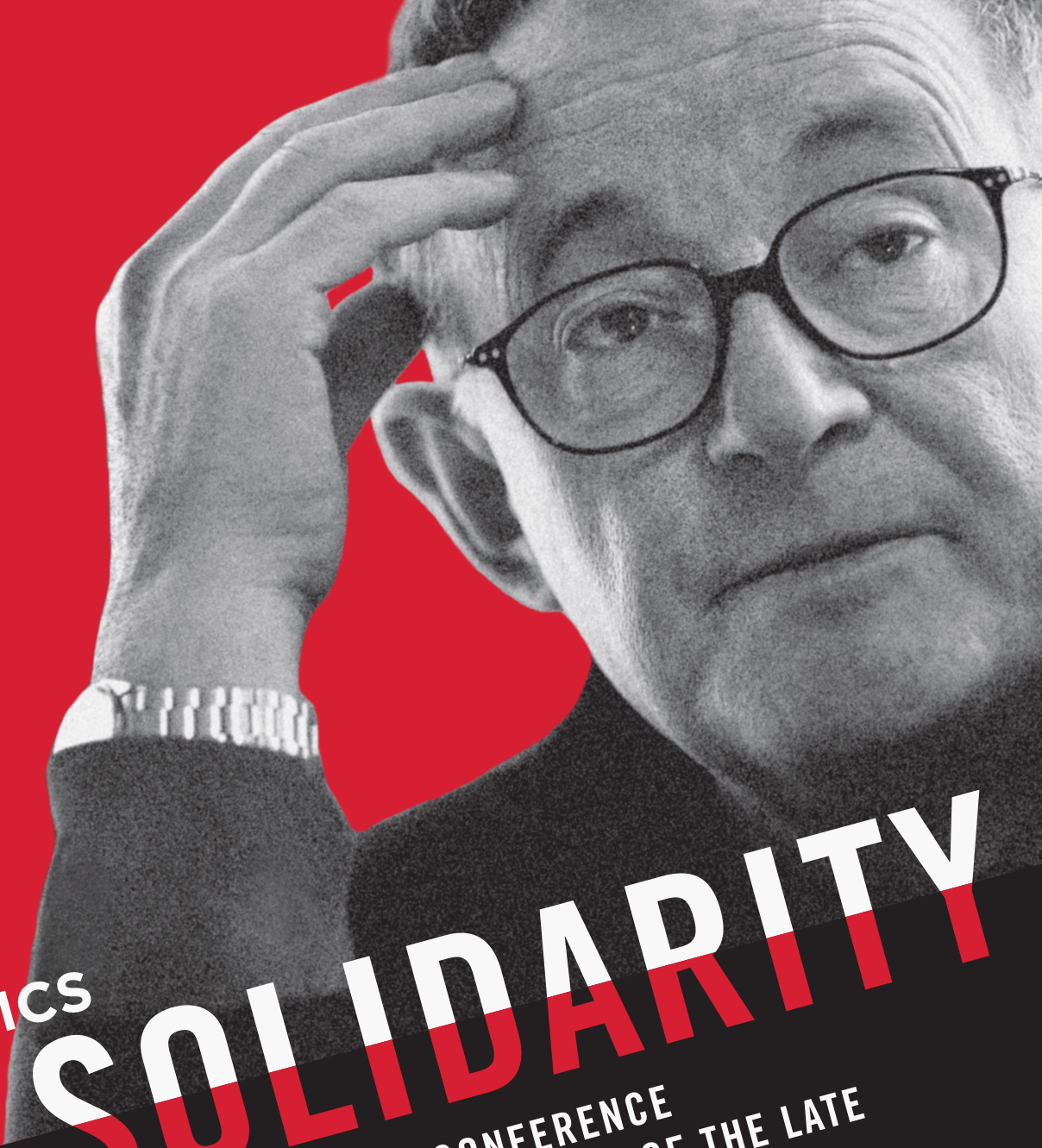


HUMANRIGHTS.UCONN.EDU

HUMANS
RIGHTS
+ THE
POLITICS
OF



SOLIDARITY

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
IN HONOR OF THE LATE
WIKTOR OSIATYŃSKI

APRIL 4 - APRIL 5, 2019

UConn
GLOBAL





The challenge for every advocate of democracy and human rights lies in restoring a sense of inclusion, dignity and self-respect to the millions of people who are considered ‘useless’ today.”¹

WIKTOR OSIATYŃSKI

The commitment to solidarity in human rights practice is under attack from both external and internal threats. Externally, rising populism, nativism, and xenophobia pose significant challenges for human rights advocates seeking to make the case for universal rights. Internally, practitioners in this field face significant disillusionment and critique. And, the means and methods of advancing human rights—mobilizing shame, fact finding missions, seeking prosecution—increasingly appear to be ineffectual. Governments are shameless, the international criminal law project is feared to be failing, and even “truth” is under siege.

Drawing inspiration from the work of the late Polish scholar and human rights advocate, Wiktor Osiatyński, this conference seeks to reclaim solidarity as an affirmative agenda for responding to these external and internal threats. Osiatyński played an instrumental role in fostering civil and political rights movements and the democratic transition of many states in Central and Eastern Europe. His work in the Helsinki Foundation for

Human Rights and as a board member of the Open Society Foundations had a profound impact on programs ranging from the rule of law and constitutional development to gender-based violence and health and substance use.

The conference considers the meaning of solidarity and its role in responding to the challenges facing the human rights movement in the 21st century. This conference examines the history and origins of human rights and the ability of the movement to meet future challenges. Osiatyński worked closely with faculty and students at the University of Connecticut to help build the Human Rights Institute into one of the leading interdisciplinary programs on human rights. Towards the end of his life, Osiatyński reflected with the Institute on the meaning of Trump’s election, Brexit, inequality, and the rise of illiberal politics. Osiatyński called for human rights advocates and scholars to challenge the ascent of nationalism and fear, urging the use of new methods and means of human rights work to protect the rights of all.

