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NEWSLETTER

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SOCIAL JUSTICE

RESEARCH INSTITUTE

CONTENTS

- 1) THE INSTITUTE
- 2) PROJECT WORK
- 3) PROJECT AND RESEARCH FUNDING APPLICATIONS
- 4) STAFF ACTIVITIES
- 5) PUBLICATIONS
- 6) OTHER NEWS

1) THE INSTITUTE**1.1) Our Launch**

The HRSJ Institute is pleased to announce that the Institute's launch will be taking place on Tuesday 12th October 2004 at 6pm in the Henry Thomas Room. Further information and invitation will be sent round shortly.

Please make a note in your diary!

Our Keynote speaker for the event will be Professor Yakin Ertürk, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on 'Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences'.

Professor Ertürk is Chair of the Gender and Women's Study Programme at the Department of Sociology, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey. She was previously Director of the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), New York, 1999 - 2001 and Director of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), Santo Domingo, 1997-1999

The launch will take place in partnership with the University's Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit (CWASU). Amnesty International's 'Stop Violence Against Women campaign' will also be contributing to the event.

We are also planning to hold a series of round-table discussions and other events for Prof Ertürk over the days surrounding the launch.

If you would like to be involved in any of these activities please contact Ian Waller. (i.waller@londonmet.ac.uk)

1.1) External Advisory Board

The HRSJ Institute is delighted to announce the creation of our External Advisory Board (EAB). The first meeting of the EAB will be held during the week of the Institute's launch and will discuss aspects of the Institute's activities and strategy.

We are honoured that Dr Hartley Dean from the London School of Economics and Political Science, Kevin Boyle from the Human Rights Centre at Essex University, Robert Dunbar of the University of Glasgow, Prof Theo van Boven of Universiteit Maastricht, Kate Allen, Director of Amnesty International UK, Prof Barney Pityana, Vice Chancellor and

Principle of the University of South Africa, Claude Moraes, Member of the European Parliament and Dr Jeannelle de Gruchy, a public health medical expert in South Africa.

2) PROJECT WORK**2.1) EHRAC**

EHRAC is now working, in conjunction with the Russian human rights NGO, Memorial, on 38 cases before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. In July there will be a hearing before the European Court in the case of Fadeyeva v Russia, an environmental case from the city of Cherepovets.

Our first edition of the 'EHRAC Bulletin' is now being published (in Russian and English). This Bulletin will be circulated electronically and in hard copy to 1,500 NGOs and lawyers in Russia. It aims to cover recent developments in human rights issues which are of relevance to Russia. Webpages are also being added to the Memorial website in Russia. Further human rights training for Russian lawyers is being organised for September in Moscow.

After sterling work by Tina Devadasan in particular, the European Commission has recently approved EHRAC's first annual report and released to us the second tranche of the 3 year EC funding.

EHRAC has also recently secured additional funding from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, via the Global Conflict Prevention Fund.

2.2) Faith Communities in Manicaland: Capacity Building Program

The HRSJ Institute has sponsored Dr Martha Chinouya, associate of the Institute, to travel to Zimbabwe to consult with the Anglican Church in Mutare.

The Church has expressed a wish of developing a training programme that aims to address the human crisis brought about by the HIV epidemic in the region, and enable them to develop their capacity to deal with the growing issues associated with HIV.

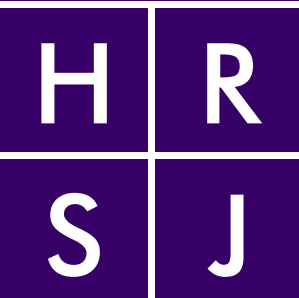
Dr Chinouya's report will help to develop a training and research programme for the region. Manicaland is in the Eastern region of Zimbabwe and borders on Mozambique. It is a region that is ravaged by

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the HIV epidemic, amidst an environment characterised by poverty, child-headed households and inflation (500%).

2.3) Telling Children about HIV in the Family: Tensions about Rights.

The HRSJ Institute and Dr Martha Chinouya have also been awarded an ESRC research grant to study the rights of Children living with HIV in the UK.

This project seeks to contribute to the development of practice and theory regarding children's rights, childhood, HIV and migrant family life. Using qualitative methods, this project will explore the ways in which African parents living in London and Milton Keynes and infected by HIV make sense of children's rights and tell their children that HIV affects them.

The research is due to start in September 2004.

3) PROJECT & RESEARCH FUNDING APPLICATIONS

3.1) ESRC Research Grant Scheme

The HRSJ Institute together with Dr Gaetano Pentassuglia, an Italian academic currently teaching at the University of Munich, have made an application to the ESRC under the Research Grant Scheme.

