



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

# HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTRE

University of Ottawa



uOttawa

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# FROM THE DIRECTOR



2019 saw our Centre complete our five year strategic plan 2015-2019 by which we grew substantially and consolidated our community, extended our reach through a wide range of partnerships and traditional and social media, participated in or supported numerous research projects and grants, and flew the flag of human rights across the University and well beyond. In short, we energetically and with success advanced our mandate as the principal entity within the University of Ottawa committed to research, education and promotion of all human rights for everyone.

Pursuant to regular reviews, we have been pleased to receive positive acknowledgements and some accolades for our collective work. The best evidence of this is the dynamism of our community which is productive and attracts interest from a broad spectrum of scholars, civil society, public institutions, the diplomatic community and more. A particularly satisfying aspect is the recognition our members receive, including young scholars who have gone on to achieve academic and professional placements. On a personal note, I was honoured to be renewed as HRREC Director for a second and final five-year term.

## **“An important element of activity ahead will be to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the founding of HRREC in 1981...”**

In preparation for the next five years, we designed and conducted a multi-phase process of consultations for members, partners and other stakeholders, including: reviews of members’ research areas (spring 2019); online survey of members (summer 2019); in-person exchanges and brain-storming comprising four sessions for our three different categories of membership (academic, student, and community) and a final joint session where a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) exercise was conducted; two consultations with the Centre’s Management Committee; and an open online mechanism for feedback from the range of stakeholders. Ultimately, our draft plan was approved in March 2020 for the period 2020-2024. Aligned with the University of Ottawa’s own Strategic Plan “*Transformation 2030*”, our Five-Year Strategic Plan addresses four pillars of work ahead with a view to being: more agile, more connected, more impactful, and more sustainable.

An important element of activity ahead will be to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the founding of HRREC in 1981 – the year before Canada patriated our Constitution and adopted the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The coming year we intend to plan for due reflection on the path we have so far travelled over the last two generations, and look towards the future with cotemporary foci and the best means of impact, contributing to effective implementation. We remain convinced of the value of still evolving human rights thinking, norms and institutions, yet sobered by the persistent – and sometimes growing – gaps between the promise of human rights and their realization. Our aim will be to contribute to closing the gaps as our mandate and mission call upon us to strive to achieve. Working with others, we hope to do so such that 2021 can be a true celebration of human rights and well-being.

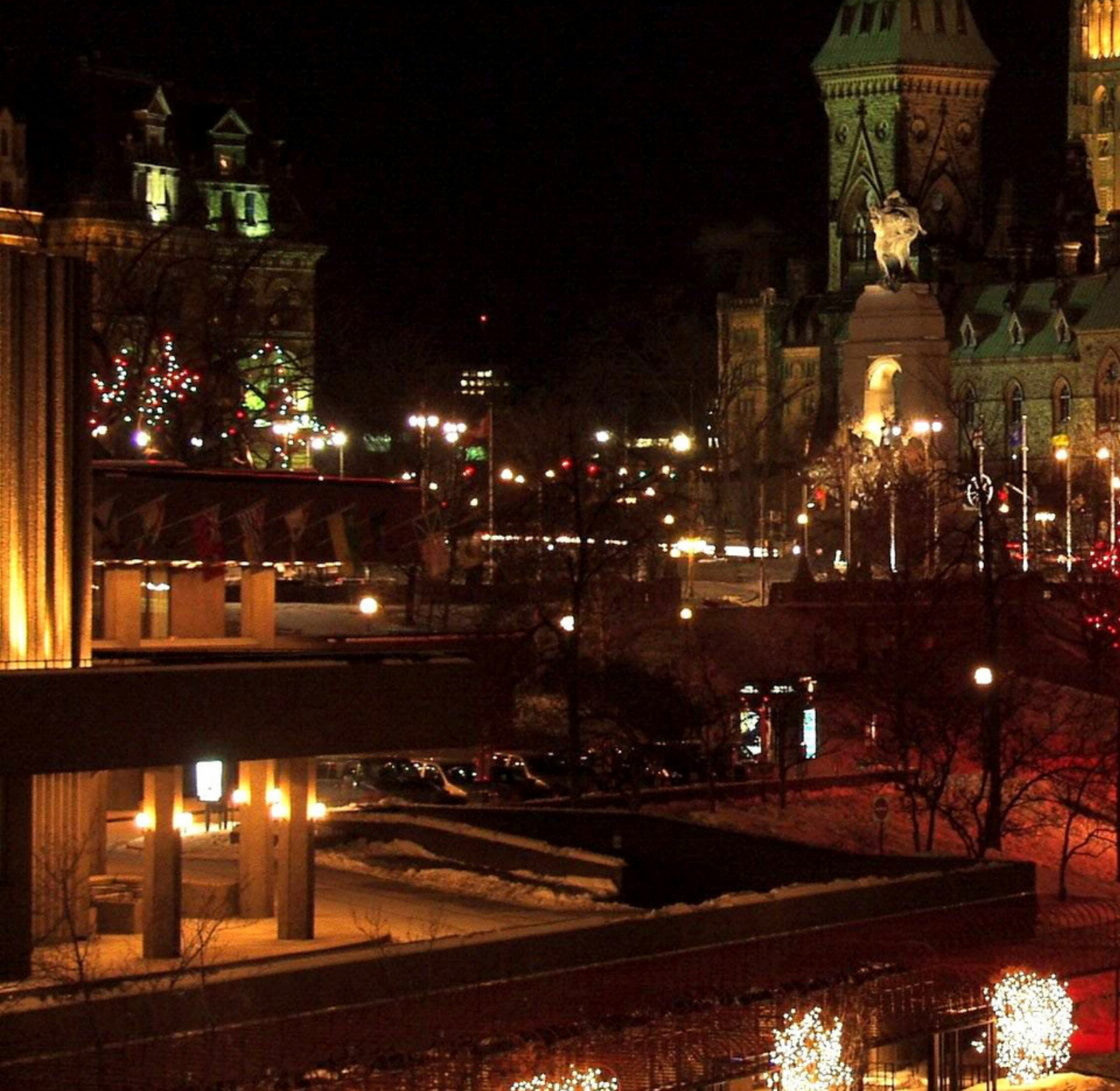
Professor John Packer  
Director  
Human Rights Research and Education Centre  
University of Ottawa






# ABOUT THE HRREC

The Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC) is one of the oldest such Centres in Canada and North America. Created in 1981, it comprises researchers in law, social sciences, management/business and the arts. The Centre strives to bring educators, researchers and students together with practitioners with a multi- and inter-disciplinary perspective, in order to promote the respect of human rights and explore the effective protection and enjoyment of such rights for everyone everywhere.







Our research activities include the research programs of our members as well as projects resulting from partnerships in which the Centre contributes to the production of research findings and their dissemination. To this end, the Centre places a particular emphasis on issues of public policy and social justice. Areas of preponderant interest among Centre's members are: Diversity, Identity, Inclusion & Equality; Conflict, Violence, (In)Security & War; Governance, Rights & Rule of Law; and Development, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The HRREC benefits from a bilingual and plurilegal environment. Its strategic location in a G7 Capital supports the Centre at all levels of its initiatives, whether local, national or international. The Centre privileges research and education partnerships with academics and civil society organizations.





# WHO WE ARE

We are especially pleased with, and benefit from, the diversity of our members comprising some thirty nationalities, over forty languages, and a female:male ratio of 2:1.

## ACADEMIC MEMBERS

Nadia ABU-ZAHRA  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
(Management Committee)

Eric ALLINA  
Faculty of Arts

Jane BAILEY  
Faculty of Law  
(Management Committee)

Lori G. BEAMAN  
Faculty of Arts

Jennifer BOND  
Faculty of Law

Angela CAMERON  
Faculty of Law

Larry CHARTRAND  
Faculty of Law

Magda DONIA  
Telfer School of Management

Karen ELTIS  
Faculty of Law  
(Management Committee)

Jabeur FATHALLY  
Faculty of Law

Larisa KURTOVIĆ  
Faculty of Social Sciences

André LALIBERTÉ  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Jamie LIEW  
Faculty of Law

Ravi MALHOTRA  
Faculty of Law

Pacifique MANIRAKIZA  
Faculty of Law

Nathalie MONDAIN  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Isaac NAHON-SERFATY  
Faculty of Arts

Delphine NAKACHE  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Darren O'TOOLE  
Faculty of Law

John PACKER  
Faculty of Law

Sylvie PAQUEROT  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Mona PARÉ  
Faculty of Law

David ROBITAILLE  
Faculty of Law

François ROCHER  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Chantal RODIER  
Faculty of Arts

Scott SIMON  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Penelope SIMONS  
Faculty of Law  
(Management Committee)

Joanne ST. LEWIS  
Faculty of Law

Valerie STEEVES  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Marie-Ève SYLVESTRE  
Faculty of Law

Meredith TERRETTA  
Faculty of Arts  
(Management Committee)