1. Wiktor Osiatyński, *Human Rights and Their Limits* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2009), xi.

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

9:00AM - 9:45AM **Welcome and Opening Recognition of Wiktor Osiatyński's Work and Legacy**
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Remarks by Natalia Osiatynska

10:00AM - 11:15AM **Opening Keynote Panel: *Solidarity and Human Rights***
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Human rights is under siege. Externally, rising populism, nativism, and xenophobia pose significant challenges for those making the case for universal rights. Political leaders are transforming human rights into a zero-sum game, with guarantees of rights for "others"—whether refugees, prisoners, or minorities—increasingly perceived as threats to one's own rights. Internally, the human rights movement is facing significant disillusionment and critique. Charges of its failures—its elitism, its neglect of economic inequality, its essentially political nature—seem louder than ever. This panel will consider these threats and ask what role solidarity might play in responding.

Panelists

Adam Bodnar, *Human Rights Ombudsman for Poland*
Harsh Mander, *Centre for Equity Studies*
César Rodríguez-Garavito, *Center for Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia)*
Kathryn Sikkink, *Harvard University*

Moderator: Kathryn Libal, *University of Connecticut*

11:30AM - 12:45PM **Panel I: *The Foundations of Human Rights: Law and Constitutions***
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Human rights is a unique kind of social justice language, one founded on legal norms that enable individuals to make claims based not only on the morality of their demands but also their legal command. At the same time, these legal claims are often unenforceable. This panel will consider the role of law and constitutions in promoting and protecting rights. Does law matter? Is the legal foundation of human rights a strength or weakness? What is the role of courts and constitutions in pushing back against rising illiberalism and authoritarianism in nations around the world? Is human rights better understood as a political discourse rather than a legal one? Can human rights law promote solidarity, even across borders? Do we need to go beyond rights-based legal claims to pursue social justice goals?

Panelists

Phillip Ayoub, *Occidental College*
David Landau, *Florida State University*
Wayne Sandholtz, *University of Southern California*
Małgorzata Szuleka, *Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights*

Moderator: Molly Land, *University of Connecticut*

1:00 PM - 1:45PM **Lunch**
Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

2:00 PM - 2:30PM **Keynote Address: *"Can We Turn the Tide to Advance Human Rights?"***
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Aryeh Neier, President Emeritus, *Open Society Foundations*

2:30 PM - 3:45PM **Panel II: *Transitional Justice and Accountability After Mass Crimes***
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Transitional justice institutions emerged in Latin America in the 1980s as a response to widespread impunity and the perceived inadequacies of the criminal justice system. Some human rights defenders, however, continued to pursue criminal liability for perpetrators through domestic trials and new international criminal tribunals that were established in the 1990s and thereafter. For a time, the divergence in opinion on the central priorities of transitional justice institutions widened, but the debate between "reconcilers" and "retributivists" has moderated somewhat, and today there is more recognition of how institutions with different agendas might complement and coordinate with one another. At the same time, however, the universalist vision of criminal justice has faltered, as the legitimacy of the international criminal court has been challenged by inadequate resources and state defection. This panel will review the state of the field and advance a vision of how a holistic field of transitional justice might be achieved that integrates the various approaches to the central objectives of transitional justice—truth-finding, mediation, reparations and accountability and seeks to understand the respective roles of international and national institutions

Panelists

Rachel Lopez, *Drexel University*
Jamie Rowen, *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*
Matiangai Sirleaf, *University of Pittsburgh*
Kimberly Theidon, *Tufts University*

Moderator: Richard A. Wilson, *University of Connecticut*

4:00PM - 4:30PM ***21st Century Human Rights Work: A View from Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights***
Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Małgorzata Szuleka, *Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights*
Maciej Nowicki, *Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights*

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

9:00AM - 10:45AM

Panel III: Economic and Social Rights: Grappling with Inequality

Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

Inequality has emerged as a flashpoint in debates on the relevance of human rights in a context of heightened populism, nativism, and authoritarianism in the 21st Century. Philip Alston recently called for the human rights community to address “the extent to which extreme inequality undermines human rights.” This panel explores the relationship between rising levels of inequality and anti-globalization currents, and, by extension, nativist backlash. How do human rights methods and tools address increased levels of inequality a national and global levels? What are human rights approaches to government spending and taxation? Is it possible to revitalize movements to advance economic and social rights in the face of austerity? How should human rights grapple with economic crises?

Panelists

Varun Gauri, *World Bank*

Tara Melish, *State University of New York, Buffalo*

István Rév, *Central European University*

Ignacio Saiz, *Center for Economic and Social Rights*

Katherine Young, *Boston College*

Moderator: Shareen Hertel, *University of Connecticut*

11:00AM - 12:30PM

Panel IV: New Modes of Mobilization for Human Rights

Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

The traditional means and methods of human rights—mobilizing shame, finding facts, seeking prosecution—appear increasingly ineffectual in responding to modern human rights problems. Governments are shameless and “truth” seems irrelevant or non-existent. How is human rights advocacy evolving and responding to new challenges? Should human rights change its tactics? Are those mobilizing for human rights at national and transnational levels equipped to meet challenges? Should human rights actors change their tactics? Are those mobilizing for human rights at national and transnational levels equipped to meet these challenges?

Panelists

Gerardo Reyes Chávez, *Coalition of Immokalee Workers*

Kasia Malinowska, *Open Society Foundations*

Rashida Manjoo, *University of Cape Town*

Margaret Satterthwaite, *New York University*

Jessica Wyndham, *American Association for the Advancement of Sciences*

Moderator: Glenn Mitoma, *University of Connecticut*

1:00PM - 3:00PM

Lunchtime Breakout Sessions: Methodological Innovations on Human Rights

Rome Commons Ballroom, South Campus

This is an interactive session allowing conference participants to choose a “break out” session on methodological innovations in human rights mobilization. Human rights practitioners will give brief presentations followed by a guided discussion with attendees.

LUNCHTIME BREAKOUT SESSIONS TOPICS/PRESENTERS

Mobilizing the World to End Violence Against Women: The Campaign for an International Treaty

This session offers a window into the growing movement for a stand-alone, legally-binding international treaty addressing violence against women and girls. Presenters from the global NGO “Everywoman Treaty” will discuss the movement’s origins, their group’s strategy and tactics, and the political and mobilization-related challenges ahead.

