



Oxford Transitional Justice Research

Innovative Media for Change Workshop

Speaker Biographies

Panel 1: The Role of Media in the Colombian Peace Negotiations

Diana Dajer is a lawyer specialized in administrative law and Master of Public Policy Candidate at the Blavatnik School of Government, with experience in peacebuilding, international law, and political and civic participation. In some of her previous positions she has worked as an advisor on peace for the Colombian Ministry of Interior, and as Project Manager of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's Rule of Law Programme for Latin America. She is also consultant and researcher on transitional justice and human rights.

Ailin Martinez is a Colombian journalist working for Conciliation Resources, an international NGO working with people in conflict to build peace and prevent violence. Main areas of interest: digital communications, media analysis and peacebuilding.

Roddy Brett is a Lecturer with the School of International Relations. He was awarded his Ph.D. at the University of London in 2002, and since that time lived in Latin America, principally in Guatemala and Colombia, working as a scholar-practitioner. His fields of research include conflict and peace studies, political and other forms of violence, genocide studies, social movements, indigenous rights, democratisation and transitions. His work as a practitioner is in the fields of conflict analysis, indigenous rights, political violence and genocide, post-conflict reconstruction, and human rights. He has published a total of eight books, including monographs and co-edited volumes, as well as articles on these themes. He has acted as Advisor to the United Nations Development Programme in both Colombia and Guatemala, and to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Guatemala.

Leigh Payne (Facilitator) is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Centre for Latin American Centre. Her research has focused broadly on what could be called 'the legacies of authoritarianism' in Latin American societies. Together with her co-authors (Tricia Olsen and Andrew Reiter), she built a transitional justice data base that looks at the adoption of trials, truth commissions, and amnesty laws to address past human rights violations in every country of the world.

Panel 2: Media and the Search for Criminal Evidence – Learning from the (non-)cooperation between journalists and international criminal tribunals

Payam Akhavan is Associate Professor at McGill University where he teaches and researches in the areas of public international law, international criminal law and transitional justice, with a particular interest in human rights and multiculturalism, war crimes prosecutions, UN reform and the prevention of genocide. Payam Akhavan was the first Legal Advisor to the Prosecutor's Office of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda at The Hague (1994-2000) and made significant contributions to its foundational jurisprudence. Professor Akhavan is also one of the founders of the [Iran Human Rights Documentation Centre](#), serves on the Advisory Board of numerous non-governmental organizations, and has campaigned on behalf of numerous political prisoners.

Nerma Jelacic is an experienced communications professional who is widely recognised as an expert in the areas of transitional justice, outreach and media development. From 2008 to 2014 she was the Spokesperson and Head of Outreach and Communications for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia before being appointed the Head of External Relations for the Commission for International Justice and Accountability (CIJA), a pioneering organisation that employs an innovative approach to investigating and documenting atrocities in Syria. Since 2011, Nerma took up extensive engagements within Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, Yemen and Tunisia. This has involved working with local judiciaries, investigators, police, civil society and media on issues concerning transitional justice and rule of law programmes. Nerma is one of the founders of the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN).

Ella McPherson is an ESRC Future Research Leader Fellow at University of Cambridge. Her research focuses on symbolic struggles surrounding the media in times of transition, whether democratic or digital. Her current research examines the potential of using social media by human rights NGOs for generating governmental accountability. This involves understanding the methodological and reputational implications of using social media and related networks as data sources and dissemination tools, as well as social media's effects on pluralism in human rights discourse. Her previous research, drawing on her media ethnography of human rights reporting at Mexican newspapers, identified the contest for public credibility between state, media, and human rights actors as a significant driver of human rights coverage.

Don Ferencz (Facilitator) is Associate Researcher at the Centre for Criminology at University of Oxford. He is also the Director of the Planethood Foundation, Convenor of the Global Institute for the Prevention of Aggression and a visiting lecturer at Middlesex University. He is an attorney, and international justice educator and an advocate for the criminalisation of the illegal use of force. Don has actively supported OTJR's work since its creation in 2007.

Panel 3: Media in Divided Societies – Facilitators or Spoilers of Justice and Accountability?

Nicole Stremlau is Head of the Programme in Comparative Media Law and Policy and a Research Fellow in the Centre of Socio-Legal Studies at University of Oxford. Her research focuses on media and governance, particularly in areas of conflict and insecurity in Africa. Her most recent projects examine the role of new media in political participation and governance; media law and regulation in the absence of government or in weak states; the role of media in conflict, peacebuilding and the consolidation of political power; and how governments attempt to engage citizens and communicate law-making processes. Nicole Stremlau is currently writing a monograph on the Politics of Communication in Africa (with Iginio Gagliardone).

