



## the Harris Institute e-Newsletter

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## Fulfilling the Dictates of Public Conscience: Geneva Conference on Crimes Against Humanity

Launched in 2008, Washington University School of Law's Crimes Against Humanity Initiative will expand its work to Geneva. The Harris Institute has partnered with the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights to convene an historic two-day meeting dedicated to this topic.

This experts' meeting will be held on May 16–17, 2014 during the United Nations International Law Commission's 66th session. Experts in the field of international criminal law will gather together with members of the Commission to discuss issues the ILC will face in its study and drafting of a multi-lateral treaty on crimes against humanity.

For more information on the Initiative's work, visit the [Crimes Against Humanity Initiative](#) website.



## His Excellency Judge Sir Christopher Greenwood Receives the 2013 World Peace Through Law Award

On October 30, 2013, the Harris Institute bestowed the 2013 World Peace Through Law Award upon H.E. Judge Sir Christopher Greenwood of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for his inspiring achievements as a leader in the field of international law and a champion for global peace and justice.

In his lecture "World Peace Through Law: The Role of the International Court of Justice," H.E. Judge Sir Christopher Greenwood discussed the ICJ's contributions to world peace as a civil court through resolving disputes between countries, indicating provisional measures of protection, and developing international law. He reflected on the ICJ's progress over the last few decades, noting that the ICJ is "a truly global court" that is "not confined to the states of one region."

The World Peace Through Law Award is presented to an individual who, by his or

her work and writings, has considerably advanced the rule of law and thereby contributed to world peace. Prior laureates include Judge Philippe Kirsch, Justice Richard Goldstone, Professor M. Cherif Bassiouni, and Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda.

For more information, including lecture video and event photos, visit the [World Peace Through Law Award](#) website.



## Washington University Law Hosts ILW-Midwest Conference

### SAVE THE DATE

**FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

### THE MODERN CHALLENGES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BY

**AMBASSADOR DAVID SCHEFFER,**  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW

**FEBRUARY 24, 2014**

THE 7TH ANNUAL **WILLIAM C. JONES LECTURE** BY PROFESSOR  
**MADELEINE ZELIN,** COLUMBIA  
UNIVERSITY

On September 19–21, 2013, the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute, in conjunction with the American Branch of the International Law Association (ABILA) and the International Association of Penal Law (American National Section), hosted the 2013 International Law Weekend-Midwest (ILW-Midwest) at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. This year's theme, "The Legal Challenges of Globalization: A View from the Heartland," explored the relationship between globalization, international law, and the Midwest.

The event attracted approximately 150 participants and panelists, including deans of Midwestern law schools, legal practitioners, prominent academics, and students. Keynote speakers and panelists presented a range of topics including international contract farming, the role of local efforts in addressing global climate change, current issues in international criminal law, and the future of human rights litigation in the wake of *Kiobel*.

The conference included three keynote speakers in addition to ten panels. Ruth Wedgwood, President of ABILA and Edward B. Burling Professor of International Law and Diplomacy at John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, delivered the first keynote on the topic "United Nations Peacekeeping and



Organizational Responsibility: The Case of Haitian Cholera."

The second keynote, delivered by David Wippman, Dean and William S. Pattee Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota Law School, focused on "How We Talk about International Law."

Mary Ellen O'Connell, Robert and Marion Short Professor of Law and Research Professor of International Dispute Resolution at the University of Notre Dame Law School, delivered the final keynote on "21<sup>st</sup> Century Arms Control Challenges: Drones, Cyber, Fully Autonomous, and WMD."

The conference also included the American Branch of the International Association of Penal Law's Book of the Year Award. This year's award was



presented to Professor Brianne McGonigle Leyh for her book *Procedural Justice? Victim Participation in International Criminal Proceedings*.

For a full list of panels, conference photos, and videos, please visit the [ILW-Midwest Conference](#) website.

