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20th

ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

OF THE MANDATE OF THE **UN SPECIAL
RAPPOREUR** ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS
OF MIGRANTS

STOCK TAKING AND WAY FORWARD

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

12 - 13 November 2019
Mexico City, Mexico

Universidad Iberoamericana

IBERO
Ciudad de México • Tijuana



UNITED NATIONS
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SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS, INDEPENDENT EXPERTS & WORKING GROUPS

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The Twentieth Anniversary of the Mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Introduction

The year 2019 marks the 20th anniversary of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. This will be commemorated at an event on 12 and 13 November 2019 in Mexico City.

The aim of the conference is to take stock and look ahead. The event will provide a space for the current Special Rapporteur together with relevant stakeholders, and his predecessors, to reflect on the impact and achievements of the mandate at national, regional and international levels. It is also an opportunity to reflect further on the challenges facing the human rights of migrants today and explore thematic priorities for the future work of the mandate.

On the first day, the discussion is structured along the different methods of work of the mandate (thematic reports, country visits, communications and other advocacy activities), to explore how the mandate has contributed to the protection and realisation of the human rights of all migrants, and what lessons can be learned for the future work of the mandate.

On the second day, the thematic discussions will focus on rights-based approaches to migration governance and protection gaps in the context of large movements. These sessions will provide a space to reflect on how to address the current challenges facing migrants and migration governance today, and what role the mandate on the human rights of migrants can play.

Mexico has been chosen as the location for the conference because the Mexican government is the sponsor of the resolution to establish and renew the mandate since its beginning.

Simultaneous translation in English and Spanish will be provided throughout the event.

Tuesday, 12 November 2019

DAY ONE

8:30-9:00 Registration

09.00 – 09.30

Opening Ceremony

Introductory remarks by **Felipe González Morales**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Opening remarks by **Cristopher Ballinas**, Director General for Human Rights and Democracy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico

Welcome remarks by **Mariana Zaragoza**, Coordinator of the Program on Migration, Universidad Iberoamericana, and **Jan Jarab**, Head of the OHCHR Mexico Office.

09.30– 11.00

Session I

20 years of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants: achievements and challenges

Moderator: **Karim Ghezraoui**, Chief, Groups and Accountability Section, Special Procedures Branch, OHCHR

Panelists:

Gabriela Rodríguez Pizarro (Special Rapporteur from 1999-2005)

Jorge A. Bustamante (Special Rapporteur from 2005-2011)

François Crépeau (Special Rapporteur from 2011-2017) - *video message*

Felipe González Morales (Special Rapporteur since 2017)

Expected outcome:

The current Rapporteur along with his predecessors will reflect on their experience during their tenures. The panelists will reflect on the context and challenges they encountered during the time as Special Rapporteurs. They are invited to discuss lessons learned and the evolution of the mandate during its first 20 years, by identifying achievements and, discuss remaining challenges. Based on their experiences, and interpretation of the current situation, they may be able to identify future opportunities and priorities.

Coffee Break and group photo

11.30 – 13.00

Session II

Annual reports and thematic topics

Moderator: **Gabriela Rodríguez Pizarro**, former Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Panelists:

Paula Narváez, UN Women Regional Advisor in Governance and Political Participation

Mounir Bensalah, Secretary General of the National Human Rights Council of Morocco

Carolina Gottardo, Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service Australia and member of UN Women Expert Group on Gender and the GCM

Expected outcome:

Panelists are asked to share their experiences from cooperating with the mandate on annual thematic reports, as the mandate reports once per year to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly (the reports list can be found at page 8). The use and impact of these reports, particularly the recommendations can be discussed, as well as how this influenced actions, shaped activities, and contributed to (domestic) norms and standards.

Lunch Break

14.30– 15.45

Session III

Country visits and their impact

Moderator: **Jorge A. Bustamante**, former Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Panelists:

Valerie Svobodova, Senior Human Rights Adviser of UNHCR Geneva

Augusto Jordán Rodas Andrade, Ombudsman of Guatemala

Expected outcome:

Panelists will share their experiences with country visits of the mandate. The mandate visited over 30 countries on all continents in 20 years, and produced a report with specific recommendations (see the country visits list at page 7). The panel should explore what impact the recommendations had on the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants in the respective country or region, and what the lasting impact of such visits can be.