Iginio Gagliardone is a research fellow in the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at University of Oxford. His research and publications focus on media and political change, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, and on the emergence of distinctive models of the information society worldwide. He is leading different research projects, from examining the role of Information and Communication Technologies in peace-building and state-building in Eastern Africa, to understanding the increasing role of emerging powers such as China in the media and telecommunication sectors in Africa, to analysing the nature and significance of hate speech online ahead of elections. He completed his PhD at the London School of Economics and Political Science, investigating the relationship between development and destabilization in Ethiopia.

Marija Ristic is Assistant Editor at Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN). She is reporter with experience at a variety of publications; Marija joined BIRN in November 2011 as a journalist and reporter covering Serbia. In 2013, she worked as a screenwriter and producer for BIRN's documentary 'The Majority Starts Here'. Prior to BIRN, Marija worked as an assistant editor and science journalist at the Institute for Informatics Systems and Computer Media at the Technical University of Graz. Marija studied German language and journalism, and is currently studying for her master's degree in international security.

Nicola Palmer (Facilitator) is lecturer in Criminal Law at King's College London. She was previously the Global Justice Research Fellow at St Anne's College, University of Oxford and convenor of Oxford Transitional Justice Research, an inter-disciplinary network of university staff and students working on issues of transition in societies recovering from mass conflict and/or repressive rule. Nicola Palmer received her DPhil in law from the University of Oxford in 2011. Prior to starting her doctoral studies, she worked as a legal assistant at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

Panel 4: Innovative Media for Change? The Potential and Pitfalls of New Media Technology in TJ

Pierre Hazan is head of project of justiceinfo.net, and special advisor on Transitional Justice with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (Geneva). He also is Associate Professor at the Academy of Journalism and Media at Neuchâtel University.

Christophe Billen is the founder and project manager of People's Intelligence. He is an Analyst with the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. Previously he worked with the United Nations Mission in the D.R. Congo (MONUC), the Conflict Prevention Centre at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna, and with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Haiti. He participated in and led numerous field missions including in conflict zones. He looks at providing useful and accessible technologies to empower people in remote areas, combining his extensive experience in international affairs with his technological enthusiasm.

Leon Willems (1961) was appointed Director of Free Press Unlimited in May 2011. Free Press Unlimited works on journalism initiatives and media development projects in over forty fragile and repressive countries. Signature projects include Radio Zamaneh, StoryMaker, Kids News Network and the Internet Protection Lab. While Mr. Willems served as Director of Press Now from 2008-2011, he initiated the Radio Dabanga project in partnership with journalists, emergency relief organisations, (media) development organisations and peace groups. That station is currently run by Free Press Unlimited and caters for two million daily listeners in Sudan through radio and satellite TV. Before joining Press Now, Willems worked for the United Nations Mission in Sudan for a three-year term, setting up independent radio station Miraya FM in Southern Sudan.

Gilad Ben-Nun (Facilitator) is Research Fellow with the Global and European Studies Institute at University of Leipzig. His researches focuses on migration and refugees and the challenges they pose to modern Nation-States, on regional security, peacebuilding in the Middle East and the origins and evolvement of the UN within the new global order.

Panel 5: Doing More Harm than Good? Documentaries, Social Media and Advocacy in TJ

Phil Clark is Reader in Comparative and International Politics, with reference to Africa. His research addresses the history and politics of the African Great Lakes, focusing on causes of and responses to genocide and other forms of mass violence. His work also explores the theory and practice of transitional justice, with particular emphasis on community-based approaches to accountability and reconciliation and the law and politics of the International Criminal Court. Previously, he was a Research Fellow in Courts and Public Policy at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, a Golding Research Fellow at Brasenose College, and co-founder and convenor of Oxford Transitional Justice Research. He has a DPhil in Politics from Balliol College, University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

Rob Lemkin is an award-winning filmmaker and founder of Old Street Films. His past documentaries have dealt with political issues around the world, but most notably in South East Asia - and his latest work, *Enemies of the People*, continues on this theme. In a film that is both gripping and revelatory, Lemkin paired up with Thet Sambath, a senior journalist at the Phnom

Phen Post in Cambodia, to finally get to the bottom of the atrocities that took place at the hands of Khmer Rouge.

