



SOAS

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Editor: Dr Jonathan Ercanbrack

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Announcements

SOAS STUDENTS AWARDED INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

Students from the SOAS School of Law were awarded a prize for “Best Mediation Plan” at the 13th ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition, which took place in Paris at the ICC headquarters. The Negotiation Team of four, led by coaches Sandra Geahchan and Harley Stewart, consisted of LLB students Hima-sha Weerappulige, Jaleece Khan, Muzhgan Wahaj and Sonia Anwar-Ahmed Martinez. The team convened each week from November to February for coaching and mock mediation sessions. This has been SOAS’s first foray into the ICC Mediation Competition.

The SOAS team went through a competitive application process and competed with 65 brilliant teams from 32 countries. The competition consisted of simulated mediation sessions where students assume the roles of client and counsel representing parties in dispute. The competition is overseen by experienced judges and professional mediators.



ARTICLE GETS PRESIDENTIAL ATTENTION

Ernest Caldwell's recent article 'Transitional Justice Legislation in Taiwan Before and During the Tsai Administration' elicited a great deal of interest among the journal editors and manuscript reviewers. As a result, the Washington International Law Journal editors have decided to produce a symposium issue on the article and have placed an open call on the journal's main webpage inviting submissions that comment on the article's contents and arguments [<https://www.washingtoninternationallawjournal.org>]. The submissions will be peer reviewed and selected commentary will be published next year in volume 28 issue 3.

Additionally, the Taiwanese government requested a copy of the article and it was submitted to Dr. Tsai Ing-wen, President of the Republic of China (Taiwan). President Tsai, whose election campaign focused on Transitional Justice as a core issue, will also write a response to my article to be included in the symposium issue.

Publications

AHMED H ADAM

'Sudan's Bashir is playing a dangerous game' (Aljazeera 21 May 2018). Available at: <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/bashir-playing-dangerous-game-180517104224814.html>

JONATHAN BASHI RUDAHINDWA

Regional Developmentalism Through Law: Establishing an African Economic Community (Routledge 2018).

BRENNA BHANDAR

Colonial Lives of Property: Law, Land and Racial Regimes of Ownership (Duke University Press 2018).

'Possessive Nationalism: Race, Class and the Lifeworlds of Property' (2018) February Viewpoint Magazine.

GUNNAR BECK

'Judicial Activism in the Court of Justice of the EU' (2017) 36(2) University of Queensland Law Jnl 333.

'The ECJ – An Imperial or an Impartial Court' (2018) 6 April POLITEIA.

'What Courts after Brexit' (2018) 27 February POLITEIA.

with Martin Howe QC and Francis Hoar, 'Adjudicating Treaty Rights in post-Brexit Britain: Preserving Sovereignty and Observing Comity – Part 2: Sovereignty, direct effect, consistent interpretation and ECJ exclusive jurisdiction' (2017) 12 November Lawyers for Britain.

ERNEST CALDWELL

Writing Chinese Laws: The Form and Function of Legal Statutes Found in the Qin Shuihudi Corpus (Routledge 2018).

CALDWELL CONTINUED

‘Transitional Justice Legislation in Taiwan Before and During the Tsai Administration’ (2018) 27 (2) Washington International Law Journal 449.

PHILIPPE CULLET

‘Foreword’ in Shawkat Alam, Jahid Hossain Bhuiyan & Jona Razzaque (eds), *International Natural Resources Law, Investment and Sustainability* (Routledge 2017) 237-241.

‘The Right to Water in Rural India and Drinking Water Policy Reforms’ in Malcolm Langford & Anna S.F. Russell (eds) *The Human Right to Water: Theory, Practice and Prospects* (Cambridge University Press 2017) 644-676.

‘Innovation and Trends in Water Law’ in Ken Conca & Erika Weinthal (eds) *Oxford Handbook of Water Politics and Policy* (Oxford University Press 2018) 327-50.

BIRSHA OHDEDAR

‘Groundwater law, abstraction, and responding to climate change: assessing recent law reforms in British Columbia and England’ in Raya Stephan and Philippe Cullet (eds) *Groundwater and Climate Change: Multi-Level Law and Policy Perspectives* (Routledge 2018).