Coffee Break

16.15– 17.30

Session IV

Engagement and advocacy

Moderator: To be announced

Panelists:

Gwendolyn LI. Pimentel-Gana, Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines

Álvaro Botero, Rapporteur of the Committee on Migrant Workers and formerly with the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights

Helena Olea, Human Rights Adviser of Alianza Americas

Expected outcome:

Panelists will share their experiences with the mandate in relation to its engagement and advocacy work. This relates to communications the mandate sent to address alleged violations of the human rights of migrants, or policies, laws and practices that were not in line with international human rights standards. This session aims to address as well the advocacy of the mandate during events, forums, consultations, and webinars organised or attended by the Special Rapporteur. Another aspect to be covered in this session is the engagement of the mandate in international processes and initiatives, such as the GFMD and the Global Compact on Migration.

17.30 – 18.00

Wrap-up session

Felipe González Morales, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Wednesday, 13 November 2019

DAY TWO

In the thematic discussions, panellists will reflect on contemporary issues for the protection and promotion of the human rights of migrants, against the backdrop of current political and legal developments. Specific suggestions for the future work of the mandate in these areas can also be addressed, as well as good practices from the experience of the participants, as well as from previous initiatives of the mandate.

09.00 – 10.30

Thematic discussion I

Building rights-based approaches to migration governance

Moderator: To be announced

Panelists:

Jessica Lopez Mejia, Policy Director for Migrant's Protection and Integration, Policy Migration Unit at the Ministry of the Interior of Mexico

Jamil Dakwar, Director, Human Rights Program, American Civil Liberties Union

Misun Woo, Regional Coordinator, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development

Michael Flynn, Director, Global Detention Project

José Antonio Guevara, Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Topics for discussion:

Rights-based approaches to migration governance, including migration detention (of children) and alternatives to detention, as well as reactions to the criminalization of migration, the criminalization of sea rescue, and impediments to the work of migrants' rights defenders.

Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30**Thematic discussion II****Addressing protection gaps in the context of large movements**

Moderator: To be announced

Panelists:

Leonardo Arízaga, Under Secretary for Immigration and Consular Services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador

Dr. Anna Baka, Greek National Commission for Human Rights

Edgar Corzo, Elected member of the Committee on Migrant Workers and Fifth General Visitor of the National Human Rights Commission of Mexico.

Dr. Linda Adhiambo Oucho, Director of the African Migration and Development Policy Centre and member of the Pan African Network in Defense of Migrants

Mark Manly, Mexico representative of UNHCR

Topics for discussion:

Mixed migration flows, availability of pathways for regular migration, vulnerabilities and protection gaps in contemporary migration, including countering the rise in xenophobia and hate speech against migrants.

12.30 – 13.00**Closing Remarks and Way Forward**

Felipe González Morales, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

David Fernández Dávalos, Rector of Universidad Iberoamericana

COUNTRY VISITS

The list below corresponds to the Country Visits conducted by the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Country	Date of the visit
Bosnia and Herzegovina	September to October 2019
Hungary	July 2019
Niger	October 2018
Nepal	Jan to February 2018
Angola	May 2016
Greece	May 2016/ November to December 2012
Australia and the regional processing centres in Nauru	November 2016/ September to October 2015
Malta	December 2014
Italy	December 2014/ September to October 2012 and June 2004
Sri Lanka	May 2014
Qatar	November 2013
Turkey	June 2012
Tunisia	June 2012
European Union (Brussels)	May 2012
Albania	December 2011
South Africa	January to February 2011
Japan	March 2010
Senegal	August 2009
United Kingdom	June 2009
Romania	June 2009
Guatemala	March 2008
Mexico	March 2008/ February 2002
United States of America	April to May 2007
Indonesia	December 2006
South Korea	December 2006
Burkina Faso	February 2005
Peru	September 2004
Iran	February 2004
Morocco	October 2003
Spain	September 2003
Philippines	May 2002
Border between Mexico and the USA	March 2002
Ecuador	November 2001
Canada	September 2000

THEMATIC REPORTS

The list below corresponds to the thematic reports presented by the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants before the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly

Year/Session	Title
2019 41st session HRC	Report on the impact of migration on migrant women and girls: a gender perspective
2019 74th session GA	Good practices and initiatives gender-responsive migration legislation and policies
2018 38th session HRC	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants on return and reintegration of migrants
2018 73rd session GA	Report on access to justice for migrant persons
2017 35th session HRC	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants on a 35 agenda for facilitating human mobility
2017 72nd session GA	Thematic Report to the General Assembly on 2035 agenda for facilitating human mobility
2016 32nd session HRC	Report on the impact of bilateral and multilateral trade agreements on the the human rights of migrants
2016 71st session GA	Thematic Report to the GA on Developing the Global Compact on Migration
2015 29th session HRC	Banking on mobility over a generation: follow-up on the regional study on the management of the external borders of the EU and its impact on the human rights of migrants
2015 70th session GA	Thematic report to the GA on "Recruitment Practices and the Human Rights of Migrants"
2014 25th session HRC	Report on Labour exploitation of migrants
2014 69th session GA	Human rights of migrants in the post-2015 development agenda
2013 23rd session HRC	Regional study: management of the external borders of the European Union and its impact on the human rights of migrants
2013 68th session GA	Global migration governance
2012 20th session HRC	Detention of migrants in an irregular situation
2012 67th session GA	Climate change and migration
2011 17th session HRC	Recapitulation of main thematic issues (irregular migration and criminalization of migrants; protection of children in the migration process; right to housing and health of migrants)
2010 14th session HRC	Enjoyment of the rights to health and adequate housing by migrants
2010 65th session GA	Impact of the criminalization of migration on the protection and enjoyment of human rights
2009 11th session HRC	Protection of children in the context of migration
2009 64th session GA	The protection of children in the context of migration
2008 7th session HRC	Criminalization of irregular migration
2007 62nd session GA	Border control, expulsion, and conditions for the admission and stay of migrants
2006 61st session GA	Impact of certain laws and administrative measures on migrants
2005 60th session GA	Preliminary observations regarding migration and the human rights of migrants
2005 61st session CHR	Racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia/Migrant women and unaccompanied children
2004 60th session CHR	Vulnerability of migrant domestic workers
2003 59th session CHR	Human rights of migrants deprived of their liberty
2003 58th session GA	Good practices observed by the Special Rapporteur
2002 57th session GA	Conceptual and substantive development of the question of the human rights of migrants

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

Opening Ceremony

Felipe González Morales

UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Felipe González Morales is the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. He is Professor of International Law at the Diego Portales University, in Santiago, Chile, where he is also the Director of a Master's in international human rights law. He was a Commissioner and the Rapporteur on Migrants between 2008 and 2015 at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, where he was President between 2010-2011. Professor González teaches International Human Rights Law since 2003 at several postgraduate programs at the University Carlos III in Madrid, as well as in several other universities in Spain. Since 2001, he teaches at the American University Human Rights Academy in Washington, D.C.

He is the founder and was the first director of the Center for Human Rights at the Diego Portales University. He is also the founder and was the first director of a Latin American Network of Human Rights Legal Clinics. Professor González holds a Doctorate and a Master's in Advanced Human Rights from University Carlos III and an LL.M. in International Legal Studies from American University. Professor González has also taught classes at the Universidad de Deusto, the Universidad Pontificia de Comillas, the Universidad Externado de Colombia, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú, the Universidad de Buenos Aires, the University of Venice and Lund University. An author of many publications in his field, he has also co-authored and edited 15 books and more than 100 scholarly articles.

Cristopher Ballinas

Director General for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico

He is Collegiate Associate Professor in Public Policy at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México and Associated Researcher at the Centre of Mexican Studies, University of Oxford. He specializes in the study of executive government, public sector reform, autonomous agencies and the effects of politics in policy outcomes. He also possesses extensive high-level experience in policy design, implementation and evaluation, as he has been advisor in public policy to three deputy ministers at the central government in Mexico and has overseen several federal programs, including the second largest welfare program at the federal government. He was awarded the Gabino Barreda Medal in Political Science by the National Autonomous University of Mexico in 2000. His latest book, *The Politics of Agency Design: Political Struggles and the Forging of Autonomous Government Agencies* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011) gives a general account of how to understand bureaucratic autonomy and what shapes it, focusing on the political struggles during the forging of government agencies.

