan, Ph.D.**, Assistant Scientist at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Moderator:

- **Charlotte Ku, Ph.D.**, Professor of Law and Director of Global Programs at Texas A&M University School of Law

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- Minor in Human Rights Studies at John Jay College
- Students Without Borders

About the Speakers



Gabrielle Bardall, Ph.D., is the founder and principal of Herizon Democracy consulting group and an affiliated researcher with the Center for International Policy Studies (CIPS) at the University of Ottawa. She has worked in over 50 countries worldwide for a variety of UN agencies and international organizations, including UNDP, DPKO, UN Women, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems and the Carter Center. She specializes in democracy assistance, especially promoting women’s political rights in post-conflict and authoritarian states. Gabrielle holds degrees from McGill University, Sciences-Po Paris and l’Université de Montreal. She received the American Political Science Association’s Congressional Fellowship and the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Doctoral Scholarship for her work in the area of violence against women in politics.



Gary Barker is CEO of Promundo-US and co-founder of Promundo, a consortium of NGOs which started in Brazil and now has affiliated offices in the US, Brazil, Portugal, Chile, Spain and the Democratic Republic of Congo. He has worked 22 years in more than 40 countries to engage men and boys in achieving gender equality and ending violence against women and girls and to carry out research on masculinities and gender equality. He is co-founder of MenCare, a global campaign working in more than 50 countries to promote men’s involvement as equitable, non-violent caregivers, and co-founder of MenEngage. He leads IMAGES (the International Men and Gender Equality Survey), the largest ever survey of men’s

attitudes and behaviors related to violence, fatherhood, and gender equality, which to date includes more than 40 countries. He is an Ashoka Fellow and received the Voices of Solidarity Award from Vital Voices for his work to engage men as allies for gender justice. In 2018 and 2019 he was named by Apolitical as one of the “most influential people in gender policy around the world.” He received his PhD in developmental psychology and holds a Research Affiliate position with the University of Coimbra in Portugal. Gary lived nearly 20 years in Latin America, and is currently based in Washington, DC.



Humberto Carolo is the Executive Director of White Ribbon and the Global Co-chair of the MenEngage Alliance. He is a men-and-masculinities and gender-based violence prevention expert with strong cross-cultural experience. Humberto's current work is focused on developing educational strategies to engage men and boys in promoting gender equality, healthy masculinities, and preventing gender-based violence. He has developed and implemented training and engagement programs for diverse male-dominated sectors around the world. Humberto serves on the External Advisory Council for Canada's Department of National Defense and Canadian Armed Forces Sexual Misconduct Response Centre.



Charlotte Ku is Professor of Law and Director, Global Programs at the Texas A&M University School of Law. Previously, Dr. Ku served as Professor of Law, Assistant Dean for Graduate and International Legal Programs at the University of Illinois College of Law where she also co-directed the Center on Law and Globalization. Dr Ku was Acting Director of the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge following a twelve-year term as Executive Director and Executive Vice President of the American Society of International Law in Washington, DC. Throughout her years of senior academic leadership positions, Dr Ku has fostered the building of awareness of international law and institutions. She has also championed the interdisciplinary collaboration of international law and international relations scholars. More recently, she is working to perfect models of professional training for law students that touch on global awareness and practice skills. Dr Ku has been on the faculties of the Hopkins-Nanjing Center of the School of Advanced Studies, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Virginia. Prior to joining academe, Dr Ku served as a consultant to the community-based San Francisco Foundation; as director of research and publications of a community organization; and on the legislative staff of U.S. Senator Alan Cranston. Dr Ku's research interests are in international law and global governance. Her publications include “Fragmented Responsibility in a Global World,” in *Global Peace and Security*, “The United States and the International Court of Justice,” in *The United States and International Law*, “The International Court of Justice,” in the *Oxford Handbook of the United Nations*, “Evolution of International Law,” in *International Organization and Global Governance*; *International Law, International Relations, and Global Governance*; and *The Dynamics of International Law* with Paul F. Diehl.



Dr. Rosemary Morgan is an Assistant Scientist at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the Department of International Health, with a joint position in the School of Nursing. Dr. Morgan currently leads the Sex and Gender Analysis Core for the NIH funded Sex and Age Differences in Immunity to Influenza Center, is working on a project exploring the gendered effects of COVID-19 in nine countries; and co-coordinates an international Gender and COVID-19 Working Group. She is also a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion advisor for the UK Partnerships for Health Systems programme and for the Learning, Acting and Building for Rehabilitation in Health Systems Consortium.