‘Bridget M. Hutter, Risk Resilience, Inequality and Environmental Law’ (2018) 13(2) *Law Environment and Development Journal*

‘Book review: Sumudu Atapattu, *Human Rights Approaches to Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities*’ (2018) 9 (1) *Journal of Human Rights and the Environment* 107.

PAUL O’CONNELL

‘Human rights: contesting the displacement thesis’ (2018) 69(1) *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly*.

‘Law, Marxism and Method’ (2018) 16(2) *Triple C*.

EMILIA ONYEMA

Emilia Onyema (ed) *Rethinking the Role of African National Courts in Arbitration* (Wolters Kluwer 2018).

‘The Role of African Courts and Judges in Arbitration’ in Onyema E (ed) *Rethinking the Role of African National Courts in Arbitration* (Wolters Kluwer 2018).

‘The Jurisdictional Tensions Between Domestic Courts and Arbitral Tribunals’ in Menaker, Andrea (ed) *International Arbitration and the Rule of Law: Contribution and Conformity* (Kluwer, ICCA Congress Series No 19, 2017) 481-500.

WERNER MENSKI

Roberto Scarciglia & Werner Menski (eds) *Normative Pluralism and Religious Diversity: Challenges and Methodological Approaches* (Wolters Kluwer Italia and CEDAM 2018).

'Introduction' (with Roberto Scarciglia) in R. Scarciglia and W. Menski (eds) *Normative Pluralism and Religious Diversity: Challenges and Methodological Approaches* (Wolters Kluwer Italia and CEDAM 2018).

'Relative Authority in a New Age of Chaos' in R. Scarciglia and W. Menski (eds) *Normative Pluralism and Religious Diversity: Challenges and Methodological Approaches* (Wolters Kluwer Italia and CEDAM 2018).

'Introduction: The Politics of Reform of Personal Law in Colonial and Postcolonial India from a Muslim Perspective' in Furqan Ahmad (ed) *Towards the Renaissance: Shibli and Maulana Thanvi on Sharia* (Indian Law Institute 2018).

'Foreword' in Aidan Rankin, *Jainism and Environmental Philosophy. Karma and the Web of Life* (Routledge 2018).

with Ousman Noor, 'Author and subject index to IANL Vol 31 (2017)' (2018) 32(1) *Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Law*.

'Religion, Governance and the Need for Plurality-Conscious Moderation' (2018) 38(1) *South Asia Research* 92.

'Foreword' in Sonia Zaman Khan, *The Politics and Law of Democratic Transition: Caretaker Government in Bangladesh* (Routledge 2018).

'European Muslims as Skilled Kite Flyers' in Vinding, Niels Valdemar, Egdūnas Račius & Jörn Thielmann (eds) *Exploring the Multitude of Muslims in Europe. Essays in Honour of Jørgen S. Nielsen* (Brill, 2018).

Research - Related Events

GUNNAR BECK made written submissions and gave evidence on the implications of the 2017 EU Commission 'White Book on the Future of Europe' to the German regional parliaments of Brandenburg, the Rhineland-Palatinate and the State of Saxony. Furthermore, Gunnar presented papers on judicial law-making in the EU at conferences in Oxford (October 2017) and at the LSE (March 2018). Finally, he gave a number of Brexit-related papers at the Policy Exchange and Politeia think tanks.

IAN EDGE. The Bahrain Economic Development Board held a seminar in the City at Norton Rose on 21 March 2018 to discuss the legal aspects of the Bahrain Trust Law 2016 in association with STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) and Ian was invited to speak to the effect of the Law on wealth and succession planning and to compare it to other recent Gulf developments particularly the new Trust Law in the DIFC. The proceedings are to be published in the STEP Journal.

EMILIA ONYEMA organised the fourth SOAS Arbitration in Africa conference as part of The Arbitration in Africa research project. The project concluded with the conference, which dealt with the role of Arbitration Practitioners in the development of arbitration in Africa. It took place in Kigali from 2-4 May and was co-hosted by the Kigali International Arbitration Centre in Kigali. For details see: <https://www.researcharbitrationafrica.com/>

Conference attendees requested the continuation of the conference series with Sudan volunteering to host the fifth SOAS Arbitration in Africa conference from 12-14 February 2019 in Khartoum, Sudan. The conference will address 'Best Practices in Arbitration and ADR in Africa'.

