

Human Rights and the New Global Order: An Interdisciplinary Conference

Tentative Program

Harvard University, May 8 – May 10, 2008

Sponsored by the Safra Foundation Center for Ethics; the Mossavar Rahmani Center for Business and Government; the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs; the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy; the University Committee on Human Rights Studies; the Harvard Kennedy School; and the Harvard University Provost's Office

Conference Organizer: Mathias Risse, John F. Kennedy School of Government

The goal of the conference is to bring together researchers from different disciplines (social sciences, philosophy, and law) who explore either the foundations of human rights or their role in and impact on international politics.

This event is free and open to the public. All talks will be in L140 (Littauer Building, first floor) at the Kennedy School

*Some of the papers will be available in advance at
<http://www.ethics.harvard.edu/conference08.php>*

Thursday, May 8

9.15 am Introduction; and First Session: Human Rights – the Philosophical Work Still Undone

Chair: Tim Scanlon, Department of Philosophy, Harvard University

Speaker: James Griffin, Department of Philosophy, University of Oxford

Commentator: Rainer Forst, Departments of Political Science and Philosophy, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany

11 am Break

11.15 am Second Session: Toward a Revival of Consequentialist Human Rights Theory

Chair: Michael Rosen, Department of Government, Harvard University

Speaker: William Talbott, Department of Philosophy, University of Washington, Seattle

Commentator: Daniel Markovits, Yale Law School, Yale University, New Haven

12.45 pm Lunch Break; Lunch for participants and invited guests at Henrietta's Table

2 pm Third Session: Human Rights as a Political Practice

Chair: Erin Kelly, Department of Philosophy, Tufts University

Speaker: Charles Beitz, Department of Politics, Princeton University

Commentator: Michael Doyle, Law School, School of International and Public Affairs, and Department of Political Science, Columbia University

3.30 pm Break

3.45 pm Fourth Session: Human Rights as Membership Rights in the Global Order

Chair: Arthur Applbaum, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Speaker: Mathias Risse, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Commentator: Simon Caney, Department Politics, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

5.15 pm End of Program

6.30 pm Reception and Dinner for Participants and Invited Guests at the Sheraton Commander (Mt. Vernon Ballroom)

Friday, May 9

9.30 am First Session: International Law and Human Rights

Chair: TBA

Speaker: Beth Simmons, Department of Government, Harvard University

Commentator: Jonathan Wolff, Department of Philosophy, University College London, London, UK

11 am Break

11.15 am Second Session: Can the Human Rights Movement Achieve its Goals? Contrasting Visions

Chair: Nancy Rosenblum, Department of Government, Harvard University

Speakers: Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University; James Ron, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University

Commentator: Stephen Walt, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

12.45 pm Lunch Break; Lunch for participants and invited guests at Henrietta's Table

2 pm Third Session: Justice on the Ground? International Criminal Courts and Domestic Empowerment

Chair: Jacqueline Bhabha, Harvard Law School and Kennedy School, Harvard University

Speaker: Jane Stromseth, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC

Commentator: Lukas Meyer, Department of Philosophy, University of Berne, Switzerland

3.30 pm Break

3.45 Fourth Session: The Role of Consequences, Comparison, and Counterfactuals in Thinking Ethically and Politically about Human Rights Trials

Chair: John Ruggie, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Speaker: Kathryn Sikkink, Department of Political Science and Law School, University of Minnesota

Commentator: Richard Miller, Department of Philosophy, Cornell University

5.15 End of Program

7 Reception and Dinner for participants and invited guests at the Harvard Faculty Club (Library)

Saturday, May 10

9.30 am First Session: Why Nations, Not International Society, are the Proper Guardians of Human Rights

Chair: Jane Mansbridge, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Speaker: Jeremy Rabkin, School of Law, George Mason University

Commentator: Philippe van Parijs, Chaire Hoover, Université Catholique de Louvain and Department of Philosophy, Harvard University

11am: Break

11.15 am Second Session: Human Well-Being, Not Human Rights

Chair: Rachel Brewster, Harvard Law School

Speaker: Eric Posner, Law School, University of Chicago, Chicago

Commentator: John Tasioulas, Department of Philosophy, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

12.45 pm Lunch Break; Lunch boxes provided for participants and invited guests

1.45 pm Third Session: Can Human Rights be Localized? Unpacking the Vernacularization Process.

Chair: Stephen Marks, Harvard School of Public Health

Speaker: Sally Engle Merry, Department of Anthropology, New York University

Commentator: Samantha Besson, Law School, University of Fribourg, Switzerland

3.15 pm Break

3.30 pm Fourth Session: Paradoxes in Humanitarian Intervention

Chair: Eric Beerbohm, Department of Government, Harvard University

Speaker: Martha Finnemore, Department of Political Science and International Affairs,
George Washington University, Washington, DC

Commentator: Ryan Goodman, Harvard Law School

5 pm End of Conference

7.30 pm Dinner for Participants and Invited Guests at Z Square