Charlie Clements, *Everywoman Treaty*

Lola Ibrahim, *Everywoman Treaty*

Moderator: David Richards, *University of Connecticut*

The Human Rights Measurement Initiative

This session introduces the Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI), a global collaborative project that is focused on providing human rights data useful to practitioners, researchers, journalists, and everyday people worldwide. HRMI uses a co-design process tapping the insights and needs of human rights advocates, practitioners, and researchers across disciplines and professions to produce human rights data rigorously grounded in international law and present it in a way that is readily usable and understandable for academics, policy makers, journalists, advocates on the front line, and ordinary people alike.

Susan Randolph, *University of Connecticut*

Enhancing Human Rights Through Mediation and Peaceful Dispute Resolution

This session addresses the interrelationship of human rights, rule of law, and peaceful dispute resolution. The presenter, founder of an NGO dedicated to promoting mediation and alternative dispute

resolution worldwide, will discuss the strategies (and some of his “eye opening” experiences) to provide access by underserved populations to timely, fair, and effective justice in heavily backlogged court systems.

Vic Schachter, *Foundation for Sustainable Rule of Law Initiatives*

Protecting Scholars at Risk and Academic Freedom

This session introduces the protection work of Scholars at Risk (SAR), which is an independent not-for-profit hosted at New York University and a global network of universities supporting scholars targeted for their work. A total of 294 attacks on higher education communities in 47 countries were reported by SAR from September 1, 2017, to August 31, 2018. As attacks on the higher education community, scholars, and academic freedom grow in number, we will discuss ways in which universities and individuals can mobilize and get involved with SAR’s work to promote academic freedom and protect scholars facing risk.

Shreya Balhara, *Scholars at Risk*

Genocide Prevention in the 21st Century

Twenty-five years after the Rwandan genocide mass atrocities continue to occur around the world. Can we ever successfully prevent atrocities? In this breakout, we will discuss contemporary efforts aimed at making atrocities prevention a reality as well as how you can get involved in advocating for legislation that would improve the US government’s ability to prevent atrocities.

Mike Brand, *Human rights/atrocities prevention advocate*

4:00PM - 5:15PM

Performance and Closing Address

Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

Performance by Mai Khoi Chem Gio: Experimental Vietnamese Dissent Trio and address by Mai Khoi.

Closing remarks and reception will follow the performance.



WIKTOR OSIATYŃSKI

Wiktor Osiatyński (1945-2017) was an internationally recognized lawyer, professor, and human rights advocate. He earned a degree in law from Warsaw University and a doctoral degree in sociology from the Polish Academy of Sciences. Born in Białystok, Poland, Osiatyński spent his boyhood in Warsaw, where in the 1950s dissidents were jailed for “the slightest — or purported — unwillingness to cooperate with the oppressive postwar system.” He recalls, “Most unbearable for intellectuals was the lack of freedom of speech. The state’s monopoly over the media, along with the strictest kind of censorship, made it difficult for ordinary citizens to learn the truth, both about ‘the rest of the world’ and about Poland’s own history.”¹ Osiatyński’s participation in the demonstrations of March 1968 marked an early point in his activism and interest in human rights, which grew in the wake of the 1975 Helsinki Agreement and the 1976 UN human rights covenants.

With the rise of the Solidarity Movement, human rights became an important part of dissident platforms in Eastern Europe. Osiatyński was engaged both as an activist and as a theoretician in this movement. In the preface to *Human Rights and Their Limits*, he writes, “I was interested primarily in defining the social and political conditions in which the idea of rights and freedoms could flourish. In 1989, as communism in Poland disintegrated, these ideas became practical.”² Osiatyński advised on several constitutional committees and co-authored the draft of Poland’s Bill of Rights that President Lech Wałęsa presented to the Polish Parliament. He also wrote a number of provisions that became part of Poland’s new Constitution (1997).

In the second half of his life, Osiatyński split his time between a more activist life in Poland and a more scholarly one in the United States. In Warsaw, he founded the Commission of

Education on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction at the Stefan Batory Foundation, which he chaired between 1988 and 1995. He worked closely with his wife, Ewa Woydyłło-Osiatyńska, renowned author, activist, and creator of innovative programs to address alcoholism and substance use in Poland and other East European countries. For three decades, he dedicated significant time to consulting, advocacy, and building awareness of the need for such programs globally. Between 1991 and 1997, Osiatyński co-directed the Center for the Study of Constitutionalism in Eastern Europe at the University of Chicago Law School, and in 1995 he was appointed professor in the Department of Legal Studies at the Central European University in Budapest. He was a long-standing board member of Open Society Foundations (OSF), the OSF Global Board, and the Open Society Justice Initiative.

Osiatyński authored more than 20 books in his lifetime, on subjects ranging from constitutionalism and comparative history of social and political thought to addiction, sports, and society. In *Human Rights and Their Limits*, Osiatyński outlined a key theme that he would revisit in later years, closing the book with a letter to students underscoring that rights and freedoms must be regarded as “the floor upon which you can act, but from which you may also need to spring up – towards a spirituality of your choice, values you cherish, and commitments to others.”³

In the late 1990s, Osiatyński formed close relationships with colleagues at the University of Connecticut, where he played a pivotal role in fostering the development of human rights programs and the founding of the Human Rights Institute (HRI). In October 2000, Osiatyński delivered the first lecture as the Marsha Lilien

Gladstein Visiting Professor of Human Rights at the University of Connecticut. On that day, he highlighted themes relevant nearly twenty years later, including the importance of developing programs “that not only talk about human rights in history, sociology, and political science, but really work on attitudes and how we [relate] to each other.” He returned annually to lecture and co-teach courses with UConn faculty, and he served on the HRI Board of Overseers.

