Special Workshop: ‘Revitalising IDP Research’

20 Years of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

Refugee Law Initiative, University of London

20 July 2018
About us

The Refugee Law Initiative is the only academic centre in the UK to concentrate specifically on international refugee law. As a national focal point for leading and promoting research in this field, the Refugee Law Initiative works to integrate the shared interests of refugee law scholars and practitioners, stimulate collaboration between academics and non-academics, and achieve policy impact at the national and international level. Visit www.sas.ac.uk/rli

School of Advanced Study

Founded in 1994, the School of Advanced Study at the University of London is the only institution in the UK that is nationally funded to promote and facilitate research in the humanities. It performs a vital role as a driving force for knowledge sharing across the humanities in the UK and beyond, and receives special funding for this purpose from Research England.

Supported by

The John Coffin Trust
Institute of Commonwealth Studies

Programme

This year, the 20th anniversary of the creation of the 1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement offers a unique opportunity to consider the global state of academic and practitioner research on internal displacement and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

This IDP Workshop provides a forum for academics, practitioners, policy-makers, students and other interested parties to come together to present, debate and reflect on this field and future of IDP research. The overall objective is to work towards developing new research and policy agendas and collaborations through presentations from established and early-career academic and practitioner researchers on IDPs, leading the ensuing debate and discussion on the state of the art and new ways to engage with this field.

Key to Panel Sessions:

Stream 1  Law, norms and justice
Stream 2  Displacement and response dynamics
Stream 3  Future problems and solutions
Senate House Floor Plan

Ground Floor

- Entrance
- Lifts
- Senate House Reception
- MacMillan Hall
- The Crush Hall
- Beveridge Hall
- G5
- G11
- G16
- Cafe
0900–0930  Registration

Crush Hall

0930–0945  Opening and Workshop Methodology – Plenary Session

Dr David James Cantor (Refugee Law Initiative)

Beveridge Hall

0945–1015  Keynote: Introducing the Issues – Plenary Session

‘Framing Policy-Relevant Research on IDPs: the GP20 Process’

Cecilia Jimenez-Damary (UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs)

Beveridge Hall

1015–1200  Breakout Session I

Stream 1  The Guiding Principles at 20: Evaluating IDP Norms

Room G11

Chair: Cecilia Jimenez-Damary (UN Special Rapporteur)

• ‘Patterns of Commitment with the Guiding Principles and Regional Mechanisms of Norm Diffusion’ – Dr Gabriel Cardona-Fox (John Hopkins University, Italy)

• ‘Internal Displacement Norms: Reassessing Practice and Interpretation by Non-State Armed Groups’ – Dr Annyssa Bellal (Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Switzerland)

• ‘Doing Better in Protecting the Internally Displaced: The Tension between State Instruments and Practices’ – Ileana Nicolau (European University Institute, Italy)

• ‘Identity Crisis: Access and Barriers to Legal and Civil Documentation for Internally Displaced Persons and the Role of Non-State Actors’ – Sarah Adamczyk (independent researcher)

Stream 2  Contemporary Trends: Framing Internal Displacement and IDP Dynamics

Room G16

Chair: Professor Elizabeth Ferris (Georgetown University, USA)

• ‘Framing the issue of Internal Displacement: A Historical Perspective’ – Dr Jeff Crisp (Chatham House, UK)

• ‘The Strategic Logic of Internal Displacement in Civil Wars’ – Adam G. Lichtenheld (University of California Berkeley, USA)

• ‘Reconceptualising Internal Displacement caused by Criminal Violence in Central America’ – Dr Vickie Knox (Refugee Law Initiative, UK)

• ‘Democracy and Displacement in Colombia’s Civil War’ – Dr Abbey Steele (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Stream 3  Urban and other Non-encamped IDPs: Thinking outside the Camp

Room G5

Chair: Bethan Mathias (Refugee Law Initiative, UK)

• ‘The Experience of IDPs in Urban Settings and the Challenges to Develop an Adequate Humanitarian Response’ – Dr Angela Cotroneo and Dr Catherine Lune Grayson (ICRC)

• ‘Towards a Holistic Framework on Internal Displacement in Cities’ – Melissa Weihmayer (JIPS)

• ‘The Missing Link: The Relational Dimension of Durable Solutions to Protracted Urban Internal Displacement’ – Patricia García Amado (Universidad de Deusto, Spain)

• ‘Livelihood Strategies by Non-Encamped IDPs in the Democratic Republic of Congo’ – Dr Fraser Murray (University College London, UK)
1200–1300  Lunch and Poster Session  Macmillan Hall

Poster presentations will be displayed and discussed during this working lunch, including:

• ‘Addressing Internal Displacement through National Application of the Guiding Principles’ – Naziye Dirikgil (Aberystwyth University, UK)
• ‘The Law of IDP Returns’ – Ben Hudson (Lincoln University, UK)
• ‘Redefining Protection Intervention in Humanitarian Aid for IDPs through External Factors: A Case Study of Niger and Pakistan’ – Valerie Svobodova (UNHCR, Niger)
• ‘Learning from Experiences of Internal Displacement in Iraq; Implementation of Innovative Crisis-Response Solutions by RNVDO’ – Aleksandra K. Wiśniewska (University of Oxford, UK)

1300–1445  Breakout Session II

Stream 1  Regional Protection of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa  Room G5
Chair: Dr Vickie Knox (Refugee Law Initiative, UK)

• ‘The Legal Protection of IDPs in Africa: The Kampala Convention’ – Romola Adeola (Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria)
• ‘Litigating IDP Protection in Africa: The Case of the Endorois and Ogiek Communities’ – Donald Deya (Pan-African Lawyers Union)
• ‘Climate Change Displacement and the Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Africa’ – Jegede Ademola Oluborode (University of Venda, South Africa)
• ‘The World Bank, Development Approaches and IDPs in East Africa’ - Dr Sarah Deardorff Miller (Columbia University, USA)

Stream 2  The Invisible Majority: Understanding the relationship between Internal Displacement and Cross-border Movements of Refugees and Migrants  Room G11
Chair: Dr Bina Desai (IDMC)

• ‘Drivers and Tipping Points for Internal Displacement, Cross-border Movements and Returns: New Findings from Syria and Iraq’ - Elizabeth Rushing (IDMC)
• ‘Root Causes of Forced Displacement and the Role of Access to Information in Shaping Internal and Cross-border Migration’ – Dr Charles Martin-Schields (German Development Institute, GDI-DIE)
• ‘Challenges in the Relationship between the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons and International Refugee Law’ – Dr Bríd Ní Ghráinne (University of Sheffield, UK)
• ‘Internal to Cross-border Displacement in Multi-Risk and Slow-Onset Contexts’ – Dr Caroline Zickgraf (University of Liège, Belgium)

Stream 3  Present and Future Danger? Environmental and Disaster Displacement  Room G16
Chair: Professor Walter Kälin (Platform on Disaster Displacement)

• ‘A Human Rights-Based Approach to Disaster Displacement in Asia Pacific: Preliminary Insights from a Ten-Country Research Initiative’ – Dr Matthew Scott (Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Sweden)
• ‘Assessing Sovereign and Non-Sovereign Small Island Developing States’ Capacity to Respond to Internally Displaced Populations: The Case of the Anglophone Caribbean’ – Dr Natalie Dietrich Jones (University of the West Indies (Mona), Jamaica)

• ‘Displacement and Technological Disasters: Fukushima as a “Living Example”’ – Dr Ana Mosneaga (Japan Platform, Japan)

• ‘Re-evaluating the Relationship between Disaster and Conflict Displacement: A Colombian Case study’ – Dr Beatriz Sánchez (independent researcher, Spain)

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1445–1515 Coffee

1515–1700 Breakout Session III

Stream 1 Internal Displacement and (Access to) Justice

Chair: Romola Adeola (Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria)

- ‘Hand in Hand or at Arm’s Length? The Displacement Reparations Case Law of International Human Rights Mechanisms, Twenty Years after the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement’ – Deborah Casalin (University of Antwerp, Belgium)

- ‘IDPs from the Perspective of Transitional Justice: Opportunities, Risks and Lessons from Colombia’ – Félix Torres Penagos (University of Nottingham, UK / Constitutional Court, Colombia)

- ‘Justice and Security for Internally Displaced Persons in the DRC: The Case of Bukavu in the DRC’ – Dr Carolien Jacobs (Leiden University, Netherlands)

Stream 2 Internal Displacement as a Humanitarian Challenge

Chair: Joakim Daun (Refugee Law Initiative, UK)

- ‘IDPs as a Humanitarian Concern’ - Professor Elizabeth Ferris (Georgetown University, USA)

- ‘IDPs and Public Health’ – Professor Bayard Roberts (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK)

- ‘Be Near a Road: Humanitarian Practice and Displaced Persons in North Kivu’ – Sandrine Tiller (Médecins Sans Frontières) [with Sean Healy]

Stream 3 Solutions, Development and the ‘End of Displacement’

Chair: Natalia Baal (JIPS)

- ‘Breaking the Impasse: Reducing Protracted Internal Displacement as a Collective Outcome’ – Professor Walter Kälin (University of Bern, Switzerland)

- ‘The Challenges of Pursuing Solutions on the Ground’ – Liz Eyster (IDP Unit, UNHCR)

- ‘Innovation for Solutions’ - Marina Cremonese (Danish Refugee Council, Serbia)

- ‘Measuring Progress towards Durable Solutions’ – Khadra Elmi (JIPS)

1700–1800 Closing Review and Next Steps - Plenary Session

- Discussion of research gaps and opportunities, developing a network and future research links Professor Walter Kälin (University of Bern, Switzerland)
Workshop Methodology

This one-day workshop to celebrate 20 years of the Guiding Principles is dedicated to reflecting on the state-of-the-art in research on internally displaced persons (IDPs) and internal displacement.