Conversation Series and Other CIHR Events

Human Rights at the Edge of Darkness: Autocracy, Inequality and the Climate Crisis

A Conversation with Phelim Kine, Senior Director for Asia at Mighty Earth
October 22nd, 2020

By the late 1990s, the international human rights movement wielded a degree of political and diplomatic influence that appeared to cement its role as an essential policy component of democratic states and a key element of international statecraft. As we near the end of 2020, those assumptions have been dashed by a resurgence of autocratic governments and belated popular recognition of the societal impacts of both systemic racial & economic inequalities and the climate crisis. What went wrong and what are the implications for the international human rights movement?

Moderator:

- **George Andreopoulos, Ph.D.**, Professor of Political Science, City University of New York and Director of the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College

Co-Sponsors:

- International Crime and Justice M.A. Program at John Jay College
- Minor in Human Rights Studies at John Jay College
- Students Without Borders

About the Speaker



Phelim Kine is a former Asia-based foreign correspondent who worked for more than a decade in Taiwan, Cambodia, China and Indonesia prior to becoming a human rights researcher and advocate. Kine worked in Human Rights Watch's Asia division from 2007-2018 and was director of research & investigations at Physicians for Human Rights from 2018-2020. Kine is currently the senior director for Asia at the Washington, DC-based environmental campaign

organization Mighty Earth where he works to eliminate deforestation and human rights abuses in the production chains of commodities including palm oil, natural rubber and soy.

Kine's opinion pieces have appeared in media including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Forbes, The Guardian and the Harvard International Review. Kine has spoken publicly on human rights issues at venues ranging from the European Parliament and the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong to the Council on Foreign Relations and a hearing of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC). Kine is also an adjunct instructor at Hunter College's Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute.

The Role of International Justice in the Context of Modern Conflicts
A Conversation with Trial Lawyer Alexis Demirdjian of the International Criminal Court (ICC)
 March 24th, 2021

Moderator:

- **Gohar Petrossian, Ph.D.**, Director, International Crime and Justice M.A. Program, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Co-Host:

- International Crime and Justice M.A. Program, John Jay College

Co-Sponsors:

- Human Rights M.A. Program, John Jay College
- Minor in Human Rights, John Jay College

About the Speaker



Alexis Demirdjian is a Canadian lawyer and a member of the Quebec Bar since 2003. He studied in Montreal and obtained a Major in Political Science, a Bachelors in Law and a Masters in International Law. He started his career in 2002 at the ICTY where he worked for 13 years, both as a defence counsel and in the Office of the Prosecutor. Since April 2015, he has been working at the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Stockton University's School of General Studies where he teaches

an online course on genocide and international tribunals, as part of the Masters in Arts on Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

For the past 18 years, Mr Demirdjian has worked on different cases dealing with military and civilian leaders. Mr Demirdjian worked on the defence team of General Enver Hadzihasanovic (2002-2005) before joining the Office of the Prosecutor and working on the Vukovar case which dealt with crimes in Eastern Croatia, the case of Bosnia-Herzegovina focusing on the activities of the Ministry of Interior, and the case of Eastern Slavonija / Republic of Serbian Krajina. At the ICC, he worked on the trial of Ivory Coast's former president Laurent Gbagbo and youth Minister Charles Blé Goudé and is now working on cases at the investigation stage.

Mr. Demirdjian published in 2015 an edited volume entitled *The Armenian Genocide Legacy*, an interdisciplinary study on the relevance of the Armenian Genocide in academic studies and the impact of the genocide over the past 100 years. He has also published numerous articles on a variety of topics related to international law.

About the Moderator



Dr. Gohar Petrossian is an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, and the Director of the International Crime and Justice Masters Program at John Jay College. Her research interests include crimes against wildlife, with a particular interest in Illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing; spatial and temporal analysis of crime and GIS mapping; environmental criminology and opportunity theories; and crime prevention. She is the author of the book *Last Fish Swimming: The Global Crime of Illegal Fishing* (Global Crime and Justice Series. ABC-CLIO, LLC, Praeger Imprint), published in 2019.

Protecting Human Rights While Countering Terrorism
A Conversation with Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism
 April 13th, 2021

In the pursuit of national security, many counter-terrorism policies and practices implemented around the world---particularly in the years since 9/11---have infringed upon and arguably violated a number of fundamental human rights. While governments have a responsibility to protect their citizens from the dangers of terrorism, they also are responsible for ensuring that the measures they take remain within the realm of legality and do not generate unnecessary harm. It is thus vital that human rights impacts are carefully considered in the formation of these policies.