“I believe [that] in the 21st century our children will be learning how to distinguish between the necessary degree of freedom and the necessary degree of dignity.”⁴

Wiktor Osiatyński

On December 10, 2016, Osiatyński was awarded the prestigious Paweł Włodkowic Award by the Ombudsman for Human Rights in Poland. In his acceptance speech, Osiatyński emphasized that “Human rights are once again indispensable to creating alliances and movements that transcend the law to engage people in the fight for a better world.”⁵ He continued his human rights work even after being diagnosed with advanced cancer, giving lectures and writing almost up to his death on April 29, 2017. George Soros, Osiatyński’s close friend and colleague, stated in remarks at Osiatyński’s funeral, “I believe that Wiktor was a hero in the fight for Europe as an open society, and at a time when the open society is fighting for its survival in Europe, he should be recognized and remembered as such.”⁶

1. Wiktor Osiatyński, *Human Rights and Their Limits* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2009), xi.

2. *Ibid.*, xii.

3. *Ibid.*, 214.

4. <http://advance.uconn.edu/2000/001023/00102302.htm>

5. <https://oko.press/osiatynski-prawa-czlowieka-sa-niezbedne-do-tworzenia-koalicji-czy-ruchow-ktore-beda-wyciagaly-ludzi-aby-mogli-organizowac-lepszy-swiat/>

6. <https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/voices/remembrance-wiktor-osiatynski>

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PHILLIP M. AYOUB is Associate Professor of Diplomacy and World Affairs at Occidental College. His research bridges insights from international relations and comparative politics, engaging with literature on transnational politics, gender and politics, norm diffusion, and the study of social movements. He is the author of *When States Come Out: Europe's Sexual Minorities and the Politics of Visibility* (Cambridge, 2016) and co-editor, with David Paternotte, of *LGBT Activism and the Making of Europe* (Palgrave, 2014). Ayoub's articles have appeared in *Comparative Political Studies*, the *European Journal of International Relations*, *Mobilization*, the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Politics & Gender*, the *European Political Science Review*, *Social Movement Studies*, *Social Politics*, the *Journal of Human Rights*, *Critique Internationale*, and *Perspectives on Europe*. In 2014, he was the recipient of the American Political Science Association's Human Rights and Politics & Sexuality section awards for Best Dissertation. The following year, he received the European Union Studies Association's biennial 2013-2014 award for Best Dissertation. Ayoub also received the 2014 Janice N. and Milton J. Esman Graduate Prize for distinguished scholarship (from Cornell University), the 2017 Best Article of the Year Award from the Council of European Studies' Gender and Sexuality Research Network, and the 2018 Provost Award for Outstanding Early-Career Scholarly Achievement (Drexel University).

SHREYA BALHARA works with the protection services team at Scholars at Risk (SAR). SAR is an international network of institutions and individuals whose mission it is to protect scholars and promote academic freedom. Balhara works with at-risk scholars and arranges temporary academic positions of refuge for them at member universities and colleges, including the University of Connecticut. She also provides scholars with advisory and career support services. In addition to working with at-risk scholars, Balhara reviews applications from individuals seeking SAR's assistance. Prior to joining SAR, she worked at PEN America, conducting advocacy efforts to address free expression violations and managing the emergency fund for at-risk writers. Balhara received her MA in Human Rights with a focus on housing

and development from Columbia University and is currently pursuing an MBA at the Leonard N. Stern School of Business at New York University.

ADAM BODNAR is Poland's seventh Ombudsman (Commissioner for Human Rights), elected for a five-year term in 2015. He holds a Ph.D. and a master's degree in law from University of Warsaw and holds an LL.M. in comparative constitutional law from Central European University. He started his professional track as an associate with Weil, Gotshal & Mangers. A few years later, he left the corporate career, joining the Helsinki Foundation of Human Rights, first as a co-founder and coordinator of the Strategic Litigation Programme and then as a head of legal department and vice-president of the Management Board. He was also a senior expert of the Agency of Fundamental Rights of European Union. In 2013-2014, Bodnar was a member of the board of directors of the United Nations Fund for Victims of Torture. In 2011, he was awarded with the Tolerance Prize by the Polish LGBT organizations. With support of 67 different NGOs, in 2015 the Parliament appointed him to the post of Ombudsman. As the Ombudsman, he has been carrying out his long-term program of regional meetings with citizens all across Poland. In 2018 Bodnar and the Ombudsman Office were recognized with the Thorolf Rafto Memorial Award for actions to protect judicial independence and vulnerable minorities in Poland. In 2018 he has published a book on institutional aspects concerning enforcement of the European Court of Human Rights' judgments. Bodnar works also as an assistant professor at the Warsaw University, Faculty of Law and Administration (currently on leave due to the service as the Ombudsman).

MIKE BRAND is a human rights, atrocities prevention, and peacebuilding professional with over a decade of experience in policy, advocacy, organizing, and informal education. Throughout his career, Brand has worked for various NGOs in the United States, Rwanda and South Sudan, and has done fieldwork in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda. He supports civil society organizations and diaspora networks in strategic planning, program development, and in achieving their advocacy and organizing objectives. He has been published in peer-reviewed journals, including *The Hill* and IRIN News, and has

been quoted in various international news outlets as an expert in his field. Brand holds a master's in international peace and conflict resolution from American University, with a concentration in human rights and conflict prevention, and BAs in history and political science with a minor in human rights from the University of Connecticut. While studying at UConn, Brand founded the human rights awareness and advocacy organization, Idealists United, and hosted the first Human Rights Awareness Festival in 2007. He also worked closely with the Human Rights Institute and was a UNESCO Student Ambassador for Human Rights.

CHARLIE CLEMENTS, MD, MPH, is a public health physician and a human rights activist. In the early 1980s fearing another Vietnam was unfolding in El Salvador, he volunteered his services as a physician working with civilians in a rural area that would become a free-fire zone — bombed, rocketed, or strafed daily by U.S. supplied aircraft. Upon returning from El Salvador, Clements testified in Congress, spoke widely across the country to mobilize opposition to U.S. support for the brutal regime, and began leading Congressional fact-finding missions to the region. During that time, he was a founding board member of Physicians for Human Rights, which he would later represent as President at the treaty-signing in Ottawa and a week later at the Nobel Peace prize ceremony in Oslo for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. From 2010 to 2015 he served as the Executive Director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, where he also taught human rights. While Executive Director of the Carr Center, Clements initiated a research project on gaps in national laws that leave women and girls vulnerable to violence led by Fellows Lisa Shannon and Vidya Sri. That research led directly to the incorporation of Every Woman Every Where as a 501-c-3 with the mission of addressing violence against women and girls through an international convention. He currently serves as Professor and Clinical Coordinator for the Joint MSPAS (physician assistant) and MPH Program at Touro University California.