Convened by the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI) at the School of Advanced Study, University of London, with leading research partners,* the workshop complements the global GP20 policy process.

The funding for room hire provided by the John Coffin Trust is gratefully acknowledged.

1. Research context

Internal displacement due to conflict, violence, disasters and other push factors is a major feature of today’s world. Hundreds of millions of IDPs are said to exist across over 125 countries. Oriented by the Guiding Principles, attention to IDPs forms a major part of the humanitarian effort. Meanwhile, high levels of poverty among IDPs bring other development and protection challenges.

The mainstreaming of IDPs in the humanitarian response has brought practical dividends. However, it seems to have been accompanied by a decline in research on IDPs and internal displacement over the last 10-15 years, most of which also now takes place in policy institutions. Yet comparatively little new academic research or thinking on internal displacement has emerged since the mid-2000s.

2. Objectives and outcomes

Against this backdrop, the RLI workshop takes a first step towards reinvigorating the IDP research agenda through pursuit of the following objectives:

- Share recent IDP research, review the state of the art and identify research gaps
- Bring together perspectives on IDP research from the policy and academic spheres
- Network colleagues to reflect on future directions in the field of IDP research
- Renew interest in IDP research by developing research collaborations, agendas and projects

* Institute for the Study of International Migration (Georgetown), Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Joint IDP Profiling Service and the Special Rapporteur on IDPs
Envisaged material outcomes from the RLI workshop are as follows:

- A short ‘state of the art’ report on IDP research to identify trends, gaps and future directions
- A modest IDP research network as a centre of gravity to promote research/collaboration
- An IDP research agenda, including dissemination (report) and outreach (network)

The RLI is responsible for the production of relevant materials and follow-up.

3. Methodology for the IDP workshop

The workshop methodology is designed to pursue these objectives and outcomes. The level of detail involved aims to ensure that the workshop is not merely a talking shop but rather that it provides a platform for concrete next steps to reinvigorate this field of research.

Opening session

The opening session offers a broad entry point to the challenges and priorities in IDP research from two perspectives: the RLI Director will briefly reiterate the academic research imperatives; the UN Special Rapporteur on IDPs will outline the policy priorities identified by the GP20 Plan of Action. These academic and policy ‘framing’ presentations provide a context for the sessions that follow.

Panel sessions

The three consecutive panel sessions focus on substantive themes in IDP research. Each has a choice of three different thematic panels. Each panel lasts for 1 hour and 45 minutes.

The panels involve short presentations from three or four researchers on their current research in the IDP field. These presentations should give a good flavour of the individual research and, based on that, address broad areas of current interest on the panel theme, identify gaps in research on that theme and propose future directions for research on the theme. Taken together, the presentations should provide participants with a broad sense of the overall theme of the panel.

The Chair will briefly introduce the theme and presenters and keep time. After the presentations, the Chair will open to the discussion. This will focus on the presentations but will also encourage debate, questions and comments on other points relevant to the panel theme. These could include:

- Other important considerations relating to research on the panel theme
- Other research relating to the panel theme currently being carried out
- The dynamic between policy-relevant and academic-led research in relation to the theme
- Gaps and future research priorities in relation to the panel theme

Thus, prior to the workshop, all participants should think carefully about which panels you wish to attend and any substantive thematic points that you might wish to introduce in the discussion.

At the end of the session, the Chair of each panel will make a poster listing three research priorities identified for that theme. The resulting panel posters will be displayed outside the main room prior to the final plenary session to give all participants a sense of the research priorities for panels that they were unable to attend. RLI staff will also be taking more detailed notes of presentations and discussion during the panel as a basis for the ‘state-of-the-art’ report to be produced after the event.
**Poster session**

The poster session takes place during lunch to allow additional sharing of research in the IDP field. As this session takes place in the lunch room, participants are encouraged to stroll around the posters after eating to engage with the poster presenters about the research on display.

**Plenary session**

The final plenary session moves forward discussion of substantive themes to focus on how to try and develop new momentum in IDP research. The session lasts for 45 minutes. It will start with a short presentation by the RLI Director on the three envisaged outcomes (see above) and continue with an open discussion of ‘next steps’ that will be facilitated by the session Chair (Professor Walter Kälin).

Thus, prior to the workshop, all participants should think carefully about proposals, feedback and input on this issue. This could include:

- Comments on the three proposed RLI outcomes (report, network, agenda)
- Involvement, potential collaborative research projects and sources of funding
- Connections with other potentially interested researchers not present at the workshop
- Alternative proposals for next steps…
- Proposals, feedback and discussion will be captured by RLI staff taking notes for follow-up.