Mariana Zaragoza

Coordinator,
Program
on Migration,
Universidad
Iberoamericana

Mariana Zaragoza has a Degree in International Relations from ITESO, the Jesuit University of Guadalajara, Mexico. She also has a master's degree in Development and International Cooperation from the HEGOA Institute of the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). She has worked on several projects related to women, development and indigenous peoples. She participated in the advocacy area of the Spanish Commission for Refugee Aid in Euskadi (CEAR-Euskadi) and did professional internships in the feminist development cooperation NGO "Mugarik Gabe" in the planning and advocacy following the symbolic International Tribunal for Women's Rights, Vienna +20, Euskal Herria 2013. Before collaborating with Ibero, she worked in the Jesuit social work Fomento Cultural y Educativo A.C. and in the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Project A.C. In the autumn of 2016, she gave a seminar on Gender and Development Cooperation in the master's degree in International Cooperation for Development at the Mora Institute, Mexico. Since August 2015 she has been collaborating with the Advocacy Directorate and currently coordinates the Migratory Affairs Program of the Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México-Tijuana.

Jan Jarab

UN Human Rights
Office's
Representative in
Mexico

Jan Jarab is since June 2016 the current Representative of the Office in Mexico of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Previously, Mr. Jara was Representative of the OHCHR Regional Office for Europe from January 2010 to June 2016. From November 2004 to January 2010, he served as a member of the Cabinet of the European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion at the European Commission in Brussels.

He also served in the Human Rights Office of the Czech Government from January 1999 to October 2004.

Session I: 20 years of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants: achievements and challenges

Karim Ghezraoui

Chief, Groups and Accountability Section, Special Procedures Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr. Karim Ghezraoui is the Chief of the “Groups and Accountability Section” within the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division at United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. He is responsible for the implementation of the special procedures thematic mandates related to specific groups such as migrants; indigenous peoples; internally displaced persons; minorities; older persons; peoples with disability; SOGI and the mandate on “sale of children”. He joined the UN in 1993 and has been working in the field as well as at HQ, mainly at OHCHR holding various assignments including Chief a.i of the Special Procedures Branch, Geographic Coordinator of the Arab Region as well as the Asia-Pacific Region. He has also conducted numerous field missions in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Arab countries, reporting on human rights issues and developing and implementing various capacity building projects. Mr. Ghezraoui has a Master in political science and international relations from the University of Geneva, Switzerland.

Gabriela Rodríguez Pizarro

Former UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (1999-2005)

Of Chilean and Costa Rican nationality, she is a Psychologist from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile and Doctor in Psychology from the University of Caen, France. As former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, she had a universal mandate, and held the position from August 1999 to November 2005. The Member States extended her mandate for two consecutive terms. Her work has been focused on the protection of refugees, displaced persons, and migrants both in Europe and in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as on cooperation for the formulation of public policies on migration, gender equity, human rights and their link with the crimes of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

Pensioned in 2010 from IOM Geneva, she is currently Senior Staff of IOM and President of the International Centre for the Human Rights of Migrants (CIDEHUM). Since 2011 she has been working in Costa Rica and Latin America (North, Central, and South) as an expert in human rights and migration, especially victims of the crime of trafficking in persons, women and migrant children. Her publications can be found on the CIDEHUM website.

Jorge A. Bustamante

Former UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (2005-2011)

Jorge A. Bustamante is the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and Advisor to the President of the National Commission of Human Rights of Mexico. He is a sociologist with a PhD from the University of Notre Dame, where he also holds an endowed chair (Eugene Conley Professor of Sociology) since 1986. Bustamante is Professor at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, a research and degree granting institute located in Tijuana, where he was President from its creation in 1982 until January of 1998. He has more than 200 publications in scholarly journals of the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Venezuela, Spain, and Mexico. The majority of these publications are research reports on Mexican immigration to the United States, US-Mexico border phenomena and US-Mexico relations. Dr. Bustamante has been quoted as a leading expert in the field of international migrations by most major newspapers in the United States, as well as in his appearances in T.V. programs such as Night Line, 60 Minutes and the McNeil-Lehrer News.

François Crépeau

Former UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (2011-2017)

François Crépeau is a Full Professor and the Hans & Tamar Oppenheimer Chair in Public International Law at the Faculty of Law of McGill University, as well as the Director of the McGill Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism.