VARUN GAURI is Senior Economist in the Development Economics Vice Presidency of the World Bank, and Co-Head of the Mind, Behavior,

and Development Unit (eMBed), which integrates behavioral science into the design of anti-poverty policies worldwide. He was Co-Director of the *World Development Report 2015: Mind, Society, and Behavior*. He serves on the editorial boards of the journals *Behavioral Public Policy* and *Health and Human Rights*. Gauri has been a member of the World Economic Forum Council on Behavior, and currently serves on the Board of the Behavioral Economics Action Research Centre at the University of Toronto and the Advisory Board of Academics Stand Against Poverty. His research has appeared in journals spanning the fields of economics, philosophy, political science, and law, and has been covered in *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, *The Washington Post*, *Forbes*, *The Hindu*, *The Guardian*, and *Frontline*, among many media outlets. Gauri has published three books: *Courting Social Justice*, *School Choice in Chile*, and *Bringing Law to Life*. His current research is investigating the influence of social norms on women's economic decision making, compliance with judicial human rights orders, and the influence of cooperation and identity on ideas of distributive justice. Gauri has BA from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. from Princeton University, and has held positions as Visiting Lecturer in Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, Withrow Chair at Deep Springs College, and Visiting Professor in the Department of Economics at ILADES in Santiago, Chile.

SHAREEN HERTEL is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Connecticut, jointly appointed with the university's Human Rights Institute. Drawing on 20 years of policy work with United Nations agencies, foundations, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the United States, Latin America, and South Asia, her scholarship has helped define the modern field of economic rights. Hertel is editor of *The Journal of Human Rights*; co-editor of the Routledge *International Studies Intensive* book series; and serves on the editorial boards of *Human Rights Review* and *Human Rights and Human Welfare*. Her published work includes *Tethered Fates: Companies, Communities and Rights at Stake* (Oxford University Press 2019), *Activists Beyond Borders: Conflict & Change Among Transnational Activists* (Cornell University Press, 2006), the edited volumes *Economic Rights: Conceptual,*

Measurement & Policy Issues (Cambridge University Press 2007 with Lanse Minkler), *Human Rights in the United States: Beyond Exceptionalism* (Cambridge University Press, 2011 with Kathryn Libal), and multiple articles and book chapters. Hertel holds a doctorate in Political Science (2003), and master's degrees in Political Science (1999) and International Affairs (1992) all from Columbia University, as well as a bachelor's degree in International Relations (1988) from The College of Wooster.

LOLA IBRAHIM is the Director of Engagement at Every Woman Treaty, where she works to generate support, awareness, and partnership for a global treaty to end violence against women and girls. She has worked at the community level with inner city girls and immigrant women, and in her native Sudan with refugees, displaced persons, and other vulnerable populations to achieve gender equity, social protection, and human rights. She first sharpened her gender lens while pursuing graduate studies at Harvard University, which focused on women, urbanization, and dictatorship in the East African context. Ibrahim also worked in philanthropy, where she directed a global network of donors and foundations to fund systemic change initiatives and grassroots movements around the world. She is the founder of ArtUnited, a social justice based organization that uses the visual arts to catalyze change and reflect deep narratives about the world we live in. Ibrahim also serves on the board of Ben & Jerry's. She lives and works in New York City.

MAI KHOI is a Vietnamese pop star, singer, and musician. She has been playing music since she was 12, when she was the pianist in a wedding band with her father, a music teacher, in the coastal city of Nha Trang. Drawing on a wide variety of influences, from traditional Vietnamese folk to blues, soul, and rock, Mai Khoi seamlessly blends disparate styles and rhythms. Her music is also distinct in terms of its emotional range, her wide vocal register as well as the distinct tonal qualities of her voice. In 2010, Mai Khoi won the Vietnam Television Song and Album of the Year Award, the highest award for song writing in the country. After winning the award, she shaved half of her hair off and inscribed the letters 'VN' for 'Vietnam,' the name of the song that won the competition, on one side of her head.

For this she was harshly criticised by the country's conservative media establishment. No stranger to controversy, Mai Khoi is somewhat of an anomaly for a celebrity in a Communist country like Vietnam for having spoken out about sexuality, LGBT rights, and violence against women. Mai Khoi broke international headlines in 2016 after she became the first Vietnamese celebrity in history to nominate herself for the National Assembly on a pro-democracy platform. This campaign sparked a nationwide debate about political participation and ultimately led to a meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama. Since running for parliament she has been harassed by the police (with one of her concerts raided) and is effectively banned from singing in Vietnam. She has toured the United States, Europe, and Australia. Despite being from a country that has made virtually no musical inroads internationally outside of its own culture, Mai Khoi is charting a highly independent path. To date she has released seven albums.

MAI KHOI CHEM GIO: VIETNAMESE DISSENT TRIO represents an awakening of self-awareness and social critique in Vietnam, a society in which freedom of expression is far from guaranteed. "We give voice to the unspeakable," says Mai Khoi, "unlike other musicians here, we don't ask permission to perform or submit our lyrics to the censors." Sonically, the avant-garde group is equally bold, weaving eastern woodwinds around unabashed brass over dissonant guitar in experimental and, at times, high improvised arrangements. Melodic and lyrical themes are diverse, reflecting the emotional variation — from innocent and ironic to ominous and introspective — of Mai Khoi's compositions. She is joined by Nguyen Duc Minh on scale drums, flutes, and mouth harps, many of which he has invented and carved out of bamboo himself, and Quyen Thien Dac on the baritone, bass clarinet, and alto, soprano, and tenor saxophones. In a soundscape where so many groups look and sound the same, Mai Khoi Chem Gio offer something new.