Sophie THÉRIAULT  
Faculty of Law

Karine VANTHUYNE  
Faculty of Social Sciences

João VELLOSO  
Faculty of Law

## STUDENT MEMBERS

Siobhán AIREY  
Faculty of Law

Yawo Kpayidra ALOU  
Faculty of Law

Tanveer Singh AULAKH  
Faculty of Law

Stéphanie BACHER  
Faculty of Social Sciences

Vaceslav (Slava) BALAN  
Faculty of Law

Pierre-Gilles BÉLANGER  
Faculty of Law

Anastasia BERWALD  
Faculty of Law

Zoé BOIRIN-FARGUES  
Faculty of Law

Tenille BROWN  
Faculty of Law

Corinna Simeoni BUHAY  
Faculty of Law

Fu Wei CHANG  
Faculty of Law

Aboubacar DAKUYO  
Faculty of Law

Jessica DUFRESNE  
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Salvador HERENCIA  
Faculty of Law  
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Adam R. HOUSTON  
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Leslie-Monica IBOUILY  
Faculty of Law

Uchenna IJOMA  
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Lilou JIANG  
Faculty of Law

Jocelyn KANE  
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Andrea KHAN  
Faculty of Social Sciences

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Faculty of Social Sciences

Amira MAAMERI  
Faculty of Law

Omra MASSTAN  
Faculties of Social Sciences &  
Law

Elysa McCONNELL  
Faculty of Arts

Rosalie MINASSIAN  
Faculty of Law

Nestor NKURUNZIZA  
Faculty of Law

Abu SALEH  
Faculty of Law

Murray SNIDER  
Faculty of Law

Gloria SONG  
Faculty of Law

Jacob TATSITSA  
Faculty of Arts



# WHO WE ARE

Julie Ynès Ada TCHOUKOU  
Faculty of Law

Chen WANG  
Faculty of Law

Robin WHITEHEAD  
Faculty of Law

Danny YEO  
Faculty of Law

## POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

Sarah R. OLUTOLA  
Gordon F. Henderson Postdoctoral Fellow  
(2018-2019)

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Olabisi AKINKUGBE  
Assistant Professor,  
Dalhousie University

Jael DUARTE  
Project Manager, New  
Brunswick Multicultural  
Council

Debra JOHNSTON  
Senior Counsel, Public  
Prosecution Service of Canada

Nelson Arturo OVALLE DIAZ  
Part-time Professor, Faculty of  
Law, uOttawa

Kawkab AL-WADEAI  
Researcher & Mental Health  
Counsellor (Gender, Peace &  
Security)

Leilani FARHA  
UN Special Rapporteur on  
Adequate Housing

Lucie LAMARCHE  
Full Professor, Université de  
Québec à Montréal

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GFH Postdoctoral Fellow (2015-  
16), Assistant Professor, St.  
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Catalina ARANGO  
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Visiting Researcher, HRREC,  
uOttawa

Philip LEECH-NGO  
GFH Postdoctoral Fellow  
(2016-17); Blog Editor & Social  
Media Manager, CIPS, uOttawa

Marianne QUIROUETTE  
Assistant Professor, School of  
Criminology, Université de  
Montréal

Joaquin BARDALLO BANDERA  
GFH Scholar (2013-14), Ph.D.  
student, University of Toronto

Kirsten FISHER  
GFH Postdoctoral Fellow  
(2012-13), Assistant Professor,  
University of Saskatchewan

Janine LESPÉRANCE  
Legal Advisor, Lawyers Without  
Borders Canada

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Ph.D. Candidate, Faculty of Fine  
Arts, University of Seville

Audace GATAVU  
Lawyer

Gloria LOPEZ  
2016 Fulbright Chair in Human  
Rights & Social Justice, Chief  
Diversity Officer, SUNY Upstate  
Medical University

Areli VALENCIA  
GFH Postdoctoral Fellow  
(2013-14), Professor, Pontificia  
Universidad Catolica del Peru

Chétima MELCHISEDEK  
GFH Postdoctoral Fellow (2017-  
18) & Banting Postdoctoral  
Fellow, York University

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Peace Track Initiative

Sharmila MAHAMURI  
Ph.D. in Law, Lawyer

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Ph.D., School of International  
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Mission to Kosovo

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(2014-15), Legal Assistant,  
Office of Legal Affairs, Embassy  
of Mexico in Canada

Omid B. MILANI  
Ph.D. in Law, Creator of  
Contekst

Jeremy WILDEMAN  
Research Associate,  
University of Bath

Courtney DOAGOO  
Postdoctoral Fellow, CIGI  
International Law Research  
Program

Sonya NIGAM  
Former Director, Human Rights  
Office, uOttawa

## STAFF

John PACKER  
Director

Viviana FERNANDEZ  
Assistant Director

Caroline FAUCHER  
Communications & Events  
Management Officer



# FEATURED PROFILES

Our 99 members are academics, students and actors in the wider community.

## NADIA ABU-ZAHRA

### JOINT CHAIR IN WOMEN'S STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA & CARLETON UNIVERSITY



Nadia holds a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Oxford and is an Associate Professor in the School of International Development and Global Studies. She has written on a variety of topics, including gender justice in colonial and conflict situations, and the implications of geographic (im)mobility for education and health. She has a longstanding interest in pedagogy, works closely with university services and research groups in teaching and active, experiential, and community-engaged learning. She co-facilitates, with Professor Emily Regan Wills, "*Community Mobilization in Crisis*", a project that co-creates open educational resources with community mobilizers around the world in multiple languages, and supports the use of the resources transnationally to build community mobilizations. In July 2019, Nadia began an initial 3-year mandate as the Joint Chair in Women's Studies, University of Ottawa and Carleton University.

## ANDRÉ LALIBERTÉ

### RESEARCH CHAIR IN TAIWAN STUDIES



André is Full Professor of Political Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences. He holds a Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of British Columbia and a B.A. from Université du Québec à Montréal. André's research focuses on the intersection of the political and the religious in China and Taiwan, in the context of democratic transition, authoritarian resilience and the implementation of social policy. He is a research fellow at the Centre on Religion and Chinese Society at Purdue University, and at the Groupe Sociétés, Religions et Laïcité, in Paris. André was named Co-Chair of the Research Chair in Taiwan Studies at uOttawa in summer 2019. The Chair promotes research, dissemination of research, and curriculum development on Taiwan Studies at uOttawa. Professor Laliberté is sharing the Chair with HRREC academic member Professor **Scott Simon**.

## SARAH R. OLUTOLA

### GORDON F. HENDERSON POSDOCTORAL FELLOW (2018-2019)



Sarah holds a Ph.D. in English and Cultural Studies from McMaster University. Her research concerns representations of race in popular media culture, youth culture, African and African diasporic cultural studies, post-colonialism and global capitalism. Her postdoctoral research project built on an interest in African representations in fiction by considering African and African diasporic youth, a key area of focus in her dissertation, not only in terms of youth-oriented contemporary literature, but also in terms of what such literature can tell us about affective belonging and youth political agency. Sarah is also an emerging Canadian writer and uses the pen name 'Sarah Raughley' in her children's fiction series called "The Effigies". She was included in the CBC's list of black authors to watch for, a feature CBC produced for Black History Month 2019.



# TEACHING & TRAINING

HRREC offered three online courses in Winter 2019, one regular course during Common Law's January term (previously offered as an online course), and four online courses in Fall 2019 (39 participants). The 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Summer School on International Humanitarian Law, a partnership with the Canadian Red Cross, took place from May 26 to 31, 2019 (39 participants). Eight contracts for teaching assistants/course coordinators/instructors were funded by the Centre, most of which benefited graduate students in Law.

## École d'été en DROIT INTERNATIONAL HUMANITAIRE 2019 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW Summer School 2019



Photo credit: A child transporting gasoline to his house passing by Iraqi soldiers from the Federal Police, by André Liohn.

Date limite pour s'inscrire | Deadline to register  
**15 avril 2019 | April 15, 2019**  
[www.cdp-hrc.uOttawa.ca](http://www.cdp-hrc.uOttawa.ca)

Centre  
de recherche  
et d'enseignement  
sur les droits  
de la personne



Human Rights  
Research  
and  
Education  
Centre



## ONLINE COURSES

**DCC2303 | Legal Aspects of Human Rights** (Offered in English.)

**DCC2703 | Dimensions juridiques des droits de la personne** (Offered in French.)

Historical origins of international human rights law. Presentation of international law as a legal system that includes rules, principles and requirements, as well as specific methodological research tools.

**DCC3110 | Inter American System of Human Rights** (Offered in English.)

Introduction to the Inter American system of human rights protection by subject areas including women's rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, the right to democracy and social rights.

**DCC3112 | Human Rights and Justice in Africa: Theory and Practice** (Offered in English.)

Analysis of the ways that human rights and conceptions of justice have been applied, interpreted and debated in the context of contemporary Africa. Relationships between the Western origins and 'universality' of human rights and retributive justice, cultural relativity arguments and needs of transitional societies.

# HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC



The Human Rights Clinic concentrated its work on four projects involving 33 students, organized in teams and led by **Salvador Herencia**, Ph.D. candidate in Law and Director of the Clinic, with the valuable assistance of dedicated Projects Coordinators. Professors **Isaac Nahon-Serfaty** (Faculty of Arts), **João Velloso**, **Penelope Simons** and **John Packer** (all Faculty of Law) acted as academic advisors. The projects addressed or supported the following topics: **Business and Human Rights in Latin America**; **The Canadian Partnership for International Justice**; **The United Nations Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers**; and **Scholars at Risk in the Americas**.

The Clinic offered two skills training workshops for participating students and project coordinators with notable speakers like Daniel Cerqueira (Senior Program Officer, Due Process of Law Foundation). Projects received support from the SSHRC funded project "*Strengthening Justice for International Crimes: A Canadian Partnership*" led by Professor Fannie Lafontaine (Université Laval) and uOttawa.

## UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges & Lawyers

Since 2017, the Clinic provides research support to the Special Rapporteur under the direction of John Packer and Coordinator **Jordi Feo**, Ph.D., focusing on thematic reports submitted to the Human Rights Council and the United Nations General Assembly. In 2019, the team contributed to two public reports:

- *Freedom of Expression* - Report to the Human Rights Council. Report No. A/HCR/41/48 (April 29, 2019).
- *Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary* - Report to the United Nations General Assembly. Report No. A/74/176 (July 16, 2019).

In February 2019, the Special Rapporteur, in collaboration with the office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the New York City Bar Association, invited Jordi Feo to participate in the symposium addressing "*Contemporary Challenges to the Independence of Judges and Lawyers from a Global Perspective*" held in Greentree, Long Island, New York.

## Scholars at Risk (SAR) in the Americas

Since 2018, a team led by Professors **Isaac Nahon-Serfaty** and **João Velloso** with Coordinator **Catalina Arango** and **Salvador Herencia** has monitored situations that may affect academic freedom in six countries: Canada, Colombia, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela. In 2019, Brazil was added as a seventh country.

The group actively participates in advocacy actions with Scholars at Risk, notably including, in February 2019, testifying in a hearing before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) on threats to academic freedom and university autonomy in the Americas. This was the first time that this body held a hearing on academic freedom; our presentation, delivered by Salvador Herencia, focused on situations of violence against academics in Nicaragua, Venezuela and Brazil, as well as the persecution of students in Bolivia and Mexico. The work of the Clinic featured in a special section on Brazil in the 2019 edition of the *Free to Think Report*, a publication from the Academic Freedom Monitoring project at Scholars at Risk.



# EXPANDING OUR REACH

## VISITING SCHOLARS

Janelle Diller was hosted at the Centre in spring 2019 and returned as Fulbright Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice from October 2019 until April 2020. Her Fulbright project explores the State's role in facilitating inclusive regulatory governance of transnational activities affecting human rights and social justice.

Janelle has served as Legal Counsel to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and as Legal Director of the International Human Rights Law Group in Washington D.C. She has authored *Securing Dignity and Freedom through Human Rights* (Brill), recognized by the United Nations among the world's leading Research Guides for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



**Andrew 'Stobo' Sniderman** continued his Visiting Fellowship in the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section and HRREC until August 2019. He is a former Special Advisor for Human Rights to the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Stéphane Dion, and became a community member at HRREC. Postdoctoral Fellow **Jeremy Wildeman** also joined the Centre and collaborates with Professor **Nadia Abu-Zahra**. Community member **Jordi Feo** continued his engagement as Visiting Researcher and is a key contributor to the Human Rights Clinic.

In addition, HRREC hosted Professor Se-Shauna Wheatle (Durham Law School), who worked with Professor Vanessa MacDonnell (March); Núria Reguart-Segarra, Ph.D. student (Universitat Jaume I of Castellón, Spain), who collaborated with HRREC Member **Darren O'Toole** thanks to a European Union Mobility Grant; Jeonghyeon Kim (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), who came to HRREC to finalize her Ph.D. thesis in winter 2019 and initiated a writing circle for the Centre's members with Ph.D. candidate **Tenille Brown**.

## PROFESSIONAL LINKS

Student member **Murray Snider** represented HRREC at the Association of Human Rights Institutes' (AHRI) 2019 Annual Conference held at the University of Potsdam in Germany (September). The program was organized around the theme "*Renewing Rights in Times of Transition: 70 Years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*".

Assistant Director **Viviana Fernandez** represented uOttawa at the Annual Conference of the Magna Charta Observatory organized by McMaster University in October. Almost 900 universities from 88 countries have joined this community and of which uOttawa is a member.

HRREC continues to foster links with members from the Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes (CAHRI, 14 members across the country), including regular exchanges of information and opportunities for members and students. Members of CAHRI agreed to pursue the publication of future editions of the *Canadian Yearbook of Human Rights* as a joint venture with the Centre. Director **John Packer** was named a Fellow of the Atlantic Human Rights Centre, a CAHRI member, for which he delivered lectures at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick (October).

## IMPROVING STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Ten student members benefitted from a small fund (11 grants) dedicated to support presentations at academic conferences such as the *Conference annuelle de l'Association canadienne des études africaines*, the *Annual conference of the Association of Property Law and Society*, the *2019 Annual Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Experts Group on International Criminal Justice*, the *Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion World Conference on Statelessness* and the *9<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer School on National Minorities in Border Regions*, among others. This program was temporarily suspended in May 2018 and reopened only in June 2019.



# FUNDING & RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

The Centre was actively engaged in eleven research partnerships, ten funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), including two Partnership Development Grants (PDG), seven Partnership Grants (PG), one Insight Development Grant (IDG), and a Research Network supported by uOttawa. The themes and principal investigators are listed below:

## ACCÈS À LA JUSTICE DES ENFANTS ET VULNÉRABILITÉ (PDG)

Led by HRREC member Professor **Mona Paré**.

## BOKO HARAM, ISLAMIC PROTEST AND NATIONAL SECURITY (PDG)

With PI Paul Lovejoy (York University) and HRREC member Professor **Meredith Terretta**.

## STRENGTHENING JUSTICE FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMES: A CANADIAN PARTNERSHIP (PG)

Led by Professor Fannie Lafontaine (Université Laval) including HRREC members Professors **Jennifer Bond**, **John Packer**, **Penelope Simons**, and **João Velloso**.

## IMPACTS - COLLABORATIONS TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS (PG)

Led by PI Shaheen Shariff (McGill University) and including HRREC members Professors **Jane Bailey** and **Valerie Steeves**.

## ACCÈS AU DROIT ET À LA JUSTICE - ADAJ (PG)

Led by Professor Pierre Noreau (Université de Montréal) and including HRREC member Professor **João Velloso**.

## THE eQUALITY PROJECT (PG)

Led by HRREC members Professors **Valerie Steeves** and **Jane Bailey**.

## AUTONOMY THROUGH CYBERJUSTICE TECHNOLOGIES (PG)

With PI Karim Benyekhlef (Université de Montréal) and HRREC member Professor **Jane Bailey**.

## THE CANADIAN NETWORK FOR RESEARCH ON TERRORISM, SECURITY AND SOCIETY (PG)

With PI Lorne Dawson (University of Waterloo) including HRREC Director, Professor **John Packer**.

## GENDER, MIGRATION & THE WORK OF CARE (PG)

With PI Ito Peng (University of Toronto), including HRREC member Professor **André Laliberté**. The project closed in March 2019.

## A BUSINESS CASE FOR PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS (IDG)

With HRREC members, PI **Magda Donia** and Ph.D. candidate **Salvador Herencia** who is one of the collaborators involved in this research project.

## POPULATION HEALTH RESEARCH NETWORK (OVPR, uOttawa)

With PI Vanessa Gruben (Faculty of Law, Common Law Section) and HRREC members Professors **Marie-Ève Sylvestre** and **João Velloso** as well as Ph.D. candidate **Adam R. Houston**.



# FUNDING & RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Congratulations to our members who received research funding:

**Jane Bailey** and **Valerie Steeves** are collaborators on the project *Gathering Input from Seniors on Legal and Ethical Issues Related to use of Social Robots for In-Home Support*, funded by a SSHRC Insight Development grant led by PI Andrea Slane (Ontario Tech University).

PI **Lori Beaman** received a \$2.5 million SSHRC Partnership Grant for the seven-year project *Understanding Nonreligion in a Complex Future*.

**Angela Cameron** and colleagues, led by Professor Sari Graben (Ryerson University), earned a SSHRC Connection Grant through a special call for proposals recognizing Indigenous Research Capacity and Reconciliation. The grant was to fund an interdisciplinary, Indigenous-led symposium entitled *Indigenous Administrative Law: Mobilizing Anishnaabeg Law for Reconciliation*.

**Jabeur Fathally** received a grant from the Foundation for Legal Research to work on Aboriginal wills in light of Canadian and international law.

**Larisa Kurtović** received a SSHRC Insight Development Grant for her project *Watersheds: Postsocialist Infrastructure and the Politics of Water Supply in Postwar Bosnia-Herzegovina*.

**Jamie Liew** received a research grant from the Canadian Bar Association's Law for the Future Fund (LFFF) for the project *Statelessness in Canada: Mapping the Legal Structures that Perpetuate, Promote or Eliminate Statelessness* to outline who are stateless in Canada, and to map out the legal barriers and lack of opportunities that stateless persons face.