Moderator:

- **Edward J. Flynn**, Senior Human Rights Officer with the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

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- Human Rights M.A. Program at John Jay College
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- Students Without Borders

About the Speaker



Fionnuala Ní Aoláin is concurrently Regents Professor at the University of Minnesota Law School and Professor of Law at the Queens University, Belfast. She is the recipient of numerous academic awards including the Leverhulme Fellowship, Fulbright scholarship, ASIL Certificate of Merit for

creative scholarship, Alon Prize, Robert Schumann Scholarship and Lawlor fellowship. She has published extensively on issues of gender, conflict regulation, transitional justice, and counter-terrorism. She has held academic positions at Columbia Law School, Harvard Law School, Princeton University, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Ní Aoláin is currently the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

About the Moderator



Edward J. Flynn is the Senior Human Rights Officer with the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), which supports the Security Council’s Counter-Terrorism Committee in New York. Mr. Flynn coordinates a team looking at human rights and counter-terrorism issues, including issues connected to terrorist incitement, violent extremism, abuse of social media, and gender. Prior to joining CTED, Mr. Flynn was adviser on human rights and counter-terrorism at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva. He previously served with OHCHR from 1996-2003 as coordinator for human rights programs in Europe, Central Asia and North America, concentrating on field operations in the Balkans. He was a UN human rights field officer in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina during the wars in the Former Yugoslavia, and before that in Haiti. Prior to joining the UN, he worked for six years as a lawyer with non-profit agencies representing refugees in the United States.

Re-engaging the World: Human Rights Challenges for the Biden Administration

April 22nd, 2021

A panel discussion on the role of human rights in the current and future agenda of the Biden Administration, both in regards to domestic and foreign policy. Issues that the speakers addressed included migration “management” and the southern border, the US return to multilateralism, and challenges and opportunities in Southeast Asia.

Panelists:

- **Elisa Massimino**, Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Chair in Human Rights at Georgetown University Law Center
- **Eric Schwartz**, President, Refugees International and Former Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration
- **Nerve V. Macaspac, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Geography, Department of Political Science and Global Affairs, College of Staten Island and Graduate Faculty, Earth and Environmental Sciences Doctoral Program, The Graduate Center, CUNY
- **Ted Piccone**, Chief Engagement Officer, World Justice Project and Nonresident Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution

Moderator:

- **George Andreopoulos, Ph.D.**, Professor of Political Science, City University of New York and Director of the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College

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About the Speakers



Elisa Massimino is the Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Chair in Human Rights at Georgetown University Law Center and a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. Previously, she spent 27 years—the last decade as president and CEO—at Human Rights First, one of the nation’s leading human rights advocacy organizations. Massimino has a distinguished record of human rights advocacy in Washington. During her leadership at Human Rights First, The Hill consistently named her one of the most effective public advocates in the country. She holds a law degree from the University of Michigan, a master’s degree in philosophy from Johns Hopkins University, and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Trinity University.



Eric Schwartz became President of Refugees International in June 2017. Eric has had a three-decade career focused on humanitarian and human rights issues. Between 2009 and 2011, he served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration. As Assistant Secretary, he was credited with strengthening the State Department’s humanitarian advocacy around the world, initiating and implementing critical enhancements to the U.S. refugee resettlement program and raising the profile of global migration issues in U.S. foreign policy. He was the senior human rights and humanitarian official at the National Security Council during the Clinton administration, managing humanitarian responses to crises in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. He also served as the UN Deputy Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery after the 2004 Asian Tsunami; as Washington Director of Asia Watch (now the Asia Division of Human Rights Watch); and Staff Consultant to the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, among other positions in the U.S. government, at the UN and in the non-profit sector. Just prior to arriving at Refugees International, Eric served a six-year term as Dean of the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. During much of that period, he also served on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and, ultimately, as the Commission’s vice chair. He holds a law degree from New York University School of Law, a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs, and a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from the State University of New York at Binghamton.



Nerve V. Macaspac, PhD is a political geographer with a regional focus in Southeast Asia. His current interdisciplinary and ethnographic research focuses on the phenomenon of community-led peace zones, popularly known as demilitarized geographic areas, in armed conflicts. He uses the term “insurgent peace” to refer to the daily work of civilian communities in producing spaces for peace during active violence and war. Supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Social Science Research Council (SSRC), International Peace Research Association (IPRA), and the American Association of Geographers (AAG), Dr. Macaspac’s research contributes to our understanding of the spatialities of peace beyond the dominant definition of peace as “absence of violence.” Currently, he is a Co-Investigator of “Creating Safer Spaces: Strengthening Civilian Protection Amidst Violent Conflict,” a 4-year international and interdisciplinary research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). This research aims to strengthen the field of unarmed civilian protection (UCP) and community self-protection research to create safer space for more communities amid violent conflict. At CSI, Dr. Macaspac teaches Urban Geography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Introduction to Geography. He also runs GeospatialCSI, a curricular initiative that aims to build a space and community among students to produce creative, collaborative, and public-facing Urban Geography-centered inquiry and research. He received his PhD in Geography at UCLA and a Masters in Asian Studies from UC Berkeley.