MOLLY K. LAND is Professor of Law and Human Rights at the University of Connecticut School of Law and Associate Director of the University of Connecticut's Human Rights Institute. Her research focuses on the intersection of human rights,

science, and technology. Her most recent book, *New Technologies for Human Rights Law and Practice* (CUP 2018, ed. with Jay Aronson), provides a roadmap for understanding the relationship between technology and human rights law and practice. Land's current research is focused on developing an interdisciplinary framework based on human rights law for responding to harmful online content. Her articles have been published in the *Yale*, *Harvard*, and *Michigan* journals of international law. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Global Network Initiative and is a member of the Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. A former Fulbright Scholar at the University of Bonn, Land earned her JD at Yale Law School.

DAVID E. LANDAU is Mason Ladd Professor and Associate Dean for International Programs at Florida State University's College of Law. He writes primarily about the field of comparative constitutional law. His recent work has focused on democratic transitions and the potential risks of constitutional amendment and constitution-making for democracy, as well as on judicial activism on socioeconomic rights issues across the developing world. Landau is the co-author, with Manuel Jose Cepeda Espinosa, of *Colombian Constitutional Law* (Oxford University Press 2017), and co-editor, with David Bilchitz, of *The Evolution of the Separation of Powers: Between the Global South and the Global North* (Edward Elgar Press 2018). He has published in various journals including the *Harvard International Law Journal*, the *University of Chicago Law Review*, the *George Washington Law Review*, the *Virginia Journal of International Law*, and the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*. In 2011, Landau served as a consultant on constitutional issues for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Honduras. Since 2012, he has been a founding editor of IConnect, the blog of the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*. He has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the *International Journal of Constitutional Law* since 2013, and starting in July 2019 will serve on the Council of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S). Landau holds an AB, JD, and Ph.D. (in political science) from Harvard University.

KATHRYN LIBAL is Director of the Human Rights Institute and Associate Professor of Social Work and Human Rights at the University of Connecticut. Her scholarship has focused on human rights, humanitarianism and migration, as well as social welfare and human rights in the Middle East and United States. Libal is currently conducting research on the politics and practices of voluntarism and refugee resettlement in the United States. She has co-edited, with Shareen Hertel, *Human Rights in the United States: Beyond Exceptionalism* and co-authored, with Scott Harding, *Human Rights-Based Approaches to Community Practice in the United States*. Her latest book, co-edited with S. Megan Berthold, *Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the United States: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* will be published in summer 2019. She serves on the Steering Committee of the U.S. Chapter for Scholars at Risk and the Human Rights Committee of the Council on Social Work Education's Global Commission. Libal received her BA in comparative religion from the Lewis and Clark College and her MA and Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Washington.

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HARSH MANDER, human rights and peace worker, writer, columnist, researcher and teacher, works with survivors of mass violence, hunger, homeless persons and street children. He convenes and edits the annual *India Exclusion Report*. He recently organized a journey of solidarity and conscience to families affected by hate violence across India called *Karwan e Mohabbat* or a Caravan of Love, which continues its journeys. His books include *Partitions of the Heart: Unmaking the Idea of India*; *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*; *Reconciliation: Karwan e Mohabbat's Journey of Solidarity Through a Wounded India* (co-authored); *Fatal Accidents of Birth: Stories of Suffering, Oppression and Resistance*, *Fractured*

Freedom: Chronicles from India's Margins, Ash in the Belly: India's Unfinished Battle against Hunger, Unheard Voices: Stories of Forgotten Lives, Fear and Forgiveness: The Aftermath of Massacre, and Untouchability in Rural India (co-authored). He is the founder of the campaigns Aman Biradari, for secularism, peace and justice; and Director, Centre for Equity Studies. He was Special Commissioner to the Supreme Court of India in the Right to Food case for 12 years from 2005-17, and Special Monitor of the National Human Rights Commission for Minority Rights in 2017-18. He worked formerly in the Indian Administrative Service in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for almost two decades, and for four years as Country Director of Action Aid India. He is associated with social causes and movements, such for communal harmony and justice, homeless people and bonded labour tribal, dalit, child and disability rights.

RASHIDA MANJOO is a Professor and Convenor of the Human Rights Program in the Department of Public Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Manjoo has over four decades of experience in social justice and human rights work both in South Africa and abroad. Until July 2015, she held the position of United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences, a post she was appointed to in 2009 by the UN Human Rights Council. Her UN work over six years included monitoring and reporting on States' compliance in responding to and preventing violence against women, its causes and consequences, both generally and in different country contexts. She particularly highlighted the interaction of interpersonal, communal, institutional, and structural factors that negatively impact the interdependence and indivisibility of the human rights of women; and the challenges of the normative gap in international law on the issue of violence against women. Manjoo is the former Parliamentary Commissioner of the Commission on Gender Equality, an institution created by the Constitution of South Africa, with a mandate to oversee the promotion and protection of gender equality and women's rights. She has also been involved in social context training for judges and lawyers, where she has designed both content and

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GLENN MITOMA is an Assistant Professor of Human Rights and Education, jointly appointed with the Human Rights Institute and the Neag School of Education Department of Curriculum and Instruction. He is also Director of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. Mitoma's scholarship has focused on the history of human rights and human rights education. His first book, *Human Rights and the Negotiation of American Power*, was published

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ARYEH NEIER was born in Nazi Germany in 1937 and was an infant refugee to England with his immediate family in 1939. He emigrated to the United States two years after the end of World War II. In the United States, he attended Cornell University and graduated in 1958. He is the recipient of honorary degrees from seven American colleges and universities. He has taught in the United States at the law schools of New York University and Georgetown University. Internationally, he has taught at the University of Siena (Italy), the Central European University (Hungary) and, most recently, at the Paris School of International Affairs of Sciences Po where he was Distinguished Visiting Professor from 2012-2017. He has lectured at many universities in the United States, including Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, Berkeley and Chicago; and internationally, including Beijing University (China), the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa), the American University of Cairo (Egypt), Oxford University (UK), the University of Florence (Italy), and Charles University (Czech Republic). Neier worked for the American Civil Liberties Union from 1963 to 1978, serving as national Executive Director from 1970 to 1978. He was a founder of Human Rights Watch in 1978 and served as its first Executive Director from 1981 to 1993. He was the first President of the Open Society Foundations from 1993 to 2012. Since 2012, he has been President Emeritus of the Open Society Foundations. Neier is the author of seven books. The most recent is *The International Human Rights Movement: A History* (Princeton, 2012). He is also the author of about 400 articles in such publications as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Foreign Policy*, and *The Nation*. Many of his articles have been reprinted in newspapers and magazines published worldwide. He has received awards from many organizations, including the American Bar Association, the International Bar Association, the Stockholm Bar Association, the Committee to Protect Journalists, and the International Women's Health Coalition.