**Delphine Nakache** leads the Canadian team as a co-researcher in a €3 million Horizon 2020 research project entitled *Vulnerabilities Under the Global Protection Regime: How Does the Law Assess, Address, Shape and Produce the Vulnerabilities of Protection Seekers?*

**John Packer** received a uOttawa Knowledge Mobilization Grant to organize the conference *Persons of African Descent: Recognition, Justice and Development* held in April 2019.

As part of her work for the Law Society of Nunavut, student member **Gloria Song** helped the Law Society of Nunavut win a Law Foundation of Ontario grant in the amount of \$256,475, in partnership with Pauktutit Inuit Women of Canada. The research is entitled *Access to Justice for Family Violence in Nunavut: A Research Project & Awareness Campaign* and its topic is related to Gloria's doctoral research on how those issues intersect with the housing shortage in Canada's Arctic.

Dean **Marie-Ève Sylvestre** and **João Velloso** were awarded a SSHRC Connection Grant to fund the semi-annual conference of the Canadian Law and Society Association that took place at uOttawa in October under the theme *Law & Learning in an Era of Partnerships*.

Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights, **Meredith Terretta** is co-applicant with Patti Leenard (uOttawa) on the project *Local Activism, Global Impact: A Case-Study of St. Joseph's Parish Refugee Outreach Committee*, funded by a SSHRC Insight Development grant.

**João Velloso** received a SSHRC Insight Development Grant for his project *Sentence Severity and Deportation: Mapping Criminality and Collateral Consequences of Punishment at the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada*.





# SCHOLARS AT RISK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

uOttawa joined the Scholars at Risk (SAR) Network in 2014 and, since then, HRREC has held organisational responsibility for the program at uOttawa. During 2019, new members joined the SAR uOttawa Committee comprising eight faculty members, one university librarian, two staff members and one graduate student. Especially meaningful was the official engagement and financial support to the program from the Association of Professors of the University of Ottawa (APUO).

During 2019, the SAR uOttawa program hosted three scholars:

- Dr. Rahim Surkhi (Iran) hosted from September 2017 until August 2019 by the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (Faculty of Arts) in partnership with Carleton University.
- Mr. Fayyaz Baqir (Pakistan) arrived in May 2018 at the School of International Development and Globalisation Studies and will remain at uOttawa until December 2020.
- A third scholar (name withheld) from Turkey is currently hosted by the School of Sociology and Anthropology for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Assistant Director **Viviana Fernandez** is uOttawa's institutional representative and a member of the Canadian Section (SAR Canada) Steering Committee. She represents Canada in the SAR's International Advisory Committee. In this capacity, she spearheaded the development of a funding proposal for the creation of a federal program for SAR Canada and contributed to Human Rights Day Roundtable at Parliament to advocate for the creation of such program in December 2019.

Viviana also attended the 2019 Academic Freedom Forum in Berlin (March), chaired the panel "*A Global Index on Academic Freedom: Why? How? And Can It Improve Universities?*" during the International Studies Association Conference in Toronto (March) and presented at the workshop "*Erosion of Academic Freedom Globally: Opportunities and Challenges for Canadian Universities*" during the 2019 Annual Conference of the Magna Charta Observatory (October). She continues to exchange with a francophone group of universities from Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France with a view to enhanced mobility for francophone scholars and exploring the possibility of joint advocacy actions in the French language.

**Salvador Herencia** presented on the Human Rights Clinic's work for SAR during the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences held at the University of British Columbia (June). The session was titled "*Scholars at Risk and Canadian Universities: Keeping Critical Enquiry Open Through Protection, Advocacy and Learning*" and was organized in partnership with Simon Fraser University, the University of Victoria, Vancouver Island University, SAR Network and SAR Canada. Salvador's panel was called "*Integrating SAR Programs into Student Learning: Student Advocacy Seminars and Legal Clinics*". He also participated in a thematic hearing at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) on academic freedom in the Americas that took place in Sucre, Bolivia (February).

## EVENTS & RELATED ENGAGEMENTS

HRREC organized five public events for SAR uOttawa during 2019, highlighting the situations in Venezuela, Brazil and Xinjiang, China. It also convened a SAR Canada Section workshop on *How to Build a Sustainable SAR Program in Your Campus* in December. Notable events:

### SCIENCE, A Human Right

Organized in partnership with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the uOttawa Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP), and Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa.

### Combining Scholarship and Activism: Challenges and Opportunity

Organized in partnership with the School of International Development and Global Studies (SIDGS), the Interdisciplinary Research Group on Territories of Extractivism (GRITE), and Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa.

### Challenges to Academic Freedom in Brazil and Similar Trends in Latin America

Organized in partnership with Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa and with the participation of Professor Jacqueline Sinhorretto from the Federal University of Sao Carlos in Brazil.



# EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS



During 2019, the Centre hosted 48 events including an art exhibition, two parliamentary briefings (one on Iran and one overview), eight major conferences/academic workshops and three film screenings. These were organized with 45 partners representing government agencies, research groups, foundations, national and international NGOs, law firms, student groups, etc. with total attendance of approximately 1,830 people.

The Centre also held two Human Rights Networking Events for students and recent alumni with speakers Catherine Gribbin (Senior Legal Counsel, Canadian Red Cross) and Janelle Diller (Fulbright Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice, 2019-2020).

In addition to events and research meetings, HRREC regularly welcomes and hosts classes, roundtables, thesis defenses, committee meetings and other events organized by the two sections of the Faculty of Law. Of special interest are the KAIROS Blanket Exercises offered to all Common Law first year students and the creation of a writing group by HRREC members, open to professors, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students.

The list of Centre's events, reports and outputs can be found at the end of this document and by visiting our website.

## SELECTED EVENTS

### **Persons of African Descent: Recognition, Justice & Development**

This conference brought together academics, community activists and organizers to explore the UN International Decade for People of African Descent, and discuss the meaning to seek recognition for African histories and African contributions, and ways to achieve justice and equality for Africans and people of African descent.

### **The More, the Merrier: Can Inclusive Governance Advance Rights in Global Value Chains?**

Event, featuring HRREC Fulbright Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice, Janelle Diller, organized in partnership with the Faculty of Law, Common Law & Civil Law Sections, the Office of International Research at uOttawa, the Canadian Council on International Law and Fulbright Canada.

### **The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Taking Stock and Moving Forward**

Conference organized in partnership with the Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child, the Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section and the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children.

### **I am a HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER: This is MY STORY**

This event was organized with the Nobel Women's Initiative in the context of the 16 Days of Activism to end Gender-Based Violence.





# EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

## FOCUS ON THE ROHINGYA CRISIS

Director John Packer continued his active engagement in regard to the ongoing Rohingya genocide in Myanmar and across the Bangladeshi border and beyond. This translated into several radio and television interviews, articles, parliamentary testimonials, and participation and/or hosting of meetings and consultations in Canada and abroad.

Notable activities included his participation in high level meetings in Brussels (October), an address for Rohingya Genocide Remembrance Day (August 25) on Parliament Hill at the invitation of the Rohingya Human Rights Network (RHRN), and presentations and meetings with Chiang Mai University (Thailand) to discuss international crimes, minority rights and peace in Burma/Myanmar at the invitation of Inter Pares. John was quoted on this subject in *The Globe and Mail*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Anadolu Agency* (Turkey), the *Dhaka Tribune* and *Prothom Alo* (Bangladesh), and elsewhere.



On May 27, the event *Breaking the Silence: The International Community's Failure to Confront Genocide Inside Myanmar* was launching the 13<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School on International Humanitarian Law 2019.

HRREC, in partnership with Inter Pares and the Neuberger-Jesin Professorship of International Conflict Resolution, were pleased to host invited speaker Liam Mahony, Independent consultant and expert on humanitarian protection and human rights.

Through internal strategy consultancies beginning in 2015, Mr. Mahony began urging the United Nations and the overall humanitarian system in Myanmar of their complicit role in tacitly supporting the steadily-developing genocide of the Rohingya people. As these internal warnings went unheeded, Mr. Mahony independently published in June 2018 the essay, *"Time to Break Old Habits: Shifting from Complicity to Protection of the Rohingya in Myanmar,"* and has since done follow-up consulting with international NGOs both in Myanmar and Bangladesh, as well as with diplomatic and donor institutions.



# ARTS + HUMAN RIGHTS

Since 2014, this initiative seeks to engage in a multidisciplinary experiment of human rights issues framed through the various forms of creative artistic expression such as visual, performance, media, cinematographic, musical and literary arts, and to reflect upon the Arts as essential for human dignity.

## SELECTED EVENTS

Étrangers, autres et exilés : Atelier d'écriture créative 2019  
Strangers, Others & Exiles: 2019 Creative Writing Workshop



During her term as Gordon F. Henderson PostDoctoral Fellow (2018-2019), **Sarah R. Olutola** organized a human rights and social justice-themed creative writing workshop for undergraduate and graduate students titled *Canada, Strangers, Others and Exiles*.