He was the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants from 2011 to 2017. In this capacity, he conducted official visits to Albania, Tunisia, Turkey, Italy, Greece, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Malta, the European institutions in Brussels and Vienna, Angola, Australia and Nauru. He has also produced several thematic reports: the detention of migrants, the protection of migrants' rights at the external borders of the European Union, climate change and migration, global migration governance, labour exploitation of migrants, labour recruitment practices, trade agreements and migration.

Professor Crépeau is a member of the Scientific Committee of the Agency for Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the Chair of the Thematic Working Group: Migrant Rights and Integrations in Host Communities, KNOMAD - Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, World Bank Group, Washington, DC, and a member of the Advisory Committee of the International Migration Initiative of the Open Society Foundations (NY). He is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Bureau for Children's Rights (Montreal). Furthermore, he is a member of several editorial boards: *Journal of Refugee Studies*, *International Journal of Refugee Law*, *Refuge*, *Droits fondamentaux*, *European Journal of Human Rights*, *Inter Gentes – McGill Journal of International Law & Legal Pluralism*.

Professor Crépeau is an Officer of the Order of Canada (2017), a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (2012), a Fellow of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation (2008-2011), a Doctor Honoris Causa from the Université de Clermont-Auvergne (France, 2018), and an Advocatus Emeritus of the Quebec Bar Association (2013).

Session II: Annual reports and thematic topics

Paula Narváez

Regional Advisor UN
Women Office for
the Americas and the
Caribbean

Chilean psychologist and politician with more than 20 years of experience in public management, public policies, gender and women's participation. Paula is psychologist from Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile. She holds a master's degree in Economics and Regional Management from Universidad Austral, Chile and a master's degree in Latin American Studies from Georgetown University, USA. She was regional programming office, presidential delegate, chief of staff and advisor to former president Michelle Bachelet. Subsequently, she served as Minister General Secretary of the Government of Chile in the second term of the former president Bachelet. Currently, Paula is Regional Advisor in Governance and Women's Political Participation at UN Women for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mounir Bensalah

Secretary General of
the National Human
Rights Council of
Morocco

Mr. Mounir Bensalah, was appointed by His Majesty King Mohammed VI as Secretary-General of the National Human Rights Council. He is an engineer. He studied at Mohammadia School of Engineering (EMI) in Rabat in 2002. At the age of 40 years old, he has accumulated more than 17 years of professional experience in management and structuring projects and operational units with several Moroccan and multinational as well as businesses. Mr. Bensalah was an active member of numerous working groups, and has been engaged in advocacy and mobilization related to human rights and freedoms both in Morocco and at regional and international level. In 2005, Mr. Bensalah co-chaired the Congress of the Association of Engineers of the Mohammadia School of Engineering. From 2006 to 2018, he held several positions within the Moroccan Organization of Human Rights (OMDH). Mounir Bensalah was one of the leaders of the 20 February movement. In 2013, he created the association "Anfass Democratic Movement", which he chaired until 2018. Mr. Bensalah was a member of the Regional Commission of Human Rights of Casablanca-Settat from 2011 to 2018. He is the author of several articles and studies: Réseaux sociaux et révolutions arabes (Social networks and Arab revolutions?) in 2012 and "Railway Information Modeling RIM - The Track to Rail Modernization" in 2019.

Carolina Gottardo

Director of the
Jesuit Refugee Service
Australia

Carolina is a migrant lawyer and economist specializing on human rights issues for more than 20 years in different regions including Asia Pacific, Europe and Latin America. She specializes on gender, asylum and migration. Carolina is the Director of Jesuit Refugee Service, Australia. Previously she was the CEO of a migrant women's rights organization in the UK. Carolina's expertise is in policy and advocacy and she has worked with the British Institute of Human Rights, Refugee Council of Australia and Womankind Worldwide amongst others. She has also worked with the Constitutional Court in her native country, Colombia. Carolina has served on boards in London, Bangkok, Brussels and Sydney. She is currently the co-chair of the End Child Detention Coalition Australia and the chair of the women, gender and diversity group and focal point on the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) at the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network. Carolina has ample experience of advocacy with the UN system and is a member of the UN Women's Global Expert Working Group to address the human rights of women in the GCM. She is also a member of the Women in Migration Network and a member of the board for both the International Detention Coalition and the Global Coalition for Migration.