Ted Piccone currently serves as the World Justice Project’s Chief Engagement Officer, where he leads efforts to bridge research, policy and action to strengthen the rule of law around the world. A recognized expert on global democracy and human rights policies, emerging powers, multilateral affairs, and U.S.-Latin American relations, Piccone also serves as a nonresident Senior Fellow with the Brookings Institution’s Foreign Policy program. Previously, he served as the Foreign Policy program’s acting vice president and deputy director and was the inaugural Brookings-Robert Bosch Stiftung Transatlantic Initiative fellow in Berlin. Piccone is the author or editor of multiple publications on international affairs, including books on Five Rising Democracies and the Fate of the International Liberal Order and Catalysts for Change: How the UN’s Independent Experts Promote Human Rights. Piccone served eight years as a foreign policy advisor in the Clinton administration at the National Security Council, the State Department’s Office of Policy Planning, and the Pentagon. He was also the Washington office director for the Club of Madrid and continues as an advisor. He holds degrees with honors from Columbia University’s Law School and the University of Pennsylvania and has taught international human rights law at American University’s Washington College of Law.

About the Moderator



George Andreopoulos is Professor of Political Science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and at the Graduate Center, CUNY, and the founding Director of the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College. Before coming to CUNY, he taught for several years at Yale University where he was also the Founding Associate Director of the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights. He has written extensively on international organizations, international human rights, and international humanitarian law issues. Over the years, he has participated in several human rights missions and has been a consultant for International Organizations and NGOs. He is past President of the Interdisciplinary Studies Section (IDSS) of the International Studies Association (ISA) and past President of the Human Rights Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA). He is the recipient of many grants and fellowships, including the Ford Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, the Alexander Onassis Foundation and the German Research Foundation. He is currently completing a book on the United Nations Security Council and Counter-Terrorism. He is the Editor-in Chief of the Journal Human Rights Review.

Co-Sponsored Events

The Importance of Human Rights for Peaceful Elections: Lessons Learned from Belarus and Kyrgyzstan

October 27th, 2020

Organized by the Political Science Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Panelists:

- **Rachel Denber**, Deputy Director, Europe and Central Asia Division, Human Rights Watch
- **David Kurkovskiy**, Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, Berkeley
- **Colleen Wood**, Ph.D. Candidate, Columbia University
- **Agnieszka Fal-Dutra Santos**, Policy Specialist, Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

Moderator:

- **Julia Sinitsky**, Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Co-Sponsors:

- The Center for International Human Rights (CIHR)
- The Center for Progressive Security (CPS)

#ENDSARS – Policing at a Crossroads: Nigeria and the United States of America

November 30th, 2020

Organized by the International Crime and Justice (ICJ) B.A. and M.A. Programs and the ICJ Club at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Panelists:

- **Benson Chinedu Olugbuo**, Executive Director, CLEEN Foundation, Nigeria
- **Christelle Onwu**, Lead Advisor for African Diaspora Communities, NYC Human Rights Commission
- **Chivona Newsome**, Black Lives Matter, Greater New York
- **Gloria Browne-Marshall**, Professor, Department of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- **Ejim Dike**, Human Rights Activist
- **Jamil Dakwar**, Director of the ACLU Human Rights Program

Moderator:

- **Dara Byrne**, Associate Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

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- CLEEN Foundation
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- Center of International Human Rights (CIHR)
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External Events Featuring CIHR Members

Policing in the United States (presentation at Freie Universität Berlin)

July 14, 2020

Prof. George Andreopoulos and Dr. Marie-Michelle Strah were invited to present at Dr. Momsen's seminar at Freie-Universität Berlin Department of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure Law and Corporate Criminal Law on policing in America in light of the murder of George Floyd in the United States. Prof. Andreopoulos spoke about the structure of policing in the US, the resort to lethal use of force and the human rights principles that underpin democratic policing,

and Dr. Strah presented research on the rise of hate crimes, extremism and the rise of militarized policing.

In closing, we would like to acknowledge the following individuals who were part of the CIHR team during the 2020-2021 academic year and whose contribution made all the above possible:

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Prof. George Andreopoulos
Director, CIHR