The research intends to significantly advance the understanding of the relationship between the principle of equality and the protection of minorities in international law, as well as exploring the basic rationale for the main international protective regimes that are applicable to minorities and their members.

Whereas the equality/minority rights discourse will focus on the character of the rights affecting such groups, the assessment of the respective regimes will look into their purpose, seeking to expose the different ways in which the minority question is being tackled in international law.

Dr Pentassuglia has published a Council of Europe book concerning minority rights, and many articles. His research programme over a period of three years would explore the area of Minorities and Human Rights and International Law.

4) STAFF ACTIVITIES

Prof Bill Bowring

26th to 30th January 2004
Serbia & Montenegro

As a representative of the HRSJ Institute, meeting with NGOs, public officials and government representatives to review 'Key Human Rights Issues in Serbia and Montenegro during 2003' & Recommendations for OMiSaM's 2004 Human Rights Agenda", commissioned by the Organization for

Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission in Serbia and Montenegro.

2nd - 5th February / Sofrino, Russia
TACIS Winter School

Lectures on Litigating a case in the European Court, etc

14th February / Moscow, Russia
Jessup International Moot Court Competition
Served as a judge for semi-final rounds.

23rd - 27th February / Moldova
The Centre for the Independence of Judges and Lawyers (CIJL) of the International Commission for Jurists (ICJ) Member and Rapporteur for a fact finding team sent to evaluate and establish an objective account of the independence of the judiciary, the functioning of the legal profession and the role of prosecutors.

15th March / Khabarovsk, Russia
Council of Europe

Acting as lecturer at a workshop for the Russian Militia (police) "on how to deal with ethnic minorities and immigration whilst respecting human rights", gave a presentation on European case-law on immigration as well as the experience of the Police Services in the United Kingdom.

17th March / London

British Institute of International & Comparative Law Seminar on Minorities and Migration, SOAS, London. Gave an invited presentation on minority rights protection in the Council of Europe.

3rd - 4th April / Paris

European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Rights (EALDH) Presented a report on the Report of the Inquiry into possible war crimes committed by the UK Government during the conflict in Iraq.

4th - 10th April (on going) / Tbilisi, Georgia
British Council

As a Senior Criminal Justice Law expert for a British Council managed TEMPUS Tacis project. Titled 'Reform of the Procuracy' the project aims to reform the procuracy in Georgia. Examining the organisation, function and efficiency of the procuracy. This is in partnership with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and Altair Assesores.

11th - 14th April (on going) / Moscow, Russia

European Union Policy Advice Programme
Acting as senior expert for the 'Development of a System of Administrative Justice across the Russian Federation', the project aims to support the implementation of the comprehensive Legal/Court reform and to contribute to the creation of an administration justice in the country.

6th - 7th May / Simferopol, Ukraine
Council of Europe

Participation as a lecturer in a seminar on rights of Crimean Tatars and other formerly deported people in Crimea with the Research and Support of Indigenous Peoples of Crimea Foundation.

Philip Leach

25th February 2004
Council of Europe, Strasbourg
Representing Amnesty International & EHRAC at an NGO seminar arranged by the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Human Rights, on the proposed reforms of the European Court of Human Rights (Protocol 14 to the European Convention).

26th to 30th January 2004
Serbia & Montenegro
As a representative of the HRSJ Institute, meeting with NGOs, public officials and government representatives to review 'Key Human Rights Issues in Serbia and Montenegro during 2003' & Recommendations for OMiSaM's 2004 Human Rights Agenda", commissioned by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission in Serbia and Montenegro.

4th March 2004
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Chaired workshop on Chechnya at a seminar for civil society groups working in respect of the Russian Federation.

31st March 2004
Doughty Street Chambers
Presented paper to the Human Rights Lawyers' Association about the proposed reforms of the European Court of Human Rights.

26-28 April
Belgrade, Serbia
OSCE expert at seminar on the European Court of Human Rights for NGOs and lawyers

Prof Douwe Korff

26th to 30th January 2004
Serbia & Montenegro
As a representative of the HRSJ Institute, meeting with NGOs, public officials and government representatives to review 'Key Human Rights Issues in Serbia and Montenegro during 2003' & Recommendations for OMiSaM's 2004 Human Rights Agenda", commissioned by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Mission in Serbia and Montenegro.

6th - 7th February
Igalo, Serbia & Montenegro:
Training seminar on the European Convention on Human Rights for Judges and prosecutors, organised by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the AIRE Centre and CEDEM: presentation on the new Code of Criminal Procedure of Montenegro and its compatibility with the ECHR.

23rd March
Strasbourg, France:
Experts' meeting on the Draft law of the Republic of Georgia on Freedom of Religion and Religious Entities".