The first Arbitration in Africa survey report funded by Bozimo Broderick and Co (Law firm headquartered

in Abuja) was launched in Kigali on 2 May. The report is titled, Domestic and International Arbitration: Perspectives from African Arbitration Practitioners, and is available for download at: <http://eprints.soas.ac.uk/25741/>

In January, LYNN WELCHMAN participated on a panel for the Day of the Endangered Lawyer organised annually

by the Law Society of England and Wales. This year the event focussed on challenges to the rule of law and the legal profession in Egypt, and the keynote speaker was Dr Nancy Okail, an Egyptian human rights defender currently based in Washington DC.

For a report of the meeting see:

<http://communities.lawsociety.org.uk/human-rights/news-and-events/the-law-society-celebrates-the-work-of-egyptian-hrds-and-lawyers-on-the-day-of-the-endangered-lawyer/5064259.article>

Other Conferences and Seminars

BRENNA BHANDAR. Plenary Speaker, 'Dangerous Conjunctions: Resituating Balibar/Wallerstein's Race, Nation, Class' (Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, March 2018).

Plenary Speaker, (Forensic Architecture's Operative Models Workshop, Institute for Contemporary Art, London, April 2018).

Plenary Speaker, 'Global '68: Solidarity in Alliance and Global History Conference' (Birkbeck College, London, May 2018).

ERNEST CALDWELL. (several workshops) 'Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in Asia and the UK' (FCO and Defra, Cambridge, UK).

IAN EDGE. Keynote Lecture, 'Sharia law for international family lawyers and estate planners' (International Family Law Conference, Dubai, 3-4 May 2018).

WERNER MENSKI. Keynote Lecture, 'Managing Diversity Intelligently in a Changing Society' (OP.RECHT. MECHELEN Festival on Justice & Diversity, Mechelen, Belgium, 20 October 2016).

LUTZ OETTE. 'Marginalisation and the prohibition of torture' (Queen's International Law Programme, Herstmonceux Castle, 21 May 2018).

'1st Editorial Committee & Primary Drafters meeting on the Istanbul Protocol Supplement' (Physicians for Human Rights, the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, and REDRESS; UN Committee against Torture, UN Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, supported by Dignity - Danish Institute against Torture, Geneva, 23-24 May 2018).

BIRSHA OHDEDAR. 'The Human Right to Water in the Anthropocene: Searching for a Critical Perspective' (Workshop on Searching for Critical Environmental Law: Theories, Methods, Critiques, Oxford Brookes University, 10-11 May 2018).

'Human Right to Water in the Context of Climate Change: Towards a Broader Understanding' (University of Strathclyde Postgraduate Colloquium on Environmental Law and Governance, 2-3 May 2018).

Moderator, "Panel: Environmental Rights and Justice" (2018 Public Interest Environmental Law Conference,

Cass Business School, 6 April 2018).

'Human Rights & Climate Change: the Case of the Indian Sundarbans' (SOAS LEDC Seminar Series, 22 March 2018).

HU YUANQIONG. 'Challenging the "Unchallengeable": Unpack Civil Society's Use of Patent Opposition (Revocation) Procedures on Pharmaceutical Patents' (The 17th Science and Democracy Network Annual Meeting, TUM School of Management & Munich Centre of Technology and Society, Munich, June 27-30, 2018).

'Making Patents: Professions, Expertise and the Fallacy of Patents in Biomedical Innovation' (Poster presentation, Socio-Legal Studies Association Annual Conference, University of Bristol, March 28, 2018).

Research Centre Activities

CIMEL. Under the auspices of The Centre for Islamic and Middle Eastern Law (CIMEL) Jonathan Ercanbrack hosted an elite gathering of leading Islamic finance practitioners and academics on Thursday, 22 February 2018 in a workshop entitled "Challenging the Shari'ah Compliance of Islamic Finance Products". The workshop was preceded by a public lecture delivered by a legal industry veteran, Michael McMillen, who is a partner with Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle. An invitation-only event, the workshop is the preeminent brainstorming event in the industry. Jonathan was awarded a five-year £50,000 grant to support the events by the Qatar Financial Centre Authority.

