



Call for Papers

Justice for Transnational Human Rights Violations At the Crossroads of Litigation, Policy and Scholarship

June 19-20, 2019

Bonaverro Institute of Human Rights

Oxford, UK

Over the past decade, there has been a burgeoning interest in the transnational aspects of human rights. This has been particularly so with regard to environmental protection, the responsibility of international businesses and corporations, the emergence of transnational non-state actors such as the Islamic State, as well as migration and human trafficking. As borders become increasingly weaker and more porous, tackling transnational challenges to human rights is turning into a pressing demand in both scholarship and practice. Significantly, in 2017, the *International Journal of Transitional Justice* dedicated a special issue to the topic of “Beyond Borders.” In it, Pierre Hazan rightly highlighted how the state is no longer the ‘primary means of reflecting on and organizing transitional justice (TJ) approaches’. Undoubtedly, the same can be said to apply to human rights more broadly. Indeed, many transnational human rights issues, such as the refugee crisis in Europe and migration across Central and South America, are generally triggered by violent conflict and/or lack of socio-economic opportunities. Such events are poignant and stark reminders of how transnational human rights issues currently stand at the top of the policy-making agenda across the globe. Solving such complex and multi-faceted problems requires collaboration and knowledge exchange among numerous stakeholders, encompassing academia, policy-makers, civil society and practitioners. Twenty years after the landmark detention of Pinochet in London in 1998, it is a timely moment to also reflect on the importance of transnational networks and their contributions to scholarship and justice.

The Latin American Centre, the Bonaverro Institute of Human Rights, and the Oxford Transitional Justice Research Network will be organising an international conference at the University of Oxford on June 19-20, 2019 on the topic of “Justice for Transnational Human Rights Violations: At the Crossroads of Litigation, Policy and Scholarship.” The event will bring together both emerging and well-established scholars and practitioners, to discuss the ways in which transnational issues have generated both challenges and opportunities for human rights. The conference will address historical manifestations of transnational human rights issues as well as more contemporary forms.

We especially welcome submissions on the following thematic areas relating to human rights beyond the state:

- Accountability for transnational and extraterritorial human rights violations (i.e. illegal detentions, torture, policies of rendition, extrajudicial killings by drones, crimes in the context of countering violent extremism, corruption);
- Transnational approaches to socio-economic and collective rights (i.e. in relation to the environment, land and resources, indigenous peoples rights, etc.);





- The rights of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees;
- Business and human rights (i.e. the role and responsibilities of multinational corporations);
- Transnational mobilisation and networks (i.e. the Pinochet case in Spain, *Ni una menos*/not one less campaign against gender-based violence, and investigations in Europe into human rights violations perpetrated in Syria and Iraq);
- Drug-trafficking and the role of transnational non-state actors in violence and conflict;
- Transnational challenges to human rights in the context of armed conflicts and transitional justice mechanisms (Truth and Reconciliation Commissions, criminal tribunals).

Abstracts of no more than 300 words and a one-page CV should be sent to transnationalhrconference@gmail.com no later than Monday, **February 4, 2019**. Selected participants will be notified the week beginning Monday, **March 4, 2019**. After the conference, the organisers will identify a selection of the papers to be presented for publication in a special issue.

Organising committee:

Francesca Lessa, Latin American Centre

Annelen Micus, Bonavero Institute of Human Rights

Ivo Gruev, Oxford Transitional Justice Research