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## The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Humanitarian Law Dialogs Focus on the Arab Spring

The Harris Institute co-sponsored the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Humanitarian Law Dialogs at the Chautauqua Institution in New York from August 25–27, 2013. Practitioners, scholars, and students met with international prosecutors over three days to discuss “The Long Hot Summer after the Arab Spring: Accountability and the Rule of Law.”

on topics spanning from “Israel and the Arab Spring” to “Gender, Women’s Rights, Children’s Issues.”



Highlights included an interview with and keynote address by H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra’ad Zeid Al-Hussein, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations; a panel on “Reflections by the Current Prosecutors;” a panel on “Legal/Policy Issues Stemming from the Arab Spring” moderated by Professor Leila Sadat; and interactive porch sessions



Prosecutors present at the meeting included those from the International Criminal Court, the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. For more information, please visit [International Humanitarian Law Dialogs](#) website.

## Award-winning Filmmaker Presents “Seeds of Hope”

On November 18, 2013, award-winning filmmaker Fiona Lloyd-Davies gave a lecture at Washington University School of Law on her Pulitzer Center–supported documentary film, “Seeds of Hope: Can the Women of Congo Dare to Dream of Peace and Justice?” The film was featured at the St. Louis International Film Festival/Human Rights Spotlight series.

experiences involving both victims and perpetrators of sexual violence.

For more information, including event photos and lecture video, [click here](#).

The documentary follows a Congolese woman and her efforts to assist other survivors of rape in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). “Seeds of Hope” provides interviews that evoke a sense of optimism against the backdrop of ongoing conflict.

Lloyd-Davies has been traveling as a journalist and filmmaker to the DRC for more than a decade. During the Q&A session following her lecture, she shared her



## Other Updates on the Crimes Against Humanity Initiative

International Law Weekend in New York included a panel on crimes against humanity which discussed the need for a



global crimes against humanity treaty, a recent study on national laws penalizing crimes against humanity, and the work of the International Law Commission on this topic. Panelists included Professors M. Cherif Bassiouni, Arturo J. Carrillo, Sean D. Murphy, and Leila N. Sadat.

In addition, the *Proposed Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity* has now been translated into six languages including Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish. The English, French, and Spanish versions are available in a recently released paperback edition of the award-winning book *Forging a Convention for Crimes Against Humanity*.

Finally, nine Washington University law students participated in the Crimes Against Humanity Research Project, working on legal issues involving crimes against humanity prosecutions at the International Criminal Court.

## Alumni Spotlight: Marisa MacLennan

Last September, I started working as a Legal Officer for the United Nations Office of Staff Legal Assistance, under the Office of Administration of Justice, here in Beirut. We provide summary advice and help staff members that bring cases before the UN Dispute Tribunal, which is the court of first instance in the UN's internal justice system. The UN enjoys immunity from domestic lawsuits; therefore, the UN's internal justice system is the only mechanism for redress for staff members who have cases arising out of contract issues, harassment and discrimination, benefits and entitlements, and misconduct. The UNDT has Registries in New York, Geneva, and Nairobi, so I mostly appear by telephone. My practice is truly global because I, while working in Beirut, may have a client in Iraq, but the case is heard before the Nairobi tribunal.



Criminal Court; I listened intently to Prof. Peter Mutharika's description of the UN General Assembly sessions. I pretended I was arguing in front of an international court during Jessup competitions. I even visited the ICC and ICTY as a Dagen-Legomsky Fellow to The Hague Academy of International Law.

Beirut is a beautiful city by the sea, but marred with the paradoxes of poverty next to Range Rovers and high-end retail chains. Nonetheless, I am finally adjusting to life in Lebanon. In many ways, starting this job was completing a dream I had as a student of international law at WashU. I hung on to every word of Prof. Leila Sadat when she talked about the International

After four years as a prosecutor in California, and a year as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in France for my LL.M., I find myself embarking on a new adventure—in many ways one that was borne out of my experience at WashU. My experience has prepared me for this novel challenge with the UN in Beirut.

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