Session III: Country visits and their impact

Valerie Svobodova

Senior Human Rights
Adviser of UNHCR
Geneva

Valerie Svobodova holds a PhD degree from Walden University, USA in Public Policy and Administration (Global Leadership). She has been working as a humanitarian worker in emergency field operations for over 12 years (Niger, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Rwanda, DRC, Haiti, Philippines) in the protection area. Currently, she works with UNHCR in Geneva as the head of the Human Rights Liaison Unit.

Augusto Jordán Rodas Andrade

Ombudsman of
Guatemala

Lawyer and notary from the University of San Carlos de Guatemala (USAC), he holds a master's degree in Local Public Management and is a Doctoral Candidate in Law from the University Rafael Landívar and the University of the Basque Country/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (UPV/EHU). He also develops as a Professor at the Centro Universitario de Occidente (CUNOC) at the Studies on Transparency, Accountability and the Fight against Corruption; in Local Public Management. Mr. Jordán Rodas is a legal expert in Constitutional Guarantees and Fundamental Rights in Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, Environmental Legislation, Justice and Citizen Security. In 2015 he was elected vice-president of the Guatemalan Bar Association. Second syndic (1996-2000) and ninth councilman (2004-2008) of the Municipality of Quetzaltenango. He currently serves as the Ombudsman of the Republic of Guatemala since August 20, 2017.

Session IV: Engagement and advocacy

Gwendolyn Ll. Pimentel-Gana

Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines

Atty. Gwendolyn Ll. Pimentel-Gana is a Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP). She is currently active in looking into the concerns of indigenous peoples (IPs) through the establishment of IP observatory and National Inquiry on their situation. She is the focal commissioner for migrant workers, spearheading the establishment of a migrant workers' observatory to systematically monitor the situation of overseas Filipino workers; she leads the Task Force Extrajudicial Killing, which is tasked to probe vigilante killings in the campaign against illegal drugs. She is co-focal point on the environment & business and human rights concerns.

She has been active in helping formulate and lobby laws promoting the welfare of abandoned, neglected, and abused children by streamlining the adoption process, and providing for alternative childcare means. She has supported laws forwarding the protection of children from exploitation and discrimination; promoting the welfare of domestic workers; protecting migrant workers from trafficking and exploitation; providing for reparation and recognition of human rights victims during the Marcos regime; and, promoting the rehabilitation of prisoners among others.

She received her bachelor's degree in International Studies at Maryknoll College. She earned her Bachelor of Laws and master's degree in Public Administration at the University of the Philippines.

Helena Olea

Human Rights Adviser of Alianza Americas

Helena María Olea Rodríguez is a human rights adviser at Alianza Americas, a network of Latin American migrant-led organizations in the United States. Her work in Alianza centres on human rights and migration from a transnational perspective towards advancing protections, addressing root causes, and exploring international advocacy and litigation possibilities before the Inter-American human rights system and the United Nations.

Helena is a Lecturer at the University of Illinois at Chicago in the departments of Criminology, Law and Justice and Latin American and Latino Studies. Her research focuses on gender in Latin America, human rights and immigration from a comparative perspective.

Helena holds a Law Degree from Universidad de los Andes, Colombia and an LL.M Degree from the University of Notre Dame, USA. She was the founder of the immigrants and refugees law clinic at Universidad Diego Portales, Chile, where she taught and conducted research for seven years. She was also a Lecturer at Universidad Católica de Chile. She has published on migrant's human rights and women's rights.

Thematic discussion I: Building rights-based approaches to migration governance

Jessica Lopez Mejia,

Bio coming soon

Policy Director for
Migrant's Protection and
Integration, Policy
Migration Unit at the
Ministry of the Interior of
Mexico

Jamil Dakwar

Director of the Human
Rights Program of the
American Civil Liberties
Union

Jamil Dakwar is the Director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Human Rights Program. Before joining the ACLU, he worked at Human Rights Watch and before moving to the United States he worked at Adalah: The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel. He teaches human rights as adjunct professor at Hunter College, Bard College and John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY).