**Chantal Rodier**, Artist-in-Residence at the Faculty of Engineering, launched the MakerBoutique, a web platform and a showcase within the Makerspace workshop. It allows students, employees, and professors to sell items they've made using the tools at their disposal throughout campus. Items can be made using the 3D printers, laser cutters and other leading-edge machines at the STEM Complex, or in the University's woodworking, metalwork, sculpture or even photography workshops.



Exhibition: *An Image of Justice*. This artistic exhibition was conceived under the theme "*Genocide, Truth and Reconciliation*" and displayed selected pieces from a Global Cartoon Contest launched in May 2019. The selection was made by an international jury who reviewed some 600 submissions from 34 countries. The vernissage took place in September in partnership with Kontekst and **Omid B. Milani**.



A screening of *PUSH The Film* was organized with the Canadian Housing Research Network, the Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services and LEVEL, Changing Lives through Law. This was one of the activities of the first Right to Housing Week at uOttawa. *PUSH* focuses on the realization of the Right to Housing at the Global, National and Local Scales.

The documentary sheds light on the global phenomenon of the commodification of housing and consequent lack of affordability, especially through the eyes of **Leilani Farha**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing and HRREC member.



# PUBLICATIONS

Our members publish regularly in peer-reviewed academic journals, contribute to blogs, reports, policy briefs, opinion pieces, etc. They can also contribute to the *HRREC Working Papers Series* available on uOResearch. Here is a selection of their publications.

## BOOKS

Borrows, J., **Chartrand, L.**, Fitzgerald, O.E., Schwartz, R. (Eds.). (2019). *Braiding Legal Orders: Implementing the United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. Waterloo: CIGI, 252 p.

## CHAPTERS

**Airey, S.** (2019). 'Sexing' Consent in International Law. In Rimmer, S.H. and Ogg, K. (Eds.), *Research Handbook on Feminist Engagement with International Law*, Edward Elgar Publishing, p. 134-151.

**Fisher, K.J.** and Stefan, C. (2019). Canada and the International Responsibilities to Protect and Prosecute in Cases of Mass Atrocity. In McGrane, D. and Hibbert, N. (Eds.), *Applied Political Theory and Canadian Politics*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, p. 459-479.

**Houston, A.** (2019). Rights in Isolation: Lessons on Public Health & Human Rights from Leprosy and HIV in the Pacific Islands. In Wildental, L. and Quataert, J. (Eds.), *The Routledge History of Human Rights*, Routledge, p. 467-486.

**Jarhum, R.** and Hoppe, R. (2019). Minimum Marriage Age Legislation in Yemen, 2008-2014: Exploring Some Limits to Portability of the ACF. In Yassin, N. and Hoppe, R. (Eds.), *Women, Civil Society and Policy Change in the Arab World*, Palgrave MacMillan, p. 111-145.

**Laliberté, A.** and Travagnin, S. (Eds.). (2019). Epistemic Communities of Buddhist Scholarship in Modern China: Narrative and Paradigms. *The Study of Religion in China, Vol. I: State of the Field and Disciplinary Approaches*, Berlin: de Gruyter, p. 115-138.

**Laliberté, A.** and Travagnin, S. (Eds.). (2019). Chinese Political Science and the Study of Religion. *The Study of Religion in China, Vol. I: State of the Field and Disciplinary Approaches*, Berlin: de Gruyter, p. 205-230.

**Manirakiza, P.** (2019). Asserting the Principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in Sub-Saharan Africa in the Extractive Industry Sector. In Feichtner, M.K. and Roesch R. (Eds.), *Human Rights in the Extractive Industries: Transparency, Participation, Resistance*, Springer, p. 219-245.

**Manirakiza, P.** (2019). Complementarity between the International Criminal Law Section and Human Rights Mechanisms in Africa. In Jalloh, C.C., Clarke, K.M. and Nmeihelle, V.O. (Eds.), *The African Court of Justice and Human and Peoples' Rights in Context: Development and Challenges*, Cambridge University Press, p. 989-1020.

**O'Toole, D.** (2019). Métis Legal Orders, Indigenous Title and the Doctrine of Continuity. In Gunn, B. and Drake, K. (Eds.), *Renewing Relationships*, Saskatoon: Wiyasiwewin Mikiwahp Native Law Centre, University of Saskatchewan, p. 193-219.

**Rocher, F.** (2019). Le fédéralisme : Une contrainte institutionnelle à la tenue des promesses électorales? In Birch, L. and Pétry, F. (Eds.), *Bilan du gouvernement libéral de Justin Trudeau. 353 promesse et un mandat de changement*. Québec: Presses de l'Université du Québec, p. 47-60.

**Vanthuyne, K.** (2019). Guérir la vie : Du traumatisme à l'autodétermination à Eeyou Istchee. In Bousquet, M.-P. and Hele, K. (Eds.), *La blessure qui dormait à poings fermés : L'héritage des pensionnats autochtones au Québec*, Québec: Recherches amérindiennes au Québec, p. 173-187.



## ARTICLES

**Dakuyo, A.** (2019). Insurrection populaire et justice transitionnelle au Burkina Faso : Entre dynamique « révolutionnaire » et réalisme politique. *Politique et Sociétés*, 38(2): 27-56.

**Feo Valero, J.** (July/December 2019). Special Indigenous Jurisdiction, Colombian Law and International Regulations: Need for a Balance in the Framework of Extractive Industry and Gender Impact. *Estudios Socio-Juridicos*, 21(2): 387-416.

**Fisher, K.J.** (August 2019). International Criminal 'Lawfare' and its Potential Effects on Post-Conflict Positive Peace. *International Criminal Law Review*, 19(4): 724-745.

**Fisher, K.J.** and Sarkany, L. (June 2019). Canada, the International Court, and the Intersection of International Politics and Finances. *International Journal: Canada's Journal of Global Policy Analysis*, 74(2): 206-224.

Labman, S. and **Liew, J.C.Y.** (2019). Law and Moral Licensing: The Making of Illegality and Illegitimacy along the Border. *International Journal of Migration and Border Studies*, 5(3): 188-211.

Levesque, A. and **Malhotra, R.** (2019). The Dawning of the Social Model: Applying a Disability Lens to Recent Developments in the Law of Negligence. *McGill Journal of Law and Health*, 13(1): 1-26.

**Manirakiza, P.** (May 2019). Towards a Right to Resist Gross Undemocratic Practices in Africa. *Journal of African Law*, 63(S1): 81-105.

**Paré, M.** (September 2019). The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Its Contribution to the Development of International Human Rights Law. *Revista ESMAT*, 11(17): 209-230.

**Paré, M.** (2019). Réglementation des activités extractives et protection des droits de l'enfant à travers une approche féministe. *Canadian Journal of Women and the Law | Revue Femmes et Droit*, 31(1): 91-112.

**Steeves, V.** (2019). Theorizing Privacy in a Liberal Democracy: Canadian Jurisprudence, Anti-Terrorism, and Social Memory After 9/11. *Theoretical Inquiries in Law*, 20(1): 324-341.

## SPECIAL ISSUE

**Ovalle Diaz, N.A.** (Ed.). (2019). *Canada's Role in Protecting Human Rights in the Americas*, *Revue générale de droit*, 49(Special Issue): 5-400.

## REPORTS

**Jarhum, R.** and Bonfatti, A. (2019). *We Are Still Here: Mosulite Women 500 Days After the Conclusion of the Coalition Military Operation*. Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF), 52 p.

## CANADIAN YEARBOOK OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Another milestone of 2019 was the publication of the second volume (2016-2018) of the Canadian Yearbook of Human Rights (online, open source) in fall 2019, edited by John Packer and featuring several contributions from uOttawa scholars and partners. This project is to continue as a joint venture with CAHRI partners.



# AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

Notable awards and nominations received by our members.

Professor **Nadia Abu-Zahra** was named the inaugural Joint Chair in Women's Studies, University of Ottawa and Carleton University in July 2019.

Professor **André Laliberté** received the Konrad Adenauer Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The prize is valued at € 60,000. It is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office and aims to promote academic and cultural interchange between the Federal Republic of Germany and Canada.

In March 2019, the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop announced **Jamie Liew** as the winner of the 2018 Jim Wong-Chu Emerging Writers Award for fiction for her manuscript *Dandelion Roots*. The story revolves around a Chinese family in a small mining town in British Columbia struggling to fit in with the Canadian Chinese community.

HRREC academic members professors were recognized in the Common Law 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Internal Awards Competition (2018-2019): **Angela Cameron**- Excellence in Graduate Supervision Award, **João Velloso** - Award for Significant Service to Graduate Studies, and **Jamie Liew** - Public Engagement Award (Media Relations), respectively.

HRREC student members **Melisa Handl** and **Andrea Khan** both received a 2019 IDRC Doctoral Research Award.

Student member **Marie-Dominik Langlois** was among the winners of the Global Affairs Canada's International Policy Ideas Challenge (2019). Her project explores Indigenous peoples' rights in the context of natural resources.