MACIEJ NOWICKI is Vice-President of the Board of the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Poland, one of Europe's leading human rights NGOs. He oversees its communications, research and advocacy activities. Nowicki is co-founder and director of the International Film Festival WATCH DOCS: Human Rights in Film in Warsaw, one of the world's largest human rights film festivals. The annual festival reaches nearly 150,000 viewers annually through its annual festival in Warsaw, its traveling festival to nearly 40 Polish localities, and WATCH DOCS on-line. Nowicki is the creator of the concept for and coordinator of the FUTURE DOCS European platform for creative encounters of human rights defenders and documentary filmmakers. He is also co-founder of the Social Institute of Film foundation and its President of the Board and an expert on human rights and documentary film. Nowicki is a trainer, juror, and panelist at numerous international film festivals, including IFF Rotterdam, Venice FF, Berlinale, One World Prague, and Docudays UA in Kiev.

NATALIA OSIATYNSKA joins the deliberations not as an expert on the law, but as the daughter of Wiktor Osiatyński, whose life's work inspires the conference. Raised in Poland and the United States, Osiatynska grew up a bi-cultural witness to her father's achievements in academia and human rights advocacy. She holds a BA in drama from Colorado College and a master's degree in linguistics from Syracuse University. Instead of the academic career she imagined for herself when she was younger, Osiatynska pursued a multidisciplinary path in brand strategy, brand naming, and persuasive writing, starting out at the Madison Ave ad agency DDB New York in 2002 and relocating back to her native country two years later, mere months after Poland became part of the European Union. In the years that followed, Osiatynska occasionally had the privilege of lending her communications skills to the important social and political work being done by both her parents, especially work involving titling, editing, and designing their books and other publications. Increasingly, Osiatynska spends her time writing non-fiction and applying her craft to the causes and non-profits she champions. She lives in Warsaw, Poland, with her son, Anker, age eight.

GERARDO REYES CHÁVEZ is a senior staff member with the award-winning human rights organization, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. Reyes is a farmworker and has worked in the fields since age 11, first as a peasant farmer in Mexico and then in the fields of Florida picking oranges, tomatoes, blueberries, and watermelon. Reyes has worked with consumer allies to organize national actions in the Campaign for Fair Food. As part of the implementation of the Fair Food Program, he conducts workers' rights education with thousands of farmworkers on participating tomato farms. Reyes speaks regularly about the Fair Food Program at events across the country, including the Harvard Law School, Aspen Institute, Labor and Worklife Program Convening on Farm Labor Challenges, and the Interfaith Council on Corporate Responsibility's Multi-Stakeholder Roundtable on Ethical Recruitment. The Aspen Institute named Reyes a 2018 Ricardo Salinas Scholar. This past November he co-presented at the TEDMED Chaos + Clarity conference in Palm Springs, California.

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ISTVÁN RÉV is a Professor of History and Political Science at Central European University in Budapest and director of the Open Society Archives. He was a founding member of the Danube Circle and a past winner of the Right for Livelihood award (the alternative Nobel Prize) of the Swedish Parliament. Rév was also a fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and a research fellow at the Getty Center in Los Angeles and at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford. In 1995, he was the recipient of the New Europe Prize. His scholarly interests include historical amnesia, memory, historical anthropology, and documentary traces of the past. His many publications include *Retroactive Justice—Prehistory of Post-Communism*.

DAVID L. RICHARDS is an Associate Professor at the University of Connecticut, with appointments in both the Department of Political Science and the Human Rights Institute. His research on human rights includes more than two dozen studies of gender-violence law, the measurement of government respect for human rights, women's rights, and public support for torture. Richards has also authored reports for governments and international organizations. One current research project is an implementation-assessment framework for a standalone international treaty addressing violence against women. Another project examines how torture narratives affect societal discourse about the legitimacy of torture. His book (with Jill Haglund), *Violence Against Women and the Law*, examines laws addressing four types of violence against women in 196 countries, studying why these laws exist in some places and not others, and why they are stronger/weaker in places where they do exist. The book's data allow the testing of various hypotheses related to whether international law affects the enactment of domestic legal protections. Richards was the Co-Founder/Director of the Cingranelli-Richards (CIRI) Human Rights Data Project, funded by the National Science Foundation and World Bank, among others. CIRI provided information on the level of government respect for 16 human rights in 196 countries from 1981-to-2012. These data have been used by organizations such as the United Nations and World Bank, and in 170 countries by governments, media, activists, businesses, and others.

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JAMIE ROWEN is an Assistant Professor of Legal Studies and Political Science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her book, *Searching for Truth in the Transitional Justice Movement* (Cambridge University Press 2017), examines calls for a truth commission to redress the brutal war during the breakup of the former Yugoslavia, the decades-long armed conflict in Colombia, and U.S. detention policies in the War on Terror. In so doing, it argues that transitional justice is an idea around which a loosely structured movement emerged and professionalized, making truth commissions

a standard response to mass violence. Rowen received her doctorate from the Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program at the University of California-Berkeley, as well as a law degree from the UC-Berkeley School of Law. Prior to her current position, she was a post-doctoral researcher at the American Bar Foundation and was a limited term assistant professor at the University of Toronto. Her work has been published in the *International Journal of Transitional Justice*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Law and Policy*, and *Human Rights Quarterly*, among other outlets. Her new research focuses on the confluence of immigration law and international criminal law in the Department of Homeland Security, as well as the purpose and practice of Veterans Treatment Courts. For this latter research, Rowen has been granted an National Science Foundation CAREER Award.

