

McGill Centre for
Human Rights
and Legal Pluralism



Centre sur les droits de la
personne et le pluralisme
juridique de McGill

2020



ANNUAL REPORT



Management Board

2020-2021

Myriam Denov, Professor
Chiara Fish, External Member
David Howes, Professor
Robert Leckey, Dean & Chair
Kimia Towfigh, Undergraduate Student Representative
Tanya Monforte, Graduate Student Representative
Víctor Muñoz-Fraticelli, Professor
Vrinda Narain, Professor
Nancy Ross, Associate Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

Management Team

François Crépeau, Centre Director (until Aug 2020)
Nandini Ramanujam, Executive Director & Director of Programs;
Interim Centre Director (Sept 2020-present)
Sharon Webb, Programs Coordinator (absent April 2019-Aug 2020)
Robyn Rugenius, Interim Programs Coordinator (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)

2019-2020

Myriam Denov, Professor
Chiara Fish, External Member
David Howes, Professor
Robert Leckey, Dean & Chair
Kevin Pinkoski, Undergraduate Student Representative
Tanya Monforte, Graduate Student Representative
Víctor Muñoz-Fraticelli, Professor
Vrinda Narain, Professor
Nancy Ross, Associate Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

Management Team

François Crépeau, Centre Director
Nandini Ramanujam, Executive Director & Director of Programs
Sharon Webb, Programs Coordinator (absent April 2019-Aug 2020)
Robyn Rugenius, Interim Programs Coordinator (Oct 2019-Sept 2020)
Yvana Novoa Curich, Interim Programs Coordinator (April-Oct 2019)

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

McGill Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism

Created in September 2005, the Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism was formed to provide students, professors and the larger community with a locus of intellectual and physical resources for engaging critically with the ways in which law affects some of the most compelling social problems of our modern era, most notably human rights issues. Since then, the Centre has distinguished itself by its innovative legal and interdisciplinary approach to understanding and advancing human rights in a complex and legally plural global community.

www.mcgill.ca/humanrights

This report covers the period from January – December 2020

Contents

05 Opening Remarks

06 Our Community

**15 Selected Publications
and Grants**

24 Public Engagement

**29 Outreach on Core
Themes**

**35 Interdisciplinary
Research**

**36 The Centre in the
World**

**41 Student Spotlights
& Testimonials**

**44 Collaborators &
Partners**

Cover photo: Adelise Lalande, Cambodia
Contents photo: Alicia Blimkie, The Philippines
Back photo: Brittnei Tee, Yukon

OPENING REMARKS

Mot de bienvenue

“Solidarity in the times of distancing”, which is the title of a roundtable convened by the Centre to mark International Human Rights Day, captures the life of the CHRLP in 2020. The pandemic compelled us to rethink ways in which we could continue to support and work with our students, members, visitors and partners. Creativity and innovation, which are main strengths of the Centre, allowed us to quickly adapt to the constraints posed by the pandemic and respond to the needs of our community. The International Human Rights Internship Program in collaboration with our partners offered 15 remote internships, with 10 internships deferred to Summer 2021. We continued to lend support to visitors amidst lockdown conditions and travel disruptions and enabled their safe return home.

In spite of the abrupt move to the remote teaching format, the Centre successfully concluded the work of its first Academic freedom monitoring clinic in the Winter 2020 term. Key elements from the [report](#) produced by the clinic has been incorporated in [Free to Think Report](#) of the Scholars at Risk Network. The pandemic did not disrupt the launch of Disability Inclusive Climate Research Action Program. The Program has been created in partnership between the Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and Environment and the Centre. Its [companion research project](#), which is funded by SSHRC is a demonstration of our ability to foster connections between advocacy and high impact research on cutting edge human rights issues.

Harnessing the potential of Zoom platform, we have been able to collaborate with members and partners to offer a wide array of events. Some examples of these collaborative initiatives are the Annie MacDonald Langstaff 2020-21 series, the Women’s Engagement in Sustainable Peace Building in Afghanistan event in partnership with the Women Living Under Muslim Laws Network (WLUML) and the Human Rights Day roundtable with SAR Canada. We have also welcomed numerous international Fellows through a remote fellowship arrangement, one of whom is a Scholar at Risk from Turkey.

The launch of the [CHRLP Forum](#), with the aim of creating an inclusive and welcoming space for fostering conversations on issues of concern to our community has generated immense interest. Thus far, the three successful sessions held under its auspices reaffirm the need for such a platform. The second edition of our blog series on the theme of Inclusive Citizenship and Deliberative Democracy has already had an impressive range of posts covering issues as diverse as [systemic racism in Canada](#) to the [war of narratives perpetuated by the elites in Ethiopia](#). The [Internship working paper series](#) continues to be an impactful knowledge dissemination platform and show case research excellence of our B.C.L/J.D. students. We continue to derive inspiration and strength from our students and alumni. Their generosity, creativity and resilience drive us to advance the mission of the Centre and serve our global community. A big thank you to the CHRLP team, our members and our friends and supporters.

In solidarity,



Nandini Ramanujam

Executive Director & Director of Programs; Interim Director

OUR COMMUNITY

Notre communauté

François Crépeau

Centre Director
2015 – 2020

Nandini Ramanujam

Executive Director &
Director of Programs;
Interim Director
2020 –

Sharon Webb

Programs Coordinator

35
Full Members

6
Associate Members

Robyn Rugenius

Interim
Programs Coordinator
2019-2020

Note of Thanks



We would like to extend our gratitude to **Professor François Crépeau** for his leadership as the Director of the Centre from 2015-2020. In his role as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants (2011-2017), which overlapped with his Directorship, he raised the profile of the Centre on the global stage. Through all his high level international engagements, such as, Member of the Scientific Committee of the Agency for Fundamental Rights of the European Union, Chair of the Thematic Working Group: Migrant Rights and Integrations in Host Communities, KNOMAD - Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, World Bank Group, and a member of the Advisory Committee of the International Migration Initiative of the Open Society Foundations (NY), he has connected the Centre to international institutions and key actors. His continuing support to the International Human Rights Internship program and numerous students affiliated with the Centre, allows us to offer rich experiential learning opportunities. We wish Professor Crépeau all the best and look forward to the continued collaboration with him and Hans and Tamar Oppenheimer Chair on Public International Law.

Centre Members

Membres du Centre

Although the Centre is based at the McGill Faculty of Law, and many of the Centre's members are law professors and lecturers, we are committed to an interdisciplinary approach to human rights. 50% of our members are either cross-appointed or drawn from outside the Faculty of Law, and include political scientists, philosophers, anthropologists, geographers, historians, and specialists in religion and social work. As of December 2020, the CHRLP team comprised **35 Full Members** and **8 Associate Members**.

Full Members

Kirsten Anker (*Law, McGill*)
Mark Antaki (*Law, McGill*)
Jonas-Sébastien Beaudry (*Law, McGill*)
Adelle Blackett (*Law, McGill*)
Megan Bradley (*Political Science, McGill*)
Angela Campbell (*Law, McGill*)
François Crépeau (*Law, McGill*)
Allison Christians (*Law, McGill*)
Irwin Cotler (*Law, Wallenberg Centre*)
Armand de Mestral (*Law, McGill*)
Myriam Denov (*Social Work, McGill*)
Bernard Duhaime (*Law, UQAM*)
Pearl Eliadis (*Law, McGill*)
Omar Farahat (*Law, McGill*)
Evan Fox-Decent (*Law, McGill*)
Jane Glenn (*Law, McGill*)
David Howes (*Anthropology, Law, Concordia*)
Sébastien Jodoin (*Law, McGill*)
Derek Jones (*Law, McGill*)
Alana Klein (*Law, McGill*)

Jacob Levy (*Political Science, Philosophy, McGill*)
Catherine Lu (*Political Science, McGill*)
Marie Manikis (*Law, McGill*)
Frédéric Mégret (*Law, McGill*)
Victor Muñoz-Fraticelli (*Law, Political Science, McGill*)
Vrinda Narain (*Law, McGill*)
Ronald Niezen (*Anthropology, Law, McGill*)
René Provost (*Law, McGill*)
Nandini Ramanujam (*Law, McGill*)
Shaheen Shariff (*Education, McGill*)
Colleen Sheppard (*Law, McGill*)
Mirja Trilsch (*Sciences Juridiques; UQAM*)
Jon Unruh (*Geography, McGill*)
Shauna Van Praagh (*Law, McGill*)
Daniel Weinstock (*Law, Arts, McGill*)

Associate Members

Payam Akhavan (*Law, Massey College*)
Michael Brown (*ISID, McGill*)
Daniel Cere (*Religious Studies, McGill*)
Laura Madokoro (*History, Carleton*)
Aristide Nononsi (*Lawyers Without Borders Canada in Mali*)
Cecilia Thompson (*Human Rights Consultant, Independent*)

Member Accomplishments

Accomplissements des membres

We celebrate the accomplishments of each of our members for their excellent work and contribution to their discipline and to the Centre. Each year, the Centre sees many members publicly recognized for their expertise and career achievements. Congratulations to all members for their continued hard work, great ideas, and high ideals. Here are a few highlights from 2020:

- **Mark Antaki** was appointed director of the Paul-André Crépeau Centre for Private and Comparative Law as of 1 August 2020.
- **Adelle Blackett** was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences with the Royal Society of Canada. She was also awarded the Canadian Association of University Teachers Award for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. At Fall Convocation, she also received the Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching.
- **Megan Bradley** received the Principal's Prize for Outstanding Emerging Researchers for her influential scholarly work on forced migration and displacement.
- **Maria Adelaida Ceballos-Bedoya** was named as a 2020 Vanier Scholar by the Government of Canada for her exceptional scholarly studies.
- **Hon. Irwin Cotler** was named Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.
- **Dorothy Estrada-Tanck** was appointed by the UN Human Rights Council as a member of the UN Working Group on Discrimination Against Women and Girls.
- **Sébastien Jodoin, Nandini Ramanujam, and Yolanda Muñoz** successfully launched the Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Program, with the Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and the Environment.
- **Marie Manikis** was named a William Dawson Scholar and won the Principal's Prize for Outstanding Emerging Researcher.
- **Myriam Denov** was awarded the prestigious 2020 Killam Research Fellowship and the SSHRC Impact Award for her research on children and families affected by war.
- **Alana Klein** was awarded a grant from the McGill Interdisciplinary Initiative in Infection and Immunity (MI4) for her timely research project, "Law in Pandemic Times: Powers and Accountability when Facing Emergency."
- **Evan Fox-Decent** was named Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Cosmopolitan Law and Justice.
- **Shaheen Shariff** was selected as a recipient for the International Alliance for Women (TIAW) World of Difference Award in the Education category.

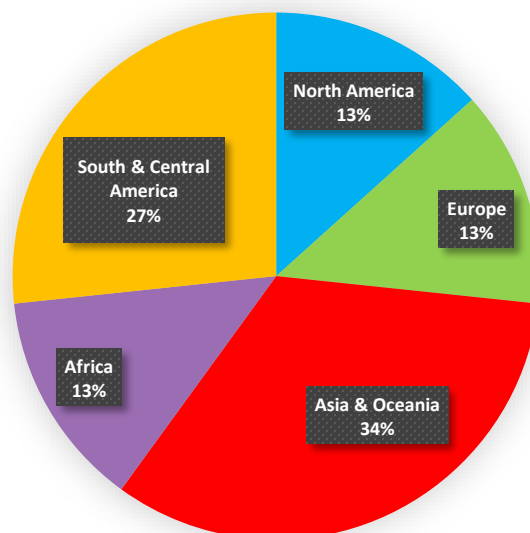
Fellows and Researchers

Membres et chercheurs

The CHRLP continues to attract some of the brightest scholars and human rights professionals from around the world. We are privileged to receive support from a range of public and private funds that allows us to offer a wide variety of student and research fellowships and assistantships. In 2020, we were pleased to host:

11	4
O'Brien Graduate Fellows	Visiting Researchers
4	6
O'Brien Fellows in Residence	Rathlyn Disability Coordinators
8	5
Associate Fellows	Student Researchers & Coordinators

Global Distribution of Fellows and Researchers



O'Brien Graduate Fellows

Thanks to the generosity of alumnus **David O'Brien** (B.C.L, 1965), the Centre awards O'Brien Fellowships to several new graduate students every year. The students bring their vibrancy and fresh perspectives to enrich the life of the Centre, where they may also contribute by convening reading groups, organizing events, sitting on selection committees, and engaging with the Centre in a wide variety of ways.

In 2020, the Centre welcomed 4 new O'Brien Graduate Fellows:

Laura Baron-Mendoza, Colombia
Luis Chinchilla, Honduras
Moushita Dutta, India
S M Morsalin Hider, Bangladesh

Seven Graduate Fellows remained with the CHRLP, continuing their studies from the 2019-2020 academic year:

Similoluwa Ayoola, Nigeria
Maria Adelaida Ceballos-Bedoya, Colombia
J Mauricio Gaona, Colombia/United States
Pranoto Iskandar, Indonesia
Matthew McKillop, New Zealand
Tanya Monforte, United States
Vishakha Wijenayake, Sri Lanka



The Centre congratulates 5 O'Brien graduates in 2020: **Shimelis Kene, Florence Ashley Paré, Tereza Bartova, Perpetua Senkoro, and Marika Giles Samson!** We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

O'Brien Graduate Fellow Spotlight

"The CHRLP undoubtedly played an important part of my short 12-months at McGill's Faculty of Law because of its diversity and its push for open, respectful and creative dialogue. I received constant support and encouragement from the team at the Centre and learned a great deal from Sharon Webb and Professor Ramanujam. Moreover, I was left inspired by all the programmes hosted at the Centre and am grateful to have been involved in whatever capacity possible."

—**Rapti Ratnayake**, O'Brien Graduate Fellow & CHRLP Events Assistant (2018)



O'Brien Fellows in Residence – Winter 2020



Omogboyega Abe, Nigeria – Omo Abe is a law teacher, author, and policy consultant, with expertise in business and human rights, sustainable development, natural resources law, and environmental law. He is also the Managing Editor for the *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa*, University of Cape Town, South Africa, and a Member of the Editorial Board of the Pretoria University Law Press (PULP), University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Dorothy Estrada-Tanck, Spain – Assistant Professor (tenure-track) of International Law and International Relations at the University of Murcia, Spain, and co-Director of the Legal Clinic of its Faculty of Law. She holds a PhD in Law from the European University Institute, an MSc in Political Theory from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a law degree (Mexico City). She focuses on issues of human rights, migration, gender, and socio-economic justice.



Pwaangulongii Dauod, Nigeria – Writer and winner of the 2018 Gerard Kraak Prize. He studied Literature at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and earned an MFA Creative Writing from the University of Virginia. A winner of the 2018 Gerard Kraak Prize, Dauod has also been shortlisted for the Miles Morland Writing Scholarship and Short Story Day Africa Prize. He has written for *Granta Magazine*, *The Evergreen Review*, the *Johannesburg Review of Books* and *Brittle Paper*. He is currently working on a novel and a booklength essay.



Fatemeh Sadeghi, Iran – Researcher and lecturer of Political Science and Gender Studies in Iran. She is specialized in Political Thought, Gender Studies, Islamic Political Thoughts, and Iranian Politics. She obtained her PhD in Political Thought in 2004 from Tarbiat Modarres University in Tehran. She has published several books and academic articles in both English and Persian.

Associate Fellows

Associate Fellows are independent scholars whose work coincides with the intellectual themes and reach of the Centre. In 2020, the Centre hosted six Associate Fellows:

Edin Hodžić, Bosnia-Herzegovina, is co-founder, Director and Head of Public Law Program at Analitika, Center for Social Research from Sarajevo, a think-tank in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He has worked on war crimes cases at the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He holds a DCL from McGill University, LLM from the University of Oxford and BA in Law from the University of Sarajevo.



Malado Agne, Sénégal, est enseignante à l'Institut des Droits de l'Homme et de la Paix (IDHP) de l'Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar. Docteure en droit de l'Université Le Havre-Normandie, elle a consacré sa thèse à l'étude du statut juridique de l'islam en France. Elle a enseigné le droit dans plusieurs universités, en France et au Sénégal. Elle a également travaillé dans le domaine de la justice. Ses recherches portent sur les relations entre État et religion et sur les sources africaines du droit. Elle est affiliée au Centre Universitaire Rouennais d'Études Juridiques (CUREJ).

Pierre-Luc Bouchard, Canada, manages the Legal Aid Clinic of the Refugee Centre in Montreal. Over his career, Pierre-Luc Bouchard has represented several asylum seekers and refugees in their immigration procedures before the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. He is also co-president of *Alternatives*, an organisation that works in international cooperation, and he is also a board member of the Milton Park Community.



Abdourahmane Seck, Sénégal, est en poste à la Faculté des civilisations, des religions, des arts et de la communication de l'Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, au Sénégal, où il enseigne au Centre d'étude des religions qu'il a dirigé entre 2012 et 2014. Il a une formation multidisciplinaire englobant la philosophie, l'anthropologie et l'histoire moderne et contemporaine de l'Afrique.

Rodziana Razali, Malaysia, Steinberg Post-Doctoral Fellow in International Migration Law (2018-2019) holds a PhD from the National University of Malaysia and an LLM from the University of Melbourne. Rodziana previously served in the Malaysian Judicial and Legal Service, and currently is a senior lecturer at the Islamic Science University of Malaysia, an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya (Non-practicing) and a member of Statelessness Network Asia Pacific (SNAP).



Edit Frenyó, Hungary, is currently a Hauser post-doctoral Global Fellow affiliated with NYU's Center for Human Rights and Global Justice. Edit holds a JD from the University of Szeged (Hungary), an LL.M. from Boston College Law School and an SJD from Georgetown Law. Prior to joining NYU, Edit was a Steinberg Post-Doctoral Fellow in Migration Law and Policy (2018 – 2020), at McGill University Faculty of Law, affiliated with the CHRLP and working closely with Prof. François Crépeau.

Visiting Researchers

Each year, the Centre welcomes Visiting Researchers, who are in residence at McGill for a limited time. In 2020, the Centre was pleased to host:

Tamara Thermitus, Canada, Ad.E., LLM, 2013, specializes in human rights. Her master's at McGill Law focused on human rights, notably racial discrimination and defamation from a Critical Race Theory perspective. She chaired the *Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse* in 2017-2018. For over 20 years, she was a litigation lawyer in the Quebec Regional Office of Justice Canada.



Shimelis Kene, Ethiopia, D.C.L., is a former O'Brien Fellow. He holds an LL.M in International Human Rights from Northwestern University and an LL.B from Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia). His doctoral thesis, entitled "Third World State Agency: A Postcolonial Critique of Ethiopia's Antiterrorism Law" interrogates postcolonial and critical international law theories.

Mauro Cristeche, **Argentina**, Ph.D, is a Researcher at Argentina's National Research Council (CONICET) and Assistant Professor of Constitutional Law at the National University of La Plata (UNLP), in Argentina. He is a Researcher and Board Member at the Institute of Legal Culture (UNLP), where he coordinates the Area “State, Public Policies and Rights”. His area of research includes economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCR), welfare and labor policies, poverty, and inequality.

O'Brien Fellow in Residence Spotlight

“The CHRLP offers a vibrant and inclusive environment, with a team that dedicates itself to excellence. The highlights of my fellowship included the high quality of the academic conditions, the interdisciplinary approach to human rights and the valuable diversity of profiles in the O'Brien Program.”

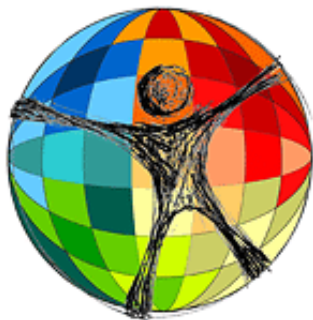
—**Mauro Cristeche**, O'Brien Fellow in Residence (2019)



Student Researchers & Coordinators

Our CHRLP community is especially enriched by the kind collaboration and diligent work of the student researchers and coordinators who lead and support many important initiatives at the Centre.

- **Emma Lodge** joined the team in fall 2020 as O'Brien Program Coordinator, taking over the reins from **Kevin Pinkoski**, whose dedicated service to the program and its international visitors has been deeply appreciated since 2018. Emma also takes over from Kevin as co-editor of the CHRLP blog.
- **Kimia Towfigh**, as skilled as she is versatile, continued to wear many hats at Centre. Since 2018, she has been at the heart of events, publicity, research, design, and administrative support. In 2020, she also helped develop a new Legal Clinic course at McGill Law in collaboration with Scholars at Risk.
- **Justin Jalea** worked to support the Scholars at Risk (Canada) network, and in fall 2020, added Centre communications to his portfolio. Justin will also act as co-editor of the CHRLP blog for 2020-2021, taking over from the previous editors and blog champions, **Kevin Pinkoski** and **Pierre-Alexandre Cardinal**.
- **Julia Green** and **Bianca Braganza** skillfully coordinated the ever-evolving Human Rights Internship Program. They flexibly and adeptly navigated the many challenges of supporting interns during the most unusual of summers.
- **Ellen Spannagel**, **Nevada McEniry-Hatajlo**, **Amanda Bowie-Edwards**, and **Elise Mallette** joined the CHRLP team as Rathlyn Disability & the Law Program Coordinators in fall 2020 and also helped to launch of the Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Program (DICARP). They take over from **Zoë Christmas** and **Leila Alfaro** who envisioned and hosted the Disability Series in 2019-2020.
- **Robyn Rugenius** joined the team in fall 2019 and hit the ground running, adeptly juggling the busy calendar of the Centre and all aspects of event management and Centre support. She was also agile in helping the Centre adapt to the reality of online events.



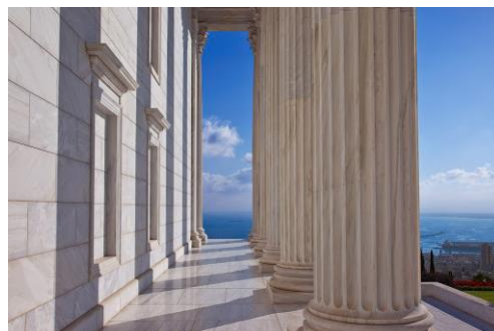
Reclaiming Universal Human Rights in a Plural Global Order

Under the theme of ***“Reclaiming Universal Human Rights in a Plural Global Order”*** in the 2019-2020 academic year, the CHRLP blog published 25 peer-reviewed and edited original essays from 26 different contributors, interacting with cutting-edge research. Topics ranged from theories of global human rights, to corporate social responsibility. Below are a few highlights of blog posts that have been published on our website this year:

- Maria Ceballos-Bedoya, **“Inequalities in the Colombian Legal Profession: An Opportunity to Reflect on the Chess Game of Law”** (28 February 2020)
- Dorothy Estrada-Tanck, **“Reclaiming Human Economic and Social Rights in a Convulsed Legal and Economic Order”** (31 March 2020)
- Paula Martins, **“Not Victims, Survivors and Activists”** (5 April 2020)
- Colleen Sheppard, Tamara Thermitus & Derek J. Jones, **“Understanding How Racism Becomes Systemic”** (18 August 2020)

Deliberative Democracy and Inclusive Citizenship

For the 2020-2021 academic year, the CHRLP expands its outreach with an open call for blog posts with the designated theme of ***Deliberative Democracy and Inclusive Citizenship***. With the rise of populism and native nationalism, along with increasing income and wealth inequalities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, now is an opportune moment to reflect on and engage with opportunities and looming challenges for deliberative democracy and civic participation worldwide. Below are recent blog posts that engage with our new theme:



- Pearl Eliadis, **“Inclusive Citizenship and Health Care”** (27 October 2020)
- Tamara Thermitus, **“L’héroïsme de Joyce Echaquan”** (12 November 2020)
- Kimia Towfigh, **“Challenging Censorship: Open Society Justice Initiative Opposes ICC Executive Order”** (16 November 2020)

Blog Editor Spotlight



“The CHRLP blog is yet another platform offered by the Centre that provides a global forum for meaningful discussion and cutting-edge research on pertinent themes regarding human rights discourse. As a co-editor of the blog in fall 2020, I gained an invaluable perspective of emerging scholarship and thoroughly enjoyed engaging with authors to produce high quality pieces for the CHRLP website. The ongoing editorial process ultimately sharpened my writing skills, exposed me to different areas of research and enriched my legal education.”
—**Kimia Towfigh**, Events & Office Assistant (2018-2020)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Publications sélectionnées

The following is a sample of the pioneering work undertaken by our members between 2019-2020. This small sample of publications showcases the extraordinary depth of scholarly contribution from our members and affiliates, highlighting the interconnectedness between the Centre's contribution to both ideas and action. The Centre's members are prolific in many ways, not least in the publishing of books, articles, and op-eds.

Anker, Kirsten et al, *From Environmental to Ecological Law* (Routledge, 2021).

Anker, Kirsten, "Indigenous Law: What non-Indigenous People Can Learn From Indigenous Legal Thought" in Mariana Valverde et al, eds, *The Routledge Handbook of Law and Society* (Routledge, 2021).

Blackett, Adelle, "Theorizing Emancipatory Transnational Futures of International Labor Law" *AJIL Unbound* (2019).

Blackett, Adelle, *Everyday Transgressions: Domestic Workers' Transnational Challenge to International Labor Law* (Cornell University Press, 2019).

Bradley, Megan, *The International Organization for Migration: Commitments, Challenges, Complexities* (London: Routledge, 2019).

Bradley, Megan, James Milner and Blair Peruniak (eds.) *Refugees' Roles in Resolving Displacement and Building Peace: Beyond Beneficiaries* (Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2019).

Campbell, Angela, "Equity Education Initiatives within Canadian Universities: Promises and Limits" *Perspectives: Policy and Practice in Higher Education* (2019).

Christians, Allison, "The Search for Human Rights in Tax" in *Tax, Equality and Human Rights*, Philip Alston and Nikki Reisch, eds (OUP, 2019).

Christians, Allison, "Facebook's Libra: The Next Tax Challenge for the Digital Economy" *Stanford Journal of Blockchain Law and Policy* (2020).

Christians, Allison, "Taxation in the Age of Smart Contracts: The CryptoKitty Conundrum" *Ohio Technology Law Journal* (2020).

Crépeau, François, "L'émergence d'une conversation globale sur les politiques migratoires – Retour sur un mandat de Rapporteur Spécial des Nations Unies sur les droits de l'homme des migrants (2011-2017)" (2019) *Droits fondamentaux – Revue électronique*

- Crépeau, François et al, “From the 2015 European ‘Migration Crisis’ to the 2018 Global Compact for Migration: A Political Transition Short on Legal Standards” (2020) *McGill Journal of Sustainable Development Law*.
- Denov, Myriam, and Drumbl, M. “The Many Harms of Forced Marriage: Insights for Law from Ethnography in northern Uganda” (2020) *Journal of International Criminal Justice*, 18: 349-372.
- Denov, Myriam. “When Child Soldiers Grow Up: A Longitudinal Analysis of Post-War Adult Mental Health and Social Functioning” (2020) *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*.
- Denov, Myriam & Piolanti, A. “Identity Formation and Change in Children Born of Wartime Sexual Violence in Northern Uganda” (2020) *Journal of Youth Studies*.
- Denov, Myriam & Piolanti, A. “*Though My Father was a Killer, I Need to Know Him*”: Children Born of Genocidal Rape in Rwanda and their Perspectives on Fatherhood (2020) *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 107.
- Denov, Myriam & Fennig, M. “Interpreters Working in Mental Health Settings with Refugees: An Interdisciplinary Scoping Review” (2020) *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*.
- Denov, Myriam, Eramian, L, & Shevell, M. “*You Feel Like You Belong Nowhere*”: Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Social Identity in Post-Genocide Rwanda” (2020) *Journal of Genocide Studies and Prevention*, 14, 1: 40-59.
- Denov, Myriam, Ives, N, Sussman, T. *Introduction to Social Work in Canada: Histories, Contexts, and Practices*, 2nd ed (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020)
- Farahat, Omar, *The Foundation of Norms in Islamic Jurisprudence and Theology* (CUP, 2019)
- Fox-Decent, Evan, “Mandatory Multilateralism” (2019) *American Journal of International Law*.
- Howes, David, Veronique Dassié & Marie-Luce Gélard, dirs., “Habiter le monde: matérialités, art, sensorialités” (2020) *Anthropologie et Sociétés*.
- Howes, David, “Troubling Law’s Sensorium: Explorations in Sensational Jurisprudence” (2019) *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*.
- Howes, David, « Sentir le monde: Analyse critique, esthétique et juridique de la construction matérielle du sensorium moderne. » (2020) 44(1) *Anthropologie et Sociétés*.
- Howes, David, “Digging Up the Sensorium: On the Sensory Revolution in Archaeology” in Robin Skeates & Jo Day, eds, *The Routledge Handbook of Sensory Archaeology* (London: Routledge, 2020) at 21-34.

- Howes, David, Erin Lynch & Martin French, “A Touch of Luck and a ‘Real Taste of Vegas’: A Sensory Ethnography of the Montreal Casino” (2020) 15(2) *The Senses and Society* at 192-215.
- Jodoin, Sébastien, Nilani Ananthamoorthy & Katherine Lofts, “A Disability Rights Approach to Climate Governance” *Ecology Law Quarterly* (2020).
- Jodoin, Sébastien, Shannon Snow & Arielle Corobow, “Realizing the Right to Be Cold? Framing Processes and Outcomes associated with the 2005 Inuit Petition on Human Rights and Global Warming” *Law & Society Review* (2020).
- Jodoin, Sébastien & Morgan McGinn, “Climate Change Litigation in Canada” in Wolfgang Kahl & Marc-Philippe Weller, eds, *Climate Change Litigation: Liability and Damages from a Comparative Perspective* (Munich, Germany: Verlag Beck, 2020) 253-270.
- Jodoin, Sébastien, Ling Chen, & Carolina Gueiros, “Vice or Virtue? Flexibility in Transnational Environmental Law,” in Leslie-Anne Duvic-Paoli & Veerle Heyvaert, eds, *Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law* (London, UK: Edward Elgar, 2020).
- Klein, Alana, “Social and Economic Rights and the Legal Imagination” in Fannie Lafontaine & François Larocque, eds, *Doing Peace the Right Way: Essays in International Law and Relations in Honour of Louise Arbour* (Antwerp: Intersentia, 2019).
- Klein, Alana, *What Jurisdiction for Harm Reduction: Cannabis Policy Reform under Canadian Federalism* (McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2020).
- Lu, Catherine, Book symposium on *Justice and Reconciliation in World Politics*, “Structural Injustice and Alienation: A Reply to My Critics” *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* (2020) 23:4.
- Manikis, Marie & Jessica De Santi, “Punishment and Retribution Within the Bail Process: An Analysis of the Public Confidence in the Administration of Justice Ground for Pre-Trial Detention” *Canadian Journal of Law and Society* (2020).
- Manikis, Marie & Daniel Pascoe, “Making Sense of the Victim’s Role in Clemency Decision-Making” *International Review of Victimology* (2020).
- Manikis, Marie, “Comparative Perspectives on Victim Participation in Justice Proceedings” in E Erez & P Ibarra, eds, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of International Criminology* (Oxford University Press, 2020).
- Manikis, Marie, “Hearing the Victim at Sentencing” in D Cole and JV Roberts, *Sentencing in Canada: Law, Policy and Practice* (Irwin Law, 2020).
- Mégret, Frédéric, “Lost in Translation? Bill 21, Human Rights and the Margin of Appreciation” *McGill Law Journal* (2020).

- Mégret, Frédéric, “The Defendant in International Criminal Justice,” *Journal of International Criminal Justice* (2019).
- Mégret, Frédéric, “The Invisibility of Race at the ICC: Lessons from the US Criminal Justice System” *London Review of International Law* (2019).
- Mégret, Frédéric, “Bring Forth the Accused!': Defendant Attitudes and the Intimate Legitimacy of the International Criminal Trial” *Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law* (2019).
- Mégret, Frédéric, “Groups in NIACs: IHL, International Human Rights Law and the Question of the Right Authority” in *International Humanitarian Law and Non-State Actors* (2020).
- Narain, Vrinda, “Quebec’s Bill 62: Legislating Difference” (2019) 9:1 *Columbia Journal of Race and Law* pp. 53-93.
- Narain, Vrinda, *Difference and Inclusion: Reframing Reasonable Accommodation* (University of Toronto Press, 2019).
- Niezen, Ronald, *#HumanRights: The Technologies and Politics of Justice Claims in Practice* (Stanford University Press, July 2020).
- Niezen, Ronald, “Human Rights as Therapy: The Healing Paradigms of Transitional Justice” in Danielle Celemajer & Alexandre Lefebvre, eds, *The Subject of Human Rights* (Stanford University Press, 2020).
- Provost, René, “From Violence to Life: Children Born of War and Constructions of Victimhood” (2020) 53 *New York University Journal of International Law and Politics*.
- Ramanujam, Nandini, et al, “Distributive Justice and the Sustainable Development Goals: Delivering Agenda 2030 in India” *Law and Development Review* (2019).
- Ramanujam, Nandini, et al, “Recalibration of the Sustainable Development Agenda: Insights from the Conflict in Yemen” *McGill Journal of Sustainable Development Law* (2020).
- Sheppard, Colleen, “Contesting Discrimination in Quebec’s Bill 21: Constitutional Limits on Opting out of Human Rights” *Canadian Race Relations Foundation* (2019).
- Unruh, Jon, “The Priority dilemma of Western sanctions on Syria’s agricultural reconstruction” *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* (2020).
- Unruh, Jon, “The legislative and institutional framework for war-affected land rights in Iraq: Up to the task post-ISIS?” *Arab Law Quarterly* (2020).
- Van Praagh, Shauna & David Sandomierski, *Law and Learning in the Time of Pandemic – A Collage* (2020).

GRANTS AND RESEARCH AWARDS

Subventions et Bourses de recherche

Members of the Centre collaborate and also work independently on their research. Below is, again, only a sample of funded projects currently underway at the Centre and among the team.

Payam Akhavan	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2019-2020. <i>“Strengthening Justice for International Crimes: A Canadian Partnership”.</i>	\$10,412
Kirsten Anker	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2019-2020. <i>“Les humanités juridiques et les mondes du droit”.</i>	\$49,487
Kirsten Anker	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2018-2021. <i>“Intendance Environnementale Autochtone et Développement Alternatif”.</i>	\$606,000
Kirsten Anker	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2019-2020. <i>“Indigenous Rights, Indigenous Laws and Interlegalities”.</i>	\$25,000
Mark Antaki	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2019-2021. <i>“Les humanités juridiques et les mondes du droit”.</i>	\$194,976
Adelle Blackett	Canada Foundation for Innovation, 2017-2020. <i>“Legal Mapping Database of Transnational Uses of International Labour Law”.</i>	\$72,600
Adelle Blackett	McGill University (Internal Funding), 2017-2020. <i>“Legal Mapping Database of Transnational Uses of International Labour Law”.</i>	\$30,485
Adelle Blackett	Grouping of Canadian Companies and Corporations, 2017-2020. <i>“Legal Mapping Database of Transnational Uses of International Labour Law”.</i>	\$6,067

Megan Bradley	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Grant, 2015-2020. <i>“The International Organization for Migration: Understanding a rising humanitarian actor”.</i>	\$161,000
Megan Bradley	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2018-2025. <i>“Civil Society and the Global Refugee Regime”.</i>	\$2,500,000
Angela Campbell	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2016-2022. « Accès au droit et accès à la justice » (ADAJ), co-investigator.	\$2,500,000
Allison Christians	Ford Foundation, 2018-2020. <i>“Core support for research and policy analysis to align global standards for allocation of multinational’s taxable profits”.</i>	\$156,869
François Crépeau	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2019-2021. «Protection des réfugiés, pertes et lutes par la justice: du context local au context mondial ».	\$78,000
François Crépeau	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2017-2023. <i>“The protection of the human rights of migrants in the emerging global migration governance regime”.</i>	\$98,609.55
François Crépeau	EU Horizon Work Programme, 2020. <i>“Vulnerabilities under the Global Protection Regime: How Does the Law Assess, Address, Shape and Produce the Vulnerabilities of the Protection Seekers?”</i>	€3,030,932.50
Myriam Denov & Shauna Van Praagh	FRQSC Soutien aux Équipes de Recherche, 2020-2024 <i>Children and Families Affected By War & Migration.</i>	\$360,000
Evan Fox-Decent	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2018-2022. <i>“Les frontières de la politique et de la normativité”.</i>	\$367,404

Evan Fox-Decent	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2017-2023. <i>“The Cosmopolitan Justice of International Law”</i> .	\$189,411
Evan Fox-Decent	Canada Research Chair (Tier 1), <i>Cosmopolitan Law & Justice.</i>	\$1,400,000
Evan Fox-Decent	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2019-2020. <i>“Constitutionalism: The Political Theory and Political Science of a Free Society”</i> .	\$271,110
David Howes	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2020-2024. <i>“Explorations in Sensory Design”</i> .	\$297,000
Sébastien Jodoin	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2019-2020. <i>“Les vecteurs politiques transnationaux menant à la réforme de la gouvernance de l’environnements dans les pays en voie”</i> .	\$47,093
Sébastien Jodoin	Steinburg Fund for Interdisciplinary Global Health, 2020. <i>“Climate Governance and Federalism”</i> .	\$40,000
Sébastien Jodoin	Canada Research Chair (Tier-2), <i>Human Rights and Transnational Environmental Governance.</i>	\$520,000
Sébastien Jodoin & Nandini Ramanujam	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2018-2020. <i>Recognizing and Protecting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Efforts to Combat Climate Change.</i>	\$64,763
Alana Klein	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2017-2020. <i>“Harm Reduction, Public Policy, and Moral Controversy: Principle and Practice”</i> .	\$134,196

Alana Klein	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), 2017-2021. <i>“Harm reduction: Public health reasoning in law and public policy in relation to morally controversial behaviours”.</i>	\$439,876
Marie Manikis	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2016-2023. <i>“A Multi-Sector Partnership to Investigate and Develop Policy and Practice Models to Dismantle “Rape Culture” in Universities”.</i>	\$2,499,525
Víctor Muñiz-Fraticelli	Fonds de Recherche de Quebec – Société et Culture – (FRQSC), 2019-2023. <i>“Les frontières de la politique et de la normativité”.</i>	\$367,404
Víctor Muñiz-Fraticelli	John Templeton Foundation, 2018-2020. <i>“Constitutionalism: The Political Theory and Political Science of a Free Society”.</i>	\$271,110
Frédéric Mégret	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2017-2023. <i>“Strengthening Justice for International Crimes: A Canadian Partnership”.</i>	\$35,170
Frédéric Mégret	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2019-2024. <i>“Parallel International Law”.</i>	\$93,140
Vrinda Narain	Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, 2018-2020. <i>“Difference and Inclusion: Reframing Multiculturalism and Reasonable Accommodation”.</i>	\$7,500
Ronald Niezen	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2020. <i>“The International Criminal Court and the Advent of Open Source Intelligence”.</i>	\$79,541
René Provost	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2016-2021. <i>“Born of War: The Perspectives, Rights and Needs of Children Born of Wartime Sexual Violence”.</i>	\$339,912

René Provost	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2019-2024. <i>“Unreserved Justice: The Administration of Justice by Indigenous Communities”.</i>	\$279,943
Nandini Ramanujam & Sébastien Jodoin	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2019-2023. <i>Disability Rights and Climate Adaptation in Low and Middle Income Countries: Insights from India.</i>	\$389,640
Colleen Sheppard & Shaheen Shariff	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2019-2023. <i>“A Multi-Sector Partnership to Investigate and Develop Policy and Practice Models to Dismantle “Rape Culture” in Universities”.</i>	\$2,499,525
Colleen Sheppard	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), 2015-2021. <i>“Systemic Discrimination: Complexities and Dynamics”.</i>	\$229,548
Daniel Weinstock	Fonds de Recherche du Québec – Société et Culture (FRQSC), 2018-2022. <i>“Les frontières de la politique et de la normativité”.</i>	\$367,404
Daniel Weinstock	Ministère du Conseil exécutif, 2018-2020. <i>“Contribuer à la retention de jeunes Québécois d’expression anglaise par l’employabilité”.</i>	\$925,000
Daniel Weinstock	John Templeton Foundation, 2018-2020. <i>“Constitutionalism: The political theory and political science of a free society”.</i>	\$271,110
Daniel Weinstock	Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), 2017-2020. <i>“Harm reduction: Public health reasoning in law and public policy in relation to morally controversial behaviours”.</i>	\$439,876

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Engagement publique



The Bedouins in the Negev: Legal Pluralism, Indigenous Rights

Date: February 3

Speakers: Morad El Sana, Amal El Sana, Shauna Van Praagh

In this transdisciplinary workshop, guests shared perspectives, arguments, and experience from the Bedouin community in the Negev. Indigenous rights claims, the potential of legal pluralism, and the interaction of advocacy and service in the pursuit of empowerment and equality were subjects of critical and constructive exploration and discussion.

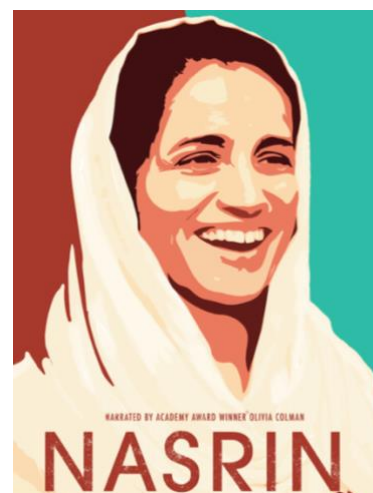
NASRIN Film Screening & Panel Discussion

Date: November 5

Panelists: Hon. Irwin Cotler, PC, OC, OQ, Homa Hoodfar, Jeff Kaufman

Moderator: Vrinda Narain

Filmed in Iran by women and men who risked arrest to make this film, NASRIN is an immersive portrait of one of the world's most courageous human rights activists and political prisoners, Nasrin Sotoudeh, and of Iran's remarkably resilient women's right's movement.



Film Screening Update

Shortly following this film screening, Nasrin Sotoudeh was temporarily released from Evin prison on November 7, 2020 after ending a lengthy hunger strike that directed attention towards prison conditions amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Sadly, she returned to prison in early December. The fight for her release continues.

Public Lectures

Conférences publiques

Beyond the 2018 Global Compact for Migration

Date: February 5

Co-host: François Crépeau

Speakers: Hon. Louise Arbour, Juan José Ignacio Gómez-Camacho

The 2018 Global Compact for Migration is the first-ever United Nations instrument on a common approach to the governance of international migration in all its dimensions. Although non-binding, the Compact is grounded in the values of state sovereignty, responsibility sharing, non-discrimination and human rights. It recognizes that a cooperative approach is needed to optimize the overall benefits of migration, while addressing its challenges for individuals and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination.



Criminalizing Refuge & Solidarity

Date: February 19

Co-Partner: MSF au Québec

Speakers: François Crépeau, Rachel Kiddell-Monroe, Hany Shokair

Moderator: Laura-Julie Perreault

While global forced displacement is hitting record high, states have increasingly implemented restrictive measures as part of their security agenda that further criminalize migrants and asylum seekers. The criminalization of forced migration violates international refugee and human rights law.

Seminars & Webinars

Séminaires & webinaires

How to Create a Peace Dialogue

Date: January 24

Speaker: Sarah Federman

Justiciability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Date: January 27

Speaker: Dorothy Estrada-Tanck

Islamic & Jewish Divorce: Recognizing and Overcoming Equality

Date: January 29

Speakers: Rabbi Michael Whitman, Fatemeh Sadeghi

Moderator: Tanya Monforte

Constitutional Referendums: Lessons from New Caledonia

Date: February 18

Speaker: Hoi Kong

Islamic & Jewish Law: Period. Menstruation in Life & Law

Date: February 19

Speakers: Rabbi Michael Whitman, Fatemeh Sadeghi

Peace Dialogues

Date: March 6 (open session)

Speakers: Ronald Niezen & Sarah Federman

Fellow in Residence Spotlight

“I have very much benefited from sharing knowledge and experiences of the legal scholars, who work on other contexts, societies and under different conditions that I am less familiar with.”

—Fatemeh Sadeghi, O’Brien Fellow in Residence (2018–2020)



Human Rights, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Law

Date: May 15

Co-hosts: Centre for International Sustainable Development Law, McGill Journal of Sustainable Development Law

No Peace without Women's Rights

Date: June 23

Co-host: Women Living under Muslim Laws Solidarity Network

Speakers: Sally Armstrong & Sima Samar

Moderator: Vrinda Narain

Women's Engagement in Sustainable Peace Building in Afghanistan

Date: August 20

Co-host: Women Living under Muslim Laws Solidarity Network

Speakers: Zarin Hamid, Homa Hoodfar, Vrinda Narain, Mona Tajali, Zarqa Yaftali

Annie MacDonald Langstaff Workshop Series: Inaugural Lecture with Yvonne Dausab

Date: October 23

Speaker: Yvonne Dausab

Presented by Vishakha Wijenayake

Annie MacDonald Langstaff Workshop Series: In Conversation with Julia Neiva

Date: November 13

Speaker: Julia Neiva

Presented by Paula Martins

O'Brien Graduate Fellow Spotlight

"I believe that the time I spent working with the CHRLP shaped me as an academic. The CHRLP welcomes students as equals, fully encouraging their engagement and supporting their innovations; this is the environment I try to replicate in my own classroom. I had the opportunity to organise and participate in events, network with scholars and activists from across the globe and contribute to the administrative life of the centre. In particular, I helped draft the centre's annual report, which affirmed the rich academic life available for a human rights scholar."

—**Francesca Farrington** (O'Brien Graduate Fellow 2017)



CHRLP Forum Reading Group

Inspired by the fabled meeting place in ancient Rome, the Forum is a discussion group that brings together a diverse group of individuals, including students, practitioners and scholars to engage with processes and pathways to social change. Rooted in the CHRLP's core mission of examining plurality in a globally connected world, the Forum creates an inclusive and collegial space in which participants can deliberate over different theories of change and ideas of justice.



the CHRLP FORUM

A Reading Group on Power, Mobilization & Change

In the fall 2020 term, the Centre hosted three discussion groups via Zoom. As series coordinator of the Forum initiative, B.C.L./J.D. student **Katrina Bland** was instrumental to the successful organization and launch of three online discussion sessions:

Participation and Deliberative Democracy

Date: October 14

Moderator: Vrinda Narain

Are Law Classrooms White Spaces? A U.S. Perspective

Date: November 16

Moderator: Darren Rosenblum / Facilitator: Omar Farahat

Broadening the Horizons of Disability Justice and Advocacy

Date: December 3

Moderator: Jonas-Sébastien Beaudry

Student Coordinator Spotlight

"The opportunity to help contribute to the CHRLP Forum has been an amazing learning experience for me. It is so rewarding to contribute to the CHRLP's ongoing efforts to provide space for discussion and participation. The process has allowed me to engage with the underlying values of democracy in a new light and each session has introduced me to new people and perspectives. In this year characterized by uncertainty, the CHRLP Forum has provided an innovative framework for intellectual exchange that I hope is maintained in the years to come."

—**Katrina Bland** (B.C.L./J.D. 2021)



OUTREACH ON CORE THEMES

Rayonnement sur les thèmes principaux

1. Globalization, Migration, and Mobility

Centre Director **François Crépeau**, Oppenheimer Chair in Public International Law at McGill and former UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrants, leads this priority area at the Centre. Under his leadership and unfailing commitment to the rights of migrants and refugees, the rights and freedoms of such vulnerable populations are center-stage at the Centre. The Oppenheimer Chair Coordinators were **Edit Frenyó** (2019-2020) and **Khadija Ahmed** (2020-2021).



Oppenheimer Chair Dialogue



Through the engagement in teaching and research in public international law, **François Crépeau** advances the understanding of international treaty, customary and other obligations in domestic law with due regard to the constitutional setting in federal and unitary states. He has offered several platforms for public engagement, including:

- Documentary screening of *Loin de Bachar* (25 September 2020), followed by a Q&A with film maker Pascal Panchez
- What's Happening to China's Uyghurs? The Political, Social & Economic Implications of the Mass Detention & Abuse of Uyghurs in the Xinjiang Province (11 November 2020) with Garrett Genius, Rukiye Turdush, & Jerome Beaugrand-Champagne (co-hosted with McGill's Muslim Law Students' Association)



Steinberg Fellow Spotlight

"As a Steinberg Fellow, I had the opportunity to meet many wonderful dedicated students, postgraduate fellows, professors, support staff, academics and professions working in the field of migration and refugee rights to discuss ideas and collaborate, and to pursue my own migration-related academic interests."

—**Rouba Al-Salem**, Steinberg Postdoctoral Fellow in International Migration Law and Policy (2017-2018)

2. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Under the guidance and leadership of **Nandini Ramanujam**, the Centre is dedicated to providing opportunities for both people with disabilities and those interested in becoming the next generation of advocates. 2020 has been an exciting year for raising awareness and opening up the Centre as a forum for discussion on a number of issues faced by people with disabilities.



This summer, while working remotely with the **Disability and Climate Justice Working Group**, intern **Kayla Maria Rolland** (2020) explored human rights topics related to peace-building, disability rights and climate justice. As part of her role, she engaged with making web content and events more universally accessible.

Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Program

The Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Program (DICARP) is a new initiative and partnership between the Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and the CHRLP. Drawing on the “human rights model of disability,” DICARP works with disability and climate activists and experts from around the world to generate, co-produce, share, and translate knowledge on how efforts to combat climate change can be designed and implemented in ways that respect, protect, and fulfill the human rights of disabled persons. The team consists of **Sébastien Jodoin**, **Yolanda Muñoz**, and **Nandini Ramanujam**.

Through this initiative, two publications from multiple contributors have been released thus far:

- Sébastien Jodoin, Nathaniel Eisen, & Sébastien Duyck, ***The Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Context of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change*** (Washington, DC: CIEL, Inclusiva & Council of Canadians with Disabilities, 2019).
- Sébastien Jodoin, Nilani Ananthamoorthy, & Katherine Lofts, “**A Disability Rights Approach to Climate Governance**” (2020) 47(1) Ecology Law Quarterly.

Disability, Human Rights and the Law Initiative

The CHRLP is pleased to continue the **Disability and Human Rights Initiative** now in its ninth year. This initiative continues to explore compelling issues in Disability with a focus on **autonomy and empowerment**, which seeks to engage law students, legal professionals, and academics with the intersections of labour law, policy, and disability rights. Six student coordinators led the program in 2020: **Leila Alfaro** and **Zoë Christmas** (2019-2020) and **Amanda Bowie-Edwards**, **Elise Mallette**, **Nevada McEniry-Hatajlo**, and **Ellen Spannagel** (2020-2021).

Events & Webinars

Towards Disability-Inclusive Climate Action

September 22

Opening Remarks: Marcie Roth

Panelists: Setareki Macanawai, Pratima Gurung, Stefan Trömel, Sébastien Jodoin

Moderator: Yolanda Muñoz

Closing Remarks: Elham Youssefian

In this virtual event, persons with disabilities from all over the world discussed the challenges and opportunities for developing disability-inclusive responses to the climate crisis. Among other topics, they addressed the disproportionate ways in which climate change harms disabled persons; the lessons learned with disability inclusion in other fields that could apply to climate change; the role of disability rights in responding to climate change; and the contributions of the disability community to resolving the climate crisis.



Human Rights & Legal Pluralism Dialogue: Towards Disability-Inclusive Climate Action

November 27

Panelists: Nandini Ramanujam, Sébastien Jodoin, Yolanda Muñoz

This dialogue was the tenth in a series of Dialogues in Human Rights and Legal Pluralism, a series conceived by **Nandini Ramanujam** in 2015 to celebrate the Centre's 10th anniversary and also to celebrate and the depth of knowledge and experience of our members. The November 27 Dialogue, entitled **Participation, Empowerment, and Disability**, was an inspiring discussion of the participants' motivations and aspirations for their passionate engagement in environmental law, disability, research and advocacy, and the important intersections between them.

3. Indigenous Justice & Reconciliation

We are committed to engaging with Indigenous rights and justice, and one way this is reflected is in the rich array of experiential learning opportunities available to students.

The Centre arranges several internship opportunities within organizations engaged in Indigenous affairs. This year, some of interns worked remotely on indigenous rights issues. In 2020, **Maya Gunnarsson** interned with the **Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Justice Department**, **Gemma Dingwall** interned at the **Justice and Correctional Services of the Cree Nation Government** of Waswanipi, Quebec, **Nilani Ananthamoorthy** and **Sara Wright** interned at the **Yukon Human Rights Commission**, and **Marie-Denise Vane** interned with **Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik Legal Services**.

The Centre also hosted events in 2020, highlighting Indigenous issues including:

The Bedouins in the Negev: Legal Pluralism, Indigenous Rights

Date: February 3

Speakers: Morad El Sana, Amal El Sana, Shauna Van Praagh

“The Canadian and American governments have a history of interfering with and challenging the Akwesasne’s sovereignty, and the actions taken during this global pandemic are no different... With no end in sight for this border closure, one has to wonder what the long-term impacts of these restrictions will be on the community.”

—**Maya Gunnarsson**, 2020 intern (Akwesasne)

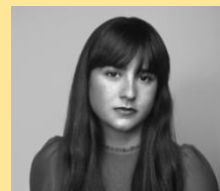


Akwesasne, a community of approximately 13,000 people, straddles Ontario, Quebec and New York. Photo: Meredith Holigroski (The Walrus)

Intern Spotlight (2016)

“The opportunities and mentorship that I received through CHRLP — whether as a former intern, student or staff — have catapulted my career in human rights and opened my eyes to an array of alternative legal career opportunities.”

—**Rachel Kohut**, HIV/AIDS Legal Network Intern (2016); Internships Annual Report and Working Paper Series Editor (2018-20)



4. Scholars and Advocates in Danger

As the McGill representative of the **Scholars at Risk Network**, and a member of the steering committee for the network's Canadian section, **Nandini Ramanujam** is committed to providing support and safe-haven to persecuted scholars and to expand the SAR network to include more universities. **David O'Brien** and the O'Brien Fellows in Residence Program are central to the support for this initiative at the CHRLP.

The Centre remains dedicated to promoting academic freedom. SAR participants bring scholarly knowledge and widely varying lenses through which to understand and analyze their specialist subject matter. SAR has aided over 400 academics and scholars who have faced harassment, censorship, surveillance and intimidation in their home countries, including a risk of arrest on false charges, detention without trial, torture, disappearance, and murder.

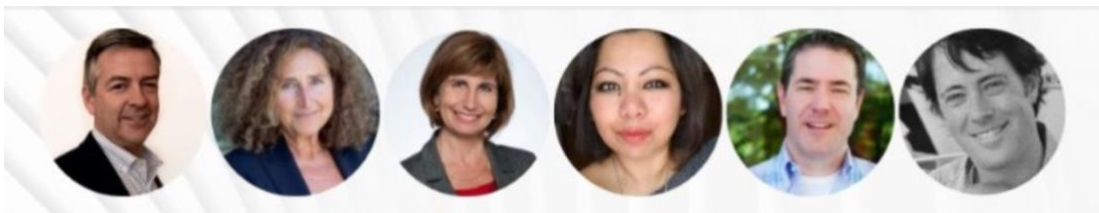
Justin Jalea (B.C.L./J.D. student), with his creativity and dynamism, has energized SAR initiatives at the CHRLP. In fall 2020, the CHRLP co-hosted a virtual roundtable with the Canadian Section of Scholars at Risk for Human Rights Day on December 10th. The timely event featured discussions of how to safeguard scholars, scholarship, and institutions of higher education in the midst of a pandemic.

Solidarity in the Time of Social Distancing: The Effects of COVID-19 on Knowledge Creation, Exchange and Dissemination

December 10

Panelists: Robert Quinn, Eva Egron-Polak, Nathalie Des Rosiers, Shuchi Karim, Stuart J. Murray, Andrew M. Johnston

Moderator: Nandini Ramanujam



Legal Clinic Course: Advocacy & Academic Freedom

SCHOLARS AT RISK
N E T W O R K

In collaboration with **Scholars at Risk**, the CHRLP will launch its second Legal Clinic Course in Winter 2021.

The placement focuses on issues of **academic freedom** and **freedom of expression** in various countries (including Russia, Brazil and India) that have witnessed a rapid erosion of democratic institutions and an increase of extreme ownership concentration. Students will draft incident reports, set up plans for research and monitoring, and develop additional action before local, regional and international mechanisms through a three-pronged approach of **protection, advocacy** and **education**. In summer 2020, students **Natalia Koper** and **Hamza Mohamadhossen** worked at the Scholars at Risk clinic and submitted a thorough report entitled “Academic Freedom in Poland, Russia and Hungary” as a contribution to the Scholars at Risk Network Freedom to Think Report.

O'Brien Graduate Fellow Spotlight

“One the greatest lessons I took away from the experience I had at the Centre [as an O'Brien Fellow] was the respect for diversity and academic freedom. I really learnt a lot from the seminars that I and my colleagues were able to conceive and actualise. This has gone a long way in helping me influence young scholars who seek my mentorship. I urge them to think outside the box with the aim of not only bringing the most out of themselves but to also see how they can bring out the best in their colleagues.”

—**Kims Banda**, O'Brien Fellow (2017-2018)



LL.M Student Spotlight



“The CHRLP was an integral part of my experience as a graduate student at McGill. This has had a lasting impact on my professional trajectory. Although I was always interested in working in the field of human rights, the CHRLP helped me acquire valuable experience as a student, which in turn allowed me to deepen my commitment and engagement to human rights legal work. These different opportunities helped provide me with the drive to advocate and work in this rich and rewarding field.”

—**Buschra Jalabi**, LL.M (2009)

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Recherche interdisciplinaire

The dynamism and intellectual diversity of our community of scholars and thinkers provides a fertile environment for collaborative and innovative research. Given the expansive research agenda of our members, the proposed research axes below are intended as a dynamic work-in-progress overview and are meant to evolve.

Transnational Human Rights, Justice and Governance

Researchers: **Adelle Blackett, Allison Christians, Sébastien Jodoin, Frédéric Mégret, René Provost, Mirja Trilsch**

Mobility, Migration and Sustainable Development

Researchers: **Megan Bradley, François Crépeau, Myriam Denov, Nandini Ramanujam**

Indigenous Governance and Legal Traditions

Researchers: **René Provost, Kirsten Anker** and **Ronald Niezen**

Legal Theory and Cultural Legal Pluralism

Researchers: **Mark Antaki, Omar Farahat, Evan Fox-Decent, David Howes, Catherine Lu, Victor Muñiz-Fraticelli, René Provost, Daniel Weinstock, Jonas-Sébastien Beaudry**

Gender Justice

Researchers: **Shaheen Shariff, Colleen Sheppard, Nandini Ramanujam**, and **Marie Manikis**, among others

Health, Environment, and Policy

Researchers: **Jonas-Sébastien Beaudry, Sébastien Jodoin, Angela Campbell, Derek Jones, Alana Klein, Nandini Ramanujam, Daniel Weinstock**

Constitutionalism and Human Rights

Researchers: **Vrinda Narain, Colleen Sheppard** and **Evan Fox-Decent**

Diversity, Inclusion and Access to Justice

Angela Campbell, David Howes, Sébastien Jodoin, Shauna Van Praagh,
Researchers: **Jonas-Sébastien Beaudry, Nandini Ramanujam**

Peace, Conflict, and Emerging Global Orders

Researchers: **Megan Bradley, René Provost, Myriam Denov, Jon Unruh**

THE CENTRE IN THE WORLD

Le Centre dans le monde

The Centre has firmly established its presence and reputation in the world through its expanding network of programs which allows us to lend solidarity to organizations committed to protecting and promoting human rights both locally and globally. Some of our initiatives and programs bring eminent individuals and their unique perspective which continue to enrich the life of the Centre, the university, and the larger community.



Kelly O'Connor, Costa Rica (2019)



Julia Green, Kenya (2019)



Bianca Braganza, Namibia (2019)

International Human Rights Internship Program

The International Human Rights Internship Program provides students with opportunities to serve as global citizens while contributing to important human rights work in the field. Many prospective and present students cite the Internship Program as a factor in their decision to study law at McGill and the opportunities it affords creates a unique and important contribution to our students' education in human rights.

In the summer of 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some interns worked remotely, some did their internship with a local NGO instead, and others deferred until summer 2021.

Generally, students receive 6 course credits that require the completion of a 12-week placement with a human rights organization, a report on the placement, and a research paper. Participants also enroll in a corresponding seminar, *Critical Engagement with Discourses of Human Rights*, taught by the Program Director, **Nandini Ramanujam**. The seminar serves to provide students with a structured and supportive environment in which to reflect on their internship with their peers, and to place their experience within the broader context of critical engagements with human rights law in theory and in practice.

The Centre enjoys collaboration with a wide spectrum of human rights organizations. In 2020, we offered new internships with:

- Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse, **Montreal**
- National University of Mexico Legal Clinic, **Mexico City**
- Forum for Human Rights, **Czech Republic**
- Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, **Montreal**
- Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Program (DICARP), **Montreal**
- Centre for Research-Action on Race Relations (CRARR), **Montreal**

2020 SUMMER INTERNS

2020 Stagiaires d'été

The CHRLP acknowledges the agility and flexibility of our partner organizations and student interns alike during the unexpected and unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, most government regulations restricted travel for non-essential purposes, and the McGill administration suspended university-sponsored travel to curb the spread of the virus and protect the safety of its students. Nonetheless, some of our summer interns accepted internships with local NGOs, while others completed their internships remotely or deferred their placements until 2021.



Remote Internships (2020)

- **Nilani Ananthamoorthy** – Yukon Human Rights Commission
- **Amanda Bowie-Edwards** – Avocats Sans Frontières
- **Shadaye Cousins** – Canadian HIV-AIDS Legal Network
- **Gemma Dingwall** – Justice and Correctional Services of the Cree Nation
- **Amina Djouaher** – Centre of Research-Action on Race Relations (CRARR)
- **Maya Gunnarsson** – Justice Department, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- **Alice Jeon** – Law Reform and Development Commission
- **Nevada McEniry-Hatajlo** – Bulgarian Centre for Not-for-Profit Law
- **Mehlka Mustansir** – Ateneo Human Rights Centre
- **Jasmine Razavi** – Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse
- **Hanna Rioseco** – Centre for Law and Democracy
- **Kayla Maria Rolland** – Disability and Climate Justice Working Group
- **Sandrine Royer** – Instituto de Democracia y Derechos Humanos
- **Andrea Salguero** – Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights
- **Sara Wright** – Yukon Human Rights Commission
- **Marie Denise Vane** – Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik Legal Services

Deferred Internships (2021)

- **Aymen Benbouzid** – National University of Mexico Legal Clinic – **Mexico City, Mexico**
- **Anass Benchekroun** – Human Rights Watch – **New York, NY**
- **Léonie Bourdeau** – Legal Clinic on Human Rights and Disability – **Lima, Peru**
- **Laurent Côté-De Lagrave** – Conseil national des droits de l’homme – **Rabat, Morocco**
- **Alejandra Espinosa** – International Center for Ethnic Studies – **Colombo, Sri Lanka**
- **Simon Filiatrault** – OWiyasiwewin Mikiwahp Native Law Centre of Canada – **Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**
- **Brett Howie** – Cambodian League for the Promotion & Defense of Human Rights – **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**
- **Christopher Ivancic** – Refugee Law Project – **Kampala, Uganda**
- **Elise Mallette** – The Equality Effect – **Kenya**
- **Nicholas Pineau** – Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa – **Banjul, The Gambia**
- **Chrys Saget-Richard** – Equitas – **Montreal, Quebec**
- **Ellen Spannagel** – Forum for Human Rights – **Prague, Czech Republic**
- **Mark Townsend** – One Earth Future Foundation – **Broomfield, Colorado**

Intern Spotlight (2016)

“The international human rights internships program offers students the opportunity to travel to various organizations around the globe, each focused on the advancement of specific human rights issues. My experience with the CHRLP has been instrumental in shaping my career out of law school. The opportunities granted to me by the Centre allowed me to acquire confidence, acute legal research skills and an understanding of the complexity of human rights advocacy.”

—**Nour Saadi**, 2016 Intern (NYC, Human Rights Watch)



Intern Spotlight (2019)



“My internship experience at the National Human Rights Council of Morocco (“NHRC”) in 2019 was transformative personally and professionally. Firstly, I learned to cultivate and nourish my workplace relationships. Secondly, it broadened my horizons. At the NHRC, I worked within the International Relations and Cooperation Division... I was often exposed to diplomatic communications and multilayered exchanges between states which were amounting to very small steps at the time, but nonetheless steps forward. I applied what I was taught at McGill Law with the hope of bringing a small contribution to Morocco. I am thankful for my education at McGill, but even more for the unique experience that the CHRLP allowed me to live at the NHRC.”

—**Félix-Antoine Pelletier**, 2019 Intern (NHRC, Morocco)

Intern Spotlight (Summer 2020)

“In the midst of these great global changes, at the outset of my internship I was apprehensive about how human rights work in Canada and around the world would be affected by public health restrictions. However, my experience this summer at the Raoul Wallenberg Human Rights Centre (RWCHR) has given me confidence that the field of human rights, and advocacy work in particular, possesses a resiliency that will assist it to emerge from this period stronger than ever.”

—**Andrea Salguero**, RWCHR Intern



“I spent the summer learning more about issues in climate justice, disability rights, and how these issues intersect. For example, persons with disabilities are more affected by climate change as a result of social, economic, and institutional barriers. Women, children, and minorities with disabilities are particularly impacted. I feel very lucky to have been involved with this partnership in its early stages. One of the benefits of having completed a human rights internship here at McGill is that I get to watch what the program will accomplish in the coming years.”

—**Kayla Maria Rolland**, DICARP Intern

“I am looking forward to seeing how the Commission moves forward with their five-year project to address workplace sexual harassment awareness in the Yukon. It is sure to be a challenging time, considering how little data there has been for the Yukon in this matter. However, the development of tools and training by the Commission is certain to improve employers’ understanding of what constitutes sexual harassment and hopefully keep perpetuating this positive trend of expanding the understanding behind what constitutes sexual harassment and how to better prevent it from occurring.”

—**Sara Wright**, Yukon Human Rights Commission Intern



International Human Rights Internship Program

Working Paper Series

The Centre's Working Paper Series enables the dissemination of papers by students who have participated in the International Human Rights Internship Program. Students enroll in the seminar Critical Engagement with Discourses of Human Rights seminar that allows them to write a research paper through a peer review and support process. The papers in this series are intended to showcase and disseminate original and innovative scholarship by our student interns, as well as to elicit feedback and encourage debate on important public policy challenges.



The following students contributed pieces to Volume 8 of the Working Paper Series in Fall 2020:

- Kathleen Barera
- Julia Green
- Adelise Lalande
- Linda Muhugusa
- Kirstie Russell
- Jeremy Pizzi
- Katrina Bland
- Bianca Braganza
- Jennifer Lachance
- Kelly O'Connor
- Félix-Antoine Pelletier
- Riley Klassen-Molyneaux
- Eva Monteiro
- Kayla Miguez
- Samantha Backman
- Derek Pace
- Vanessa Di Feo
- Natalia Koper

International Clerkships

McGill is the only Canadian university invited to send candidates to the Judicial Assistants Program of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR). The only other universities invited to do so are New York University, Columbia, Yale, Michigan, Geneva and Strasbourg. The Centre is the Faculty's representative to these international courts and selects a shortlist of law students to forward to each court for consideration. In 2019, the following students were offered clerkships:

Lucas Mathieu, International Court of Justice (B.C.L./J.D. 2019)

Jan Nato, Permanent Court of Arbitration (B.C.L./J.D. 2019)



B.C.L./J.D. Student Spotlights



“While at McGill, I’ve been able to pursue amazing opportunities through the Centre. The CHRLP gave me work; sent me to Ouagadougou; welcomed me as a member of the Board for a year; and is now allowing me to work for the ICJ, which is already proving to be an exceptional experience. Those experiences contributed to making me a better jurist and better person. I am very aware of the quantity of work that you have to do, together with the rest of the Centre, to allow us students to experience them.”

—**Lucas Mathieu**

- 2017 Human Rights Intern
- B.C.L./J.D. (2019)
- Clerk to H.E. Judge Ronny Abraham, International Court of Justice

“During the twelve weeks I spent for my practicum working with child survivors of sexual violence I met so many incredible human rights lawyers who made a living protecting the vulnerable. In Kenya, I felt the same level of satisfaction with my work that I did working in non-profit before I came to law school. It alleviated all my concerns and made it clear to me that there are many ways to use my legal education to improve human rights around the world. I am now one of the coordinators for the IHRIP, and it brings me so much joy to hear from other law students who have had the same eye-opening experiences that I did.”

—**Julia Green**

- 2019 Human Rights Intern
- Co-coordinator, IHRIP Program
- B.C.L./J.D. Candidate (2022)



B.C.L/J.D. Student Spotlights



“My experience at the CHRLP gave me the opportunity to provide presentations and enhance my public speaking, draft web-based content, and liaison with members of the Montreal legal community. I received incredible mentorship and empowerment in these roles and felt very supported by my co-workers and the CHRLP staff in pursuing my own legal career. I feel so grateful for my time there and look back on my work at the Centre as some of the most rewarding time spent during my 3.5 years at McGill Law.”

—Alyssa Clutterbuck

- 2013 Human Rights Intern
- Executive Director, IHRIP Pre-Departure/Onboarding Process (2014-15)
- B.C.L/J.D. (2016)

“The summer in Cambodia [during my internship] was the most memorable and transformative experience of my time at the McGill Faculty of Law. With LICADHO, I had the opportunity to engage with an extremely wide array of individuals on the ground, including union leaders, human rights defenders, activist monks, and community members. I recognize this experience will be invaluable as I seek to contribute on local and international levels to the human rights, international affairs, and public health sectors. I am grateful to the CHRLP, Professor Ramanujam, and all others involved.”

—Andrew Rintoul

- 2017 Human Rights Intern
- B.C.L/J.D. (2020)



B.C.L./J.D. Student Spotlights

“The CHRLP and the many brilliant and dedicated staff, professors, and students who work within the CHRLP was a central part of my law school experience. Under Dr. Ramanujam’s guidance, the CHRLP has ensured that human rights are front and center of all law students’ experience at the Faculty of Law. The relationships I built through the CHRLP have been the strongest connections I made in law school. From Dr. Ramanujam’s continued mentorship to the many fellow students I studied with and worked with at the CHRLP, the CHRLP created an environment fostering lasting and meaningful relationships between human rights practitioners.”

—**Siena Anstis**

- 2011 Human Rights Intern
- B.C.L./LL.B (2013)
- Senior Legal Advisor, Citizen Lab (Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy)



D.C.L. Student Spotlight



“Beside the generous financial support I received, during my tenure as an O’Brien Fellow I had numerous opportunities to interact with members of the CHRLP, O’Brien fellows in residence and distinguished guest speakers and discuss my doctoral project and other subjects of interest to me from which I learned a lot. No doubt that CHRLP is a centre of great learning; but I am a witness also to its unparalleled collegial environment that allowed me to make life-long friendships and networks from which I continue to benefit tremendously.”

—**Shimelis Mulugeta Kene**

- O’Brien Fellow (2013-2016)
- D.C.L. (2020)

COLLABORATORS AND PARTNERS

Collaborateurs et partenaires



McGill Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism

Centre sur les droits de la personne et le pluralisme juridique de McGill

Faculty of Law, McGill University

3644 Peel Street
Montreal, QC, H3A 1W9
Tel: 514-398-3577

human.rights@mcgill.ca

www.mcgill.ca/humanrights

Centre established: September 2005

Executive Director & Director of
Programs: nandini.ramanujam@mcgill.ca
Programs Coordinator: sharon.webb@mcgill.ca

This report was prepared by Kimia Towfigh and Sharon Webb. The original design of the report was done by Nicholas Caivano and has evolved under the editorial guidance of Nandini Ramanujam and Sharon Webb.

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



www.mcgill.ca/humanrights