Student member **Amira Maameri** won the 2018-19 Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child's Essay Competition. She was also awarded the Raoul Barbe & Yolande Larose Graduate Scholarship 2018-19. Amira is co-supervised by Professors **Mona Paré** (uOttawa) and Adeline Gouttenoire (U. de Bordeaux).

In September, community member **Rasha Jarhum** received the Rebels Against War - Anita Augspurg Prize, awarded by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) – German Section, for her work as a Yemeni human rights activist who believes that "peace in Yemen is in the hands of women".

**John Packer** was appointed to the Board of Advisors of Genocide Watch (a pre-eminent NGO based in Washington DC) joining eminent persons such as Lt. Gen. Roméo Dallaire, former Nuremberg Prosecutor Benjamin Ferencz, and former US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power. Professor Packer was also appointed Convenor of the Rohingya Legal Forum established by the Center for Global Policy (a Washington DC based think tank). In addition, he was named to the Advisory Board of Convivenza Stiftung (a Zurich-based foundation offering non-partisan expertise and a dialogue platform to develop and implement solutions for minority issues).

This year, our members were appointed to important positions in the Faculty of Law: **Marie-Ève Sylvestre** was appointed Dean of the Civil Law Section; **Sophie Thériault**, Vice-Dean of Studies in the Civil Law Section; and **Penelope Simons** was named Vice Dean Research in the Common Law Section.

Student member **Gloria Song** earned a Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship at the doctoral level, valued at \$35,000 over three years. Gloria works under the supervision of Professors Angela Cameron and Jackie Dawson as part of the Change and Economic Development in Arctic Canada research team at uOttawa.

Congratulations to our student members who received a 2019-2020 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowships:

- **Julie Ynès Ada Tchoukou** (\$60,000) - *Legal Development and Post-modern Africa: A Case for the Legal Regulation of Cultural Violence against Girls in Nigeria*
- **Jocelyn Kane** (\$40,000) - *Lived Experiences of Stateless Persons in Canada*
- **Elysa McConnell** (\$20,000) - *The Nation at the Periphery: Fascism and the Holocaust in the Northeastern Italian Borderlands, 1918-1948*



# SELECTED STORIES OF 2019

HRREC Directors Contributed to Human Rights Day Roundtable at Parliament	CML Student Lily Wang Represented HRREC's Human Rights Clinic & CPIJ at the 18th Assembly of State Parties to the International Criminal Court	Professor Packer Contributes to Developing Mediators Guideline for OIC
The UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers acknowledges the work of the HRREC Human Rights Clinic	Three HRREC Members Attended the Inaugural World Conference on Statelessness (The Hague)	A Project of the Human Rights Clinic Presented at a Symposium in New York
HRREC Student Member Gloria Song assisted the Law Society of Nunavut	HRREC Members Appointed Important Positions in the Faculty of Law: Marie-Ève Sylvestre, Dean, Sophie Thériault, Vice-Dean of Studies (Civil Law Section) & Penelope Simons, Vice Dean Research (Common Law Section)	HRREC Academic Member André Laliberté Received the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Konrad Adenauer Research Award



# TESTIMONIALS

The Centre offered me a unique and collegial community to discuss and share ideas with fellow doctoral candidates in a safe and interdisciplinary environment. The Centre was also extremely generous in financially supporting my participation in various international conferences where I met colleagues that have become important part of my network.

**OLABISI D. AKINKUGBE** | Assistant Professor, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University  
(HRREC Community Member)

The HRREC is an indispensable partner in our 7-year SSHRC funded partnership project – The eQuality Project. The Directors have been enthusiastic, innovative and supportive members of our research team, consistently engaging us in opportunities for intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international ventures. Such opportunities are critical to attracting and obtaining funding by extending research beyond academia to engage with local, national and international communities.

**JANE BAILEY** | Full Professor, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa  
(HRREC Academic Member)

The Centre has been an important ally of the Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF), as we have joined forces to work on human rights in Latin America, filing different amicus curiae to the highest courts in Brazil, Peru, Guatemala, Mexico and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to advocate in favour of Indigenous Peoples.

**DANIEL CERQUEIRA** | Senior Program Officer, Due Process of Law Foundation  
(HRREC Partner)

Starting as a volunteer during my undergraduate studies, then joining the Human Rights Clinic and taking the IHL summer school, and eventually becoming Course Coordinator for the Summer School on The Arts & Human Rights, the HRREC contributed substantially to my academic and professional development! I was admitted to a prestigious Master's program in Geneva, worked with international NGOs and IGOs and secured my current dream job as a Human Rights Officer at the OSCE Mission in Kosovo! The knowledge, experience, advice, encouragement and support I received throughout from HRREC and its staff was and remains precious.

**EMILIE DI GRAZIA** | Human Rights Officer, Mission to Kosovo, OSCE  
(HRREC Community Member)

Working as a Gordon F. Henderson post-doctoral researcher at the HRREC was an incredible opportunity for me to pursue my own research in human rights and post-conflict justice, with funding to pursue necessary field research. My continued membership with HRREC allows me keep abreast of developments and significant work in the area of human rights, to contribute to important dialogues, and to maintain contacts important to my research and to my students.

**KIRSTEN J. FISHER** | Assistant Professor, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan  
(HRREC Community Member)

The HRREC has provided the opportunity to engage in different human right issues around the world, expanding my current doctoral research. Through the Human Rights Clinic, students like me, have been able to work with UN mandate holders, NGOs and Canadian institutions granting us the possibility to understand the complexities of fulfilling human rights.

**SALVADOR HERENCIA** | Ph.D. Candidate, Faculty of Law | Director, Human Rights Clinic, HRREC, uOttawa  
(HRREC Student Member)

HRREC has provided significant support in the creation of the Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child (IRLRC) and in the organization and promotion of its activities for more than a decade. To benefit from HRREC's premises, including meeting spaces and workstations for students, and its networks for the promotion of events and networking, or the involvement of its dynamic team, is of inestimable value to IRLRC and its partners.

**MONA PARÉ** | Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, uOttawa  
(HRREC Academic Member)



# A FEW STATISTICS FOR 2019

## SOCIAL MEDIA & LISTSERVS



LIKES

**806**

8.6% increase



FOLLOWERS

**1,444**

13% increase



FOLLOWERS

**593**

40% increase

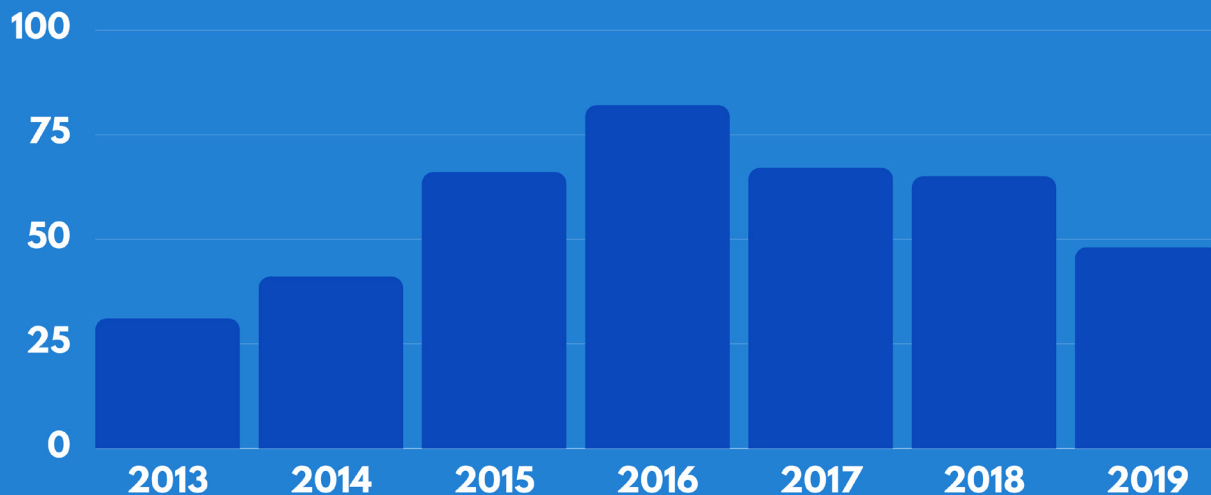


NON-MEMBERS SUSCRIBERS

**1,210**

9.5% increase

## EVENTS



# OUR PARTNERS



uOttawa

Faculté de droit  
Faculty of Law  
Section de common law  
Common Law Section



uOttawa

Faculté de droit  
Faculty of Law  
Section de droit civil  
Civil Law Section



UNIVERSITÉ  
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CANADIENNE  
CANADIAN  
RED CROSS



The  
RefugeeHub  
*Le carrefour des réfugiés*



ICRC



CANADA VENEZUELA  
Democracy Forum



uOttawa

Faculté des sciences sociales  
Faculty of Social Sciences



icj  
CANADA

International  
Commission  
of Jurists



GRITE



Due Process  
of Law  
Foundation

SSHRC  CRSH

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada  
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada



CIPS



CÉPI



Canadian Coalition  
for the Rights of Children  
Coalition canadienne  
pour les droits des enfants



uOttawa

Chaire de recherche du Canada en droit de la santé et de la sécurité du travail  
Faculté de droit | Section de droit civil | Université d'Ottawa