The annual workshop brings together Islamic economists, bankers, lawyers and Shari'ah scholars to discuss the industry's most pressing issues. This year's workshop addressed the Dana Gas Sukuk default, an event which threatens to undermine confidence in Islamic capital markets, as well as wider issues concerning sharia compliance. Michael McMillen's public lecture dealt with the challenges of sharia compliance in the process of the industry's push to standardise contractual practices.



Michael McMillen and Nick Foster discuss the standardisation of Islamic financial law at the public lecture on Redefining and Retaining Shari'ah Compliance in Islamic Finance on 21 February, 2018.

CIMEL and the Centre for Human Rights Law (CHRL). On 24th March 2018, Lynn Welchman and Lutz Oette convened a half-day seminar at SOAS with the Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA Network). The event was launch of the third issue of SIHA's journal Wom-en in Islam. The panel included contributions from Hala Karib of SIHA and Prof Ziba Mir-Hosseini of CIMEL. A group of SoL postgraduate students (from the Human Rights and Islamic Law class) performed an innovative set of readings from the Journal to great appreciation from the audience.

CIMEL. On 12-13 May, Lynn Welchman co-convened a research planning workshop with Professor Ziba Mir-Hosseini (of CIMEL and Musawah), Zainah Anwar (of Musawah) and Dr Mulki al-Sharmani (of the Faculty of Theology, University of Finland). The workshop was a brain-storming of expert participants under the title Towards an Egalitarian Ethics of Muslim Marriage, with a view to collaborative development of a major research project and associated grant funding applications. Our contribution was co-funded by CIMEL and by the SOAS Seed Corn fund; the majority of the funding for the event came from the University of Finland and the rest from Musawah.

CHRL (LUTZ OETTE). Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee, 'Sudan's compliance with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: Anti human trafficking initiatives, the rights of refugees and the human rights of migrants' (January 2018).

CIMEL, CHRL and SIHA Network. Launch of the Women in Islam Journal, Issue 3, 24 March 2018.

The LEDC (Law, Environment and Development Centre) hosted the Eleventh Annual Public Evening Seminar Series (2017-2018):

23/11/17: Is Donald Trump's criticism of the UN Human Rights Council justified, and what are the prospects for reform of the UN's apex human rights body? Speaker: Marc Limon, Universal Rights Group

30/11/17: Environmental Governance Beyond Borders: The Impact of European Union's Normative Power in Non-EU Countries - Speakers: Florent Pelsy and Virginie Rouas

8/01/18: The Search for Principles of Transnational Environmental Regulation - Speaker: Dr Veerle Heyvaert, LSE

25/01/18: Geoengineering: Risks, Rights and Ethics – Speaker: Dr Sam Adelman, University of Warwick

01/02/18: International criminal law and environmental crimes: Possibilities and limitations - Speaker: Richard J Rogers, Global Diligence LLP

08/02/18: Blockchains' Legal Puzzles and Trust Games to Guarantee Sustainable Commodity Supply Chains - Speaker: Dr Feja Lesniewska | School of Law/CISD SOAS University of London

01/03/18: An Inclusive Energy Transition? The Role of Public Participation in International Energy Governance - Speaker: Dr Leslie-Anne Duvic-Paoli | King's College London

22/03/18: Human Rights & Climate Change: the Case of the Indian Sundarbans - Speaker: Birsha Ohdedar

LEDC. Event, 'Designing Law and Policy Towards Managing Plastics in a Circular Economy' (2 June 2018) available at: : <https://www.soas.ac.uk/ledc/events/02jun2018-designing-law-and-policy-towards-managing-plastics-in-a-circular-economy.html>

PhD Completions

Chung Hsien Lee (supervisor: Philippe Cullett) 'Fragmentation, Integration and Sustainable De-velopment – Reflections from the Market-Based Mechanism for GHG Emission Reduction' (January 2018).

Sujith Koonan (supervisor: Philippe Cullett) 'The Right To Sanitation In India: A Multi-Faceted Right In Search Of A Comprehensive Framework' (November 2017).

Sham Arun-Qayyum (supervisor: W. Menski) 'People, not Societies, are Multicultural: An Inter-disciplinary Study examining how Muslims in Britain are Negotiating Overlapping (Legal) Norms, Identities and Traditions' (30 September 2016).