Misun Woo

Regional Coordinator,
Asia Pacific Forum on
Women, Law and
Development

Misun Woo is the Regional Coordinator for the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD). APWLD is a leading feminist, membership-driven network with 248 members representing organizations and groups of diverse women from 27 countries in the region; and committed to advancing women's human rights and Development Justice. Misun is a feminist, and human rights advocate, who believes in the power of feminist and peoples' movements, and to ending resource, power and wealth inequalities between men and women, between rich and poor and between countries.

Michael Flynn

Director of the
Global Detention
Project

Michael Flynn is the Executive Director of the Global Detention Project. He holds a BA in Philosophy from DePaul University and a PhD in International Studies from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. He is co-author (with Izabella Majcher and Mariette Grange) of *Immigration Detention in the European Union: In the Shadow of the "Crisis"* (Springer, forthcoming 2020); and co-editor (with Matthew Flynn) of *Challenging Immigration Detention: Academics, Activists, and Policymakers* (Edward Elgar, 2017).

José Antonio Guevara

Chair of the Working
Group on Arbitrary
Detention

Law graduate from the Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City; Doctor in Law from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain; as well as professor at the Faculty of Law and Criminology, of the Inter-Institutional Master in Human Rights and member of the Academic Body "International Justice, local contexts of injustice and human rights" (UATLX-CA-233) of the Universidad Autónoma de Tlaxcala. Since January 2014 he has been the Executive Director of the Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights and since June 2014, he has been a member of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Thematic discussion II: Addressing protection gaps in the context of large movements

Dr. Anna Baka

Scientific Associate
with the Greek National
Commission for Human
Rights

Dr. Anna Irene Baka is a licensed Greek jurist, Senior Legal Associate at the Greek National Commission for Human Rights and Adjunct Lecturer in Jurisprudence and EU Law at the University of London International LL.B. Program in Athens, Greece. She has completed her postgraduate studies in Athens, Greece (LL.B. and LL.M. in Public Law and European Integration) and Brussels, Belgium (LL.M. in International, European and Comparative Law). She holds a Ph.D. in International Law and Legal Philosophy from the University of Hong Kong (HKU), for which she was awarded a scholarship by the University of Hong Kong as well as the Hellenic National Scholarship. She has substantial professional legal experience with public entities, parliaments, governments and international organizations in Europe and Asia.

Edgar Corzo

Elected member of the
Committee on Migrant
Workers and Fifth General
Visitor of the National
Human
Rights Commission of
Mexico

Dr. Edgar Corzo Sosa holds a bachelor's degree in Law from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, in Spanish Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México or UNAM. He also holds a master's degree in Comparative Public Law from the University of Paris I, Panthéon- Sorbonne and a Doctorate Degree in Constitutional Law from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

He is the director of the periodical publication Constitutional Issues: Mexican Journal of Constitutional Law, in Spanish *Cuestiones Constitucionales: Revista Mexicana de Derecho Constitucional*. He is a full-time academic at the Institute of Juridical Investigations of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He currently serves as the Fifth General Visitor of the National Commission of Human Rights, leading three programs of protection: assistance to persons in the context of migration, journalists and human rights defenders and Victims of human trafficking.

Dr. Linda Adhiambo Oucho

Director of the
African Migration and
Development Policy
Centre

Dr. Linda Adhiambo Oucho an established migration expert leading the African Migration and Development Policy Centre, a research think tank leading policy-based research on migration and development issues in Eastern Africa and beyond. As the Executive Director at AMADPOC, Dr. Oucho holds a PhD in Ethnic Relations from the University of Warwick, where she specialized in international migration of African Women. Her research focuses on internal regional migration patterns within Eastern Africa including projects related to poverty, climate change and more recently youth, employment and migration. In addition, she supports countries to develop their national migration policies in line with the guiding principles outlined in the African Union, Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018).

Dr. Oucho works in partnership with international institutions including University of Ghana, Open University and University of Uganda among others. She currently works closely with the Government of Kenya, Uganda and Malawi, linking research to policy through the National Coordination Mechanism for Migration (NCM). The NCM was established based on the recommendations from the Migration Profile of Kenya (2015). She has also undertaken consultancies with a number of international agencies including IOM, ICMPD, UNDP, GIZ, FAO, IDRC and FES among others.



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