# OUR PARTNERS



**Gordon F. Henderson  
Chair in Human Rights**



UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA  
CENTRE DE  
Droit, politique  
et éthique de la santé

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA  
CENTRE FOR  
Health Law,  
Policy and Ethics



**Strengthening Justice for International Crimes: A Canadian Partnership  
Université Laval**

**SCHOLARS at RISK**

SAR uOttawa

**SCHOLARS AT RISK**  
NETWORK  CANADA SECTION



Faculté des arts  
Faculty of Arts

**SCHOLARS AT RISK**  
NETWORK



**International Women's Day  
OTTAWA**



Global Affairs  
Canada

Affaires mondiales  
Canada

**Population Health Research Network**

# OUR PARTNERS

Neuberger Jesin

Professor of International Conflict Resolution



APUO  
ASSOCIATION DES PROFESSEUR(E)S DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA  
ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA



The Global Initiative  
for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights



Chaire de recherche de l'Université sur le droit, les politiques pénales et la  
régulation des personnes marginalisées

Faculté de droit | Section de droit civil | University of Ottawa



Canadian Council on International Law  
Conseil canadien de droit international



Research Chair in Taiwan Studies  
Faculty of Social Sciences | University of Ottawa



# OUR PARTNERS



**CPIJ  
PCJI**

CANADIAN PARTNERSHIP  
FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE  
PARTENARIAT CANADIEN  
POUR LA JUSTICE INTERNATIONALE

**ACT**

AUTONOMY  
THROUGH CYBERJUSTICE  
TECHNOLOGIES



**UN Special Rapporteur  
on the Independence of Judges & Lawyers**

**THE SH/FT**  
#RIGHT2HOUSING



**FULBRIGHT  
Canada**

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



**iMPACTS**

Collaborations to Address Sexual Violence on Campus

**level**  
changing lives through law

Université d'Ottawa  
University of Ottawa



Carleton University

**Chaire conjointe en études des femmes  
Université d'Ottawa | Carleton University**

**Joint Chair in Women's Studies  
University of Ottawa | Carleton University**

JUSTICE AND  
CORPORATE  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
PROJECT  
*Communities first!*



**CCIJ | CCJI**

**Herongate Tenants Coalition &  
National Housing Strategy**

**CRSEC  
CRECS**



LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS  
**AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES**  
ABOGADOS SIN FRONTERAS  
Canada



**Interdisciplinary Research Lab on Cities and Contemporary Urban Processes  
Faculty of Social Sciences | University of Ottawa**

**Public Law Group**

**Faculty of Law | Common Law Section | University of Ottawa**

# EVENTS 2019

## JANUARY

### JANUARY 16 | **The Rohingya and the Genocide Convention: Prospects and Implications**

Jan Wouters (Full Professor of International Law and International Organizations, Jean Monnet Chair, Director, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies – Institute for International Law, KU Luven)

**Public Presentation** | 53 participants

### JANUARY 24 | **La Côte D'Ivoire à l'épreuve des réparations des torts à la lumière du droit international humanitaire**

Cissé Yacouba (Part-time Professor, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section & Civil Law Section, uOttawa)

**Public Presentation** | 10 participants

## FEBRUARY

### FEBRUARY 13 | **Parliament Hill Briefing: Canada's Role in the Middle East and its Iran Policy**

Dennis Horak (Former Canadian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Yemen; Head of Mission; Chargé d'affaires in Iran); Peggy Mason (President, Rideau Institute; Former Canadian Ambassador to the UN for Disarmament); Amirhossein Barmaki (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Iran); Bijan Ahmadi (Institute for Peace and Diplomacy)

**Partners:** Institute for Peace & Diplomacy; Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), uOttawa; Iranian Canadian Congress.

### FEBRUARY 20 | **A Conversation with Bruce Campbell on the Lac-Mégantic Rail Disaster**

Bruce Campbell (Former Executive Director, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; 2016 Visiting professor, Faculty of Law & HRREC, uOttawa); Clinton Archibald (Professor, UQO); Robert Bellefleur (Spokesperson, Lac-Mégantic-based Coalition of committed citizens & organizations for railway safety)

**Public Presentation** | 13 participants

### FEBRUARY 22 | **CanPal 2019: Exploring Canada's Historical and Contemporary Relationship with Palestine and the Palestinian People, in Canadian External and Domestic Affairs**

Co-organizers: Nadia Abu-Zahra (uOttawa); Reem Bahdi (University of Windsor); Michael Lynk (Western University, UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian Territory Occupied Since 1967); Jeremy Wildeman (University of Bath); Omar BURGAN (Labour Union Researcher) and many partners and organizations.

**Symposium** | 100 participants

### FEBRUARY 26 | **SCIENCE, a Human Right**

John Packer (Director, HRREC, uOttawa); Dick Bourgeois-Doyle (Writer and Science Administrator, Former Secretary General, National Research Council of Canada – NRC); Heather Morrison (Associate Professor, School of Information Studies, Faculty of Arts, uOttawa); Margaret McCuaig-Johnston (Senior Fellow, Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP), uOttawa); Viviana Fernandez (Assistant Director, HRREC, uOttawa & Steering Committee Member, SAR Canada).

**Partners:** Canadian Commission for UNESCO; Institute for Science, Society and Policy, uOttawa; Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa  
**SAR Public Event** | 40 participants

### FEBRUARY 27 | **Working for Human Rights in Canada**

Catherine Gribbin (Senior Legal Advisor, International Humanitarian Law, Canadian Red Cross)

**Partner:** Canadian Red Cross

**Human Rights Networking Event** | 35 participants

## MARCH

### MARCH 5 | **The Assault on Public Opinion: 20 Years of Besieged Freedom of Speech in Venezuela**

Rafael Osío Cabrices (Venezuelan Journalist & Writer); Salvador Herencia (Director, Human Rights Clinic, HRREC, uOttawa)

**Partners:** Department of Communication, Faculty of Arts, uOttawa; Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa

**SAR Public Event** | 25 participants

### MARCH 14 | **Zimbabwe 2019: Real Quest for Democracy or Smoke and Mirrors?**

John Packer (Director, HRREC, uOttawa); Juliet Kirangwa Kaye & Jean-Marc Mangin (Canada's Civilian Response Corps)

**Public Presentation** | 17 participants

### MARCH 20 | **International Law and Workers' Human Rights: Contemporary Challenges**

Janelle Diller (Paul Martin Sr. Professor of International Affairs and Law, Faculty of Law, University of Windsor); Anthony Giles (Assistant Deputy Minister, Employment and Social Development Canada); Katherine Lippel (Canada Research Chair on Occupational Health and Safety Law & Full Professor, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, uOttawa)

**Partner:** Canada Research Chair on Occupational Health and Safety Law | **Public Presentation** | 20 participants



# EVENTS 2019

## MARCH 20 | **They're Killing Us - Screening & Discussion**

Senator Feliciano Medina Valencia (Indigenous Nasa Leader and Senator of the Republic of Colombia); Héctor Marino Carabalí (Leader of the Afro-Colombian community in Suárez & Co-Founder of the Asociación Renacer Siglo XXI, the first victims' rights organization in Cauca)

**Partners:** Fulbright Alumni Community Leadership Program (CLP); Cinema Politica

**Screening & Discussion** | 30 Participants

## MARCH 21 | **Strangers, Others and Exiles: Creative Writing Workshop for Undergraduate Students**

Sarah Olutola (Gordon F. Henderson Postdoctoral Fellow 2018-2019)

**Creative Writing Workshop** | 10 participants

## APRIL

## APRIL 5 | **Combining Scholarship and Activism: Challenges and Opportunity**

From uOttawa: Marie-Ève Desrosiers, Christopher Huggins, John Packer, Nadia Abu-Zahra, Taryn Husband, David Mofette, Adrian Murray, Emily Wills, Georgina Claire Alonso & Patrick McCurdy; From Carleton University: Kirsten Van Houten, Jennifer Ridgley, Doris Buss & Valerie Stam.

**Partners:** School of International Development and Global Studies (SIDGS); Interdisciplinary Research Group on Territories of Extractivism (GRITE), uOttawa; Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa

**Roundtable & SAR Public Event** | 30 participants

## APRIL 6 | **Persons of African Descent: Recognition, Justice & Development**

John Packer, Sarah Olutola, Eric Allina, Abdoulaye Gueye, Nestor Nkurunziza, Adam Houston, Pacifique Manirakiza, Joanne St. Lewis (uOttawa); Abdi Bileh Dirir (Association canadienne pour la promotion des héritages africains); Julie MacArthur (University of Toronto); Richard Sharpe (Ottawa Black Hub); Faiza Hassan (Justice for Abdirahman); Heike Härting (University of Montreal); Carl James (York University)

**Conference** | 50 participants

## APRIL 8 | **Voice, Vulnerability & Protection**

**Partner:** Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child (IRLRC), uOttawa

**Conference** | 50 participants

## APRIL 24 | **Resolving Conflict through Responsibility**

Andrea Bartoli (Dean, school of Diplomacy and International Relations, Seton-Hall University)

**Partner:** Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa

**Public Presentation** | 30 participants

## MAY

## MAY 10 | **Implementation of the Abidjan Principles on State Obligations Regarding Private Actors in Education**

Sarah French (Campaigner, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights); Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona (Senior Research Associate, UNRISD & former UNSR on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights); Prachi Srivastava (Chair, Critical Policy, Equity and Leadership Studies ARC, University of Western Ontario & Adjunct Professor, SIDGS, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa); John Packer (Director, HRREC, uOttawa)

**Partner:** Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**Roundtable** | 25 participants

## MAY 27 | **Breaking the Silence: The International Community's Failure to Confront Genocide Inside Myanmar**

Liam Mahony (Independent consultant & expert on humanitarian protection and human rights)

**Partners:** Neuberger-Jesin Professorship of International Conflict Resolution; Inter Pares; Canadian Red Cross

**Public Presentation** | 60 participants

## JUNE

## JUNE 11 | **Online Disinformation and Foreign Interference in Elections**

Sasha Havlicek (Founder and CEO of the Institute for Strategic Dialogue – ISD)

**Partners:** Refugee Hub, uOttawa; Public Policy Forum, uOttawa

**Roundtable** | 35 participants

# EVENTS 2019

## SEPTEMBER

### SEPTEMBER 12 | **Justice for Some: Law & the Question of Palestine with Noura Erakat**

Noura Erakat (Palestinian-American Human Rights Attorney, Academic and Legal Scholar); Nadia Abu-Zhara; Jeremy Wildeman

**Partner:** Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (CJPME)

**Public Presentation** | 300 participants

### SEPTEMBER 16 | **Medically Assisted Reproduction and Human Rights at the European Level: Concerns & Challenges**

Joaquin Cayon De Las Cuevas (Associate Professor of Health Law, University of Cantabria, Spain)

**Partners:** Centre for Health Law, Policy and Ethics, uOttawa; Shirley Greenberg Chair for Women and the Legal Profession, uOttawa

**Public Presentation** | 25 participants

### SEPTEMBER 18 | **The Maribor Uprisings: Screening & Discussion with Professor Maple Razsa**

Maple Razsa (Associate Professor of Anthropology, Director of Global Studies, Colby College)

**Partners:** Interdisciplinary Research Lab on Cities and Contemporary Urban Processes, School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa; University Research Chair in Law, Criminal Policy and Regulation of Marginalized People, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, uOttawa; Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa; SAAS Committee for External Speakers, School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa

**Screening & Discussion** | 100 participants

### SEPTEMBER 19 | **Launch of the Exhibition: An Image of Justice**

François Rocher (Full Professor, School of Political Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa); Bruce McKinnon (Political Cartoonist); Omid B. Milani (CONTEKST); John Packer (Director, HRREC, uOttawa)

**Partner:** CONTEKST | **Art Exhibition** | 25 participants

### SEPTEMBER 30 | **JUBA WAJIIN: Resistance in Mexican Mountains**

Fabiola Mancilla (Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre)

**Partner:** Interdisciplinary Research Group on the Territories of Extraction (GRITE), School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa | **Screening & Discussion** | 12 participants

## OCTOBER

### OCTOBER 28 | **Myanmar's Democracy at a Crossroads?**

Jacques Bertrand (Associate Professor of Political Science & Director, Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Asian Institute, University of Toronto); Kai Ostwald (Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of British Columbia); Alexandre Pelletier (Postdoctoral Fellow, SE Asian Program, Cornell University); Tun Myint (Lecturer, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University); Myat Pan Hmone (Independent Consultant, Myanmar Institute for Peace & Security)

**Partners:** Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS); Neuberger-Jesin Professorship in International Conflict Resolution

**Public Presentation** | 20 participants

## NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> | **Challenges to Academic Freedom in Brazil and Similar Trends in Latin America**

Jacqueline Sinhoretto (Professor, Department of Sociology, Federal University of Sao Carlos, Brazil); Isaac Nahon-Serfaty (Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Faculty of Arts, uOttawa); Jorge Carlos Guerrero (Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Arts, uOttawa); Joao Velloso (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa)

**Partner:** Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa

**SAR Public Event** | 20 participants

\*\*\***NOVEMBER 4 | PUSH The Film: Screening & Discussion** with Leilani Farha (UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to Housing); Jeff Morrison (Executive Director, Canadian Housing and Renewal Association); Carolyn Whitzman (Bank of Montreal Visiting Professor, Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies, uOttawa); Kimberley Molina, CBC; Viviana Fernandez (Assistant Director, HRREC, uOttawa)

\*\*\***NOVEMBER 5 | Herongate: Human Rights and Access to Justice in Ottawa** with Daniel Tucker-Simmons (Lawyer, Avant Law, representing the Herongate Tenant Coalition); Ikram Dahir (Herongate Tenant Coalition); David Wiseman (Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa); Ted Rutland (Associate Professor, Geography, Planning and Environment, Concordia University)

\*\*\***NOVEMBER 6 | THE NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY ACT: Non-Judicial Accountability for Human Rights** with John Mark Keyes (Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa); Martha Jackman (Full Professor, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa); Leilani Farha (UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to Housing)

**Partners:** Canadian Housing Research Network, uOttawa; Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services (CRECS), Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa; Level – Changing Lives through Law, uOttawa; The Shift; Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa; Herongate Tenant Coalition & National Housing Strategy | **RIGHTS to HOUSING WEEK EVENTS**



# EVENTS 2019

## NOVEMBER 5 | **The More, the Merrier: Can Inclusive Governance Advance Rights in Global Value Chains?**

John Packer (Director, HRREC, uOttawa); Michael Hawes (Chief Executive Officer, Fulbright Canada); Penelope Simons (Associate Professor & Vice-Dean Research, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa); Janelle Diller (Fulbright Chair on Human Rights and Social Justice 2019-2020, HRREC, uOttawa); Adelle Blackett (Professor of Law & CRC in Transnational Labour Law & Development, Faculty of Law, McGill University); Stepan Wood (Professor & CRC in Law, Society and Sustainability & Director of the Centre for Law and the Environment, University of British Columbia (videoconference); Céline Lévesque (President, Canadian Council on International Law & Full Professor, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, uOttawa)

**Partners:** Faculty of Law, Common Law & Civil Law Sections, uOttawa; Office of International Research, uOttawa; Canadian Council on International Law (CCIL); Fulbright Canada | **Fulbright Presentation** | 30 participants

## NOVEMBER 6 | **Working for Human Rights Abroad**

Janelle Diller (Fulbright Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice 2019-2020, HRREC, uOttawa)

**Human Rights Networking Event** | 30 participants

## NOVEMBER 7 | **Tweets and Deals of the Century: How to Join the Arab World's Sectarian War under the Guise of Peace**

Robert Fisk (International Journalist)

**Partner:** Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (CJPME)

**Public Presentation**

## NOVEMBER 19 | **The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Taking Stock and Moving Forward**

Mona Paré (Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, uOttawa); Kathy Vandergrift (Chair & President, Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children); Laetitia Angba (Lawyer & Project Leader, Fondation du Dr Julien); Hala Mreiwed (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, Faculty of Education, McGill University); Elisa Romano (Full Professor, School of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa); Valerie Steeves (Full Professor, Department of Criminology, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa)

**Partner:** Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child, Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section, uOttawa

**Symposium** | 65 participants

## NOVEMBER 28 | **Venezuelan Caminantes: A Nation's Quest for Survival**

Adriana Parra (Deputy Director, Entre Dos Tierra's Foundation)

**Partner:** Canada Venezuela Democracy Forum

**Public Presentation** | 20 participants

## NOVEMBER 29 | **I am a HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER: This is MY STORY**

A conversation with women human rights defenders: Tata Diko (Founder, Lady in Action – LIA); Nandar (Founder, Purple Feminist Group); Carine Sacerdoce (Co-Founder, Club de défenseurs des droits de la fille); Areeg Abass (National Officer on Sexual and Reproductive Health, Sudan); Cassandra Spade (Research and Policy Assistant, Mishkeegogamang Ojibway Nation); Joyce Diko Duku Tikaya (EVE Organization for Women Development, South Sudan)

This event was supporting the goals of the 16 Days United Nations' UNITE Campaign which began on November 25, 2019 under the global theme *ORANGE THE WORLD: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape*.

**Partner:** Nobel Women's Initiative

**Public Presentation** | 20 participants

## DECEMBER

## DECEMBER 10 | **Detention Camps in Xinjiang: A Human Rights Appraisal**

Scott Simon (Professor, School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa & Co-Chair of the Research Chair of Taiwan Studies); Darren Byler (Ph.D. in anthropology, whose research focuses on Uyghur dispossession, culture work and "terror capitalism" in the city of Ürümqi, the capital of Chinese Central Asia, Xinjiang); Shawn (Wenshao) Zhang (Lawyer)

**Partners:** Research Chair in Taiwan Studies, uOttawa; Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa; East Turkistan Association of Canada

**SAR Public Event** | 35 participants







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