

Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law



Newsletter No. 10 (November 2016)

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IMPRESSION FROM THE ESIL-AAIL CONFERENCE, THE HAGUE

On 14 October 2016, ESIL and the African Association of International Law (AAIL) co-organized a well-received conference on **International Legal Aspect of Migration: African and European Perspectives**. The conference generously funded by the Ministry of Security and Justice of the Netherlands and co-sponsored by the American Society of International Law (ASIL), brought together speakers from 12 countries, more than half of

them from Africa. In order to accommodate francophone speakers and attendees, English-French interpretation services were provided throughout the day. The conference was organized around four panels, covering **Foundational Issues**, including the drivers of irregular migration, **African and European Perspectives on Recent “Safe (Third) Country “ Debates**, including the increasing securitization of migration and asylum law in Europe, **Multilateral Dependencies and Migration Management**, and **The End of the Journey – International Legal Obligations Regarding Resettlement, Relocation, and Return**. After a day full of engaged discussion among the panelist as well as the audience, the general sentiment expressed in the various concluding remarks was that hopefully this conference was not only the first time AAIL and ESIL cooperated, but that it may be the start of a series of cooperation between the sister organizations in order to foster fruitful and much-needed dialogue in areas of mutual concern.

RESULTS QUESTIONNAIRE AND IG BUSINESS MEETING IN RIGA

The questionnaire on future activities of the IG, organized by the previous Coordinating Committee, has resulted in a variety of ideas. Through this newsletter we would like to give you a summary of the output and subsequent action.

Several topics for workshops and conferences were coined. Drawing upon several of the ideas, the IG Coordinating Committee is planning a conference on ‘The Future of

International Migration Law' in the second half of 2017. International migration law is a multi-layered body of law, which is composed of an ever-growing number of norms relating to various branches of international law (e.g. human rights law, international refugee law, international labour law, international trade law, law of the sea, nationality law). The conference would look for synergies, coherence and new trends in the development of international migration law in the broad sense.

IG members also clearly indicated they would like to support the appearance of blog-series on certain issues on our website: local integration of migrants; financial aspects of migration; the state of the right to asylum in international law; migrants' international rights to education; relocation and resettlement to name just a few.

Some members proposed the idea of visiting refugee camp and/or a reception center. The IG Coordinating Committee will look into whether it is feasible to organize a joint visit – perhaps as a side-activity to an IG event – and to invite IG members to participate.

The organizing of a student writing competition on topics pertaining to migration and refugee law was also proposed.

Lastly, the Coordinating Committee was able to meet with a few IG members at the ESIL Annual Conference in Riga (8 September 2016) where we organized an **IG business meeting**. There it was suggested that a European **database on PhD's** in migration and refugee law could be a useful tool and that the IG could play a role in catalyzing this. For those interested in helping to set up this project, please contact kgombeer@vub.ac.be.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

A new book, written by our IG member **Eric Fripp**, has been recently [published](#), which is entitled ***Nationality and Statelessness in the International Law of Refugee Status*** (Hart Publishing, Oxford, 2016). The book focuses upon analysis of the international law regarding nationality and statelessness (now including applicable parts of international human rights and non-discrimination law) as this affects the law of entitlement to refugee status. Interest Group members receive a 20% discount (£70, £56, using the discount code CV7 at the checkout).

Another new book, edited by Rosemary Owens and Joanna Howe, entitled ***Temporary Labour Migration in the Global Era: The Regulatory Challenges*** appeared at Hart Publishing, Oxford. [This collection of essays](#) subjects the topic to a sustained socio-legal analysis on a comparative basis, critiquing the underpinning conventionally accepted as fundamental in this area. IG members receive a 20% discount (£85, £68, using the discount code CV7 at the checkout).

We encourage Interest Group members to share their (upcoming) publications with the coordinating committee via kgombeer@vub.ac.be so that we can spread the word!

EVENTS AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Events

On 16 November 2016, Public Policy Exchange is holding a one-day conference on '**Reforming the Common European Asylum System: Towards a Unified, Fair and Effective Policy**' in Brussels. More info can be found [here](#).

On 16 and 17 November, the British Academy [hosts](#) a conference on '**European Attitudes to Immigration**' in London.

Call for papers

The Oxford Refugee Studies Centre will host a conference at Keble College from 16-17 March 2017 and has published a [call for papers](#): '**Beyond Crisis: Rethinking Refugee Studies**'. The deadline for abstracts is 15 November 2016.

The Université Clermont Auvergne is hosting the 10th 'International Conference on **Migration and Development**', 29-30 June 2017. The call for papers can be found [here](#).

The University of Texas – El Paso, the Migration Policy Centre (EUI) and Monash University are jointly organizing a **Smuggling Workshop** in El Paso, TX in April 6-7 2017. They have launched an accompanying [call for papers](#): 'Critical Approaches to Irregular Migration Facilitation: Grounding the Theory and Praxis of Human Smuggling". The deadline for abstracts is 15 November 2016.

The American Society of International Law's International Refugee Law Interest Group (IRLIG) announced its third annual **International Refugee Law Student Writing Competition**, co-sponsored by the Global Migration Centre at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva; the International Law Students Association (ILSA); the International Journal of Refugee Law; and the American Society of International Law (ASIL). Papers may address any topic related to international law and refugees, internally-displaced persons (IDPs), and forced migrants. The [deadline for submissions](#) is 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time, 21 November 2016.

VACANCIES AND INTERNSHIPS

The Institute of International Law and International Relations and the European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy at the **University of Graz** are looking to fill a Research Position (pre-doc) for a period of 30 months. The research project looks at how transnational governance or irregular migration impacts citizenship. More info can be found [here](#). The application deadline is 15 November 2016.

UNHCR UK is looking for four [Legal Protection interns](#) in London, starting from 19 December 2016. The deadline for applications is 13 November 2016

The [Interest Group on Migration and Refugee Law](#) (MigRefLaw) is one of the interest groups of the [European Society of International Law](#). The IG focuses on the law and policy of states and international organisations with regard to people who seek entry to their communities. The movement of people across borders is a defining reality of our time. This IG aims to provide a forum for discussion on the legal principles and processes governing the movement of people as well as their reception in host communities. By doing so, the group hopes to build a shared knowledge base among ESIL members interested in migration and refugee law.