30th - 31st March
Yerevan, Armenia:
Training seminar on the European Convention on Human Rights for judges and prosecutors, organised by the Judicial Training Centre of Armenia within the framework of the Joint Programme of Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Commission to promote and strengthen democratic stability and prevent conflict in the South Caucasus region: presentations on the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights on the right of appeal in criminal matters (Protocol No. 7, Art. 2) and on the right not to be tried or punished twice (Protocol No. 7, Art. 4)

21st April
Inaugural Lecture on "Ubiquitous Data & the End of Privacy: why data protection laws don't work and what should replace them".

Dr Svetlana Stephenson

Svetlana Stephenson organised the sessions on sociology and social policy at the annual conference of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies in Cambridge, April 2004. She also presented a paper on "Public discourses on youth violence in Moscow" at this conference.

5) PUBLICATIONS

Prof Bill Bowring

"Postcolonial Transitions on the Southern Borders of the Former Soviet Union" in John Strawson and Roshan de Silva Wijeyeratne (eds) "Tracking the Postcolonial in Law", special issue of the Griffith Law Review (2003) v.12, n.2, pp.238-262

Review of Key Human Rights Issues in Serbia and Montenegro during 2003 & Recommendations for OMiSaM's 2004 Human Rights Agenda (March 2004)

Prof Douwe Korff

Three papers in connection with a study carried out by FIPR (the Foundation for Information Policy Research) for the UK Information Commissioner on "Privacy and Law Enforcement":

Total/Terrorism Information Awareness and the passenger data (PNR) controversy

The legal framework: an analysis of the "constitutional" European approach to issues of data protection and law enforcement Conclusions & Policy Implications

Review of Key Human Rights Issues in Serbia and Montenegro during 2003 & Recommendations for OMiSaM's 2004 Human Rights Agenda (March 2004)

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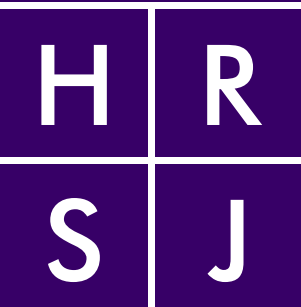
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Philip Leach

Human Rights Hotspots and the European Court, New Law Journal (Feb 2004)

Review of Key Human Rights Issues in Serbia and Montenegro during 2003 & Recommendations for OMiSaM's 2004 Human Rights Agenda (March 2004)

The effective assessment of clinical legal education, Investigations in University Teaching and Learning, London Metropolitan University, vol. 1 (2) winter 2003, 62-65.

Danny Nicol

"Statutory Interpretation and Human Rights after Anderson." [2004] Public Law (forthcoming).

"Gender Reassignment and the Transformation of Section 3 of the Human Rights Act 1998" (2004) 120 Law Quarterly Review (forthcoming).

"The Human Rights Act and the politicians" (2004) 24 Legal Studies (forthcoming).

Daniele Conversi

New paperback edition of 'Ethnonationalism in the Contemporary World' [ISBN 0415332737], January 2004 (to be published in North America in March 2004).

Ethnonationalism in the Contemporary World: Walker Connor and the Theory of Nationalism. Edited by Daniele Conversi. Contributions by Walker Connor, Anthony D Smith, Joshua A. Fishman, John Edwards, William Douglass, Thomas Spira, Robert J. Kaiser, William Safran, John Stone, John Coakley, Donald L. Horowitz, Daniele Conversi, and Brendan O'Leary. London: Routledge, 2002

Naomi Pfeffer

'Screening for breast cancer: candidacy and compliance', Social Science and Medicine, 58 (1):151-160. This report was also press released and picked up by the BBC in April.

"If you think you've got a lump they'll screen you": informed consent to health promotion', Journal of Medical Ethics, 30: 227-230.

6) OTHER NEWS

6.1) CWASU

CWASU have been working with country researchers in central Asia - Kazakhstan, Tjikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan on the subject of human trafficking. Liz Kelly visited Kazak in February to share methodology and is currently collecting data on a monthly basis from those regions. A report of the situation in Eastern Europe as a result of this research will be due out in the summer.

Linda Regan and Julie Bindel trained 25 UK police and immigration officers on trafficking for sexual exploitation in March - HR primary organising framework for the training. Revealed that still a policy conflict between police and immigration about the status of women - are they victims or illegal migrants? Also that few of the recommendations made by CWASU in their 200 study for the Home Office have been implemented.

Purna Sen of LSE, Cathy Humphreys of the University of Warwick and Liz Kelly of CWASU and in partnership with WomanKind has recently published the CEDAW Thematic Shadow Report on Violence Against Women in the UK.

Staff and students are welcome to contribute related articles, and publicise events such as conferences, book launches, journal publications, etc. The HRSJ Institute reserves the right to edit articles before printing.

Please send contributions to Ian Waller

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