IGNACIO SAIZ is Executive Director of the Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR), an international NGO that works to advance human rights in socio-economic and development policy. Prior to joining the Center in 2006 as Research Director, Saiz was Director of Policy at the International Secretariat of Amnesty International, where his responsibilities included overseeing the development of Amnesty's research, campaigning, and advocacy on economic, social, and cultural rights. As Deputy Director of Amnesty International's Americas Program, Saiz was responsible for the organization's research and advocacy strategies in Mexico, Central America and Venezuela. He has also worked as a freelance human rights consultant for several other organizations in areas relating to sexuality and human rights, the prevention of torture, and post-conflict accountability. Saiz is a member of the Civil Society Advisory Committee of the United Nations Development Program, and holds an LLM in international human rights law with distinction from the University of Essex.

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KATHRYN SIKKINK is the Ryan Family Professor of Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School of Government. She is an international relations scholar best known for her work on human rights, international norms, transnational advocacy networks and social movements, and transitional justice. Her book *Activists beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics* (co-authored with Margaret Keck) was awarded the Grawemeyer Award and the ISA Chadwick Alger Award. Her 2011 book, *The Justice Cascade: How Human Rights Prosecutions are Changing World Politics* (awarded the Robert F. Kennedy Center Book Award, and the WOLA/ Duke University Award), explores the emergence and impact of individual criminal accountability of state officials for past human rights violations. Sikkink's 2017 book, *Evidence for Hope: Making Human Rights Work in the 21st Century* documents the legitimacy and effectiveness of human rights law, institutions, and movements. Her forthcoming

book from Yale University Press, *The Hidden Face of Rights*, based on her Castle Lectures, argued for diverse actors to embrace responsibilities as a means of more fully implementing human rights. Sikkink has been a Fulbright Scholar in Argentina and a Guggenheim fellow. She is a member of the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Council on Foreign Relations. Sikkink holds an MA and Ph.D. from Columbia University.

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RICHARD ASHBY WILSON is the Gladstein Distinguished Chair of Human Rights and Professor of Law and Anthropology and founding director of the Human Rights Institute at UConn. Wilson is a scholar of human rights and transitional justice and has conducted empirical research in Guatemala, South Africa and The Hague. He is the author or editor of 11 books on international human rights, humanitarianism, truth and reconciliation commissions, and international criminal tribunals, and his publications have been translated into Chinese, Danish, Italian, Serbian, and Spanish. His latest book, *Incitement On Trial: Prosecuting International Speech Crimes* (Cambridge University Press, 2017), explains why international criminal tribunals struggle to convict individuals for inciting speech and proposes a new model of prevention. He has held fellowships from the Russell Sage Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. Wilson has consulted for various policy agencies, including UNICEF in Sierra Leone, and he served as Chair of the Connecticut State Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 2009 to 2013. Wilson is presently working on an empirical research project on incitement against human rights defenders on social media in Guatemala.

JESSICA WYNDHAM is the Director of the Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program. She also serves as coordinator of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition, a network of scientific, engineering, and health associations that recognize the role of science and technology in human rights. Her areas of expertise include the intersections of science, technology, human rights, and ethics, the social responsibilities of scientists and engineers, and the role of professional scientific, engineering, and health societies in the promotion and protection of human rights. Wyndham has managed projects throughout Asia, the Pacific, Africa, and the Americas, including as Legal Adviser for the Internal Displacement Project of the Brookings Institution, for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Ecuador, and as a consultant to the Asia Pacific Forum in Australia. Her work has been published in various journals including the *European Journal of Human Rights*, *Forced Migration Review*,

Human Rights Brief, *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*, *Mechanical Engineering, Science*, and *Science and Engineering Ethics* as well as online news sites, including SciDev.net. A human rights lawyer by training, Jessica holds a BA (Hons.)/LLB (Hons.) (JD equivalent) from the Australian National University and an LLM from the University of New South Wales (Sydney, Australia).

KATHARINE YOUNG is an Associate Professor of Law at Boston College Law School, where she teaches the law of contracts, comparative and international human rights law, and feminist legal theory. Her scholarship focuses on comparative public law and theory, and human rights and positive state obligations. Her monograph, *Constituting Economic and Social Rights* (2012), was published in Oxford's Constitutional Theory series and an edited collection (with Kim Rubenstein), *The Public Law of Gender: from the Local to the Global* (2016) appeared in the Cambridge series Connecting International Law with Public Law. Her recent article "Rights and Queues: Distributive Contests in the Modern State" (*Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*), was selected for the Harvard/Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum. She has just finished editing a pathbreaking analysis, with over two dozen scholars, *The Future of Economic and Social Rights* (2019), which appears in the Cambridge series on Globalization and Human Rights. A current work in progress, with Malcolm Langford, is editing a capacious cross-disciplinary study of economic and social rights, *The Oxford Handbook of Economic and Social Rights*. Prior to joining Boston College, Professor Young was an Associate Professor at the Australian National University College of Law, and, before doctoral studies at Harvard, worked at corporate law firms in Melbourne and later New York, a public interest law firm in Ghana, and the United Nations in Germany. She clerked for Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG of the High Court of Australia and completed degrees at the University of Melbourne and Harvard University.

Since 2003, the Human Rights Institute (HRI) has served as the intellectual hub of the University's human rights program. Founded by Gladstein Chair of Human Rights Richard A. Wilson and currently led by Associate Professor of Social Work and Human Rights, Kathryn Libal, HRI is organized around joint faculty appointments made in partnership with the departments of Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, Sociology, and the Schools of Education, Law, and Social Work.

The University of Connecticut Human Rights Institute runs one of the largest undergraduate programs in human rights and offers a Graduate Certificate in Human Rights. The Institute also sponsors four thematic research clusters centered on: economic and social rights; humanitarianism; health and human rights; and human rights practice. As a university wide program, the Institute advances human rights teaching across all University of Connecticut colleges and schools and pursues novel and critical approaches to human rights scholarship and pedagogy. Aiming to educate well-rounded scholars with an informed understanding of human rights, HRI promotes interdisciplinary scholarship and provides experiential learning for our students. The Institute encourages engaged discussion and academic research on the advantages and limitations of human rights discourse and practice.

The Human Rights Institute and conferences such as this one have been generously supported by gifts from Gary and Phyllis Gladstein and the Gladstein family. This conference also has been funded in part by a grant from the Open Society Foundations.

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