The Reykjavik Roundtable on Human Rights

Democratic Accountability, State Sovereignty, and International Governance

Reykjavik, 28 April 2016

Program

Thursday, 28 April 2016

9:00–9:15

Roundtable Opening

Opening Address

Lilja Alfredsdóttir, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Iceland

9:15–10:30

Panel 1: Human Rights Violations and State Sovereignty

Chair: Gréta Gunnarsdóttir, Ambassador for Human Rights, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Iceland

James Pattison, Professor of Politics, University of Manchester
The Responsibility to Protect and Just War Theory

Þórdís Ingadóttir, Associate Professor of Law, Reykjavik University
The International Criminal Court and State Sovereignty: Current Challenges

Ali Jalali, Professor at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies of the United States’ National Defense University and former Interior Minister of Afghanistan
Promoting Human Rights in a Transitional Political Environment: The Case of Afghanistan

Thuli Madonsela, Public Protector of South Africa
State Sovereignty and International Responsibility to Guard Human Rights: Revisiting South Africa’s History during Apartheid
Valur Ingimundarson, Professor of Contemporary History, University of Iceland
*Contested Pasts, Transitional Justice, and Post-Conflict Reconstruction*

Janis Judson, Professor of Law and Political Science at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland
*International Law, Human Rights and Truth Commissions: A Model for Restorative Justice*

Discussion