Linda Melvern is a British investigative journalist, formerly with the Sunday Times Insight Team. She has written seven books of non-fiction. She began to investigate the circumstances of the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda in April that year whilst completing a book on the fifty-year history of the United Nations. She published the earliest account of the decision-making in the Security Council in January 1995 which included the story of the abandonment by the Council of the volunteer UN peacekeepers under their Force Commander, Lt. Gen Romeo Dallaire. *"A People Betrayed. The Role of the West in Rwanda's Genocide"*, (Zed Books, 2000) is published in German, Swedish and Spanish. She is currently writing a book on denial of the Rwandan genocide, *Conspiracy to Deceive* (forthcoming).

Ella McPherson (Facilitator) is a ESRC Future Research Leader Fellow at University of Cambridge. Her research focuses on symbolic struggles surrounding the media in times of transition, whether democratic or digital. Her current research examines the potential of using social media by human rights NGOs for generating governmental accountability.

Panel 6: Reaching out to whom? Transitional Justice Institutions, Outreach and Local Communities

Gerhard Anders studied law in Germany but soon moved to Amsterdam where he studied international law and legal anthropology. After a spell organising a short film festival in Amsterdam and screenings of silent films with live music he joined the Law Faculty at Erasmus University Rotterdam as a PhD candidate. In 2004, Gerhard became lecturer at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Zurich where he worked until his move to the University of Edinburgh in July 2011. Currently he is preparing research projects on transnational crime control in Africa focusing on counter-narcotics operations in West Africa, the role of defence lawyers in war crimes trials, and the empirical study of corruption in sub-Saharan Africa.

Alison Smith is the Legal Counsel and Director of the International Criminal Justice Program for No Peace Without Justice, having formerly worked as the Country Director in Sierra Leone for No Peace Without Justice. In addition, she served as the chief legal adviser to the Vice President of Sierra Leone on the Special Court and international humanitarian law. She has acted as international legal adviser to a number of clients including the Tibetan Government in Exile, Kosovar politicians and has worked with No Peace Without Justice and UNICEF on the production of a book on international criminal law and children.

Gaelle Carayon graduated from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in France and obtained an LL.M. in International Human Rights Law from the University of Essex where she focused on state responsibility for human rights violations. Gaelle previously undertook internships with Amnesty International in Brussels as well as the World Organization against Torture in Geneva. She has previously worked with REDRESS on its ICC programme for 1.5 years and after spending over a year with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Tanzania, she is returning to REDRESS to re-join the ICC programme.

Leila Ullrich (Facilitator) is the Convenor of Oxford Transitional Justice Research (OTJR) and a third year doctoral student at the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford. Her doctoral thesis addresses the question of how the concept of "justice for victims" is interpreted, used and implemented by the different justice stakeholders of the International Criminal Court (ICC) with focus on victim participation in Kenya and victim assistance in Uganda. Leila's MSc and DPhil studies in Oxford are funded by a 1+3 Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) studentship.

The Organisers:

Carolyn Hoyle is the Principal Investigator in the 'Innovative Media for Change' ESRC funded project. She is the Director of the Centre for Criminology. She has been at the University of Oxford Centre for Criminology since 1991 and has published empirical and theoretical research on a number of criminological topics including domestic violence, policing, restorative justice, the death penalty, and, latterly wrongful convictions.

Julia Viebach is the Co-Investigator in the 'Innovative Media for Change' ESRC funded project. She is currently a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow. Her project 'Atrocity's Archives: The Remnants of Transitional Justice' explores and compares the archival narratives of the Rwandan Gacaca Courts and those of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). Julia's research is concerned with the ways narratives of the harm committed emerge and how the underlying assumptions of the Gacaca courts and the ICTR are addressed in the archival texts.

Leila Ullrich is the Convenor of Oxford Transitional Justice Research (OTJR) and a third year doctoral student at the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford. Her doctoral thesis addresses the question of how the concept of "justice for victims" is interpreted, used and implemented by the different justice stakeholders of the International Criminal Court (ICC) with focus on victim participation in Kenya and victim assistance in Uganda.

Matilde Gawronski is the Student Chair of Oxford Transitional Justice Research and is currently reading for a DPhil in Socio-Legal studies at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford. Her project focuses on studying the Rome Statute system as an integrated system of global justice from a socio-legal perspective, focusing on the role of its institutions and their multiple legal personas in the situation of Uganda. As part of her doctoral studies she has conducted fieldwork in Uganda and at the ICC and has worked at the Office of the Prosecutor, ICC, as an Assistant Analyst.

Pierre Hazan is head of project of justiceinfo.net, and special advisor on Transitional Justice with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (Geneva). He also is Associate Professor at the Academy of Journalism and Media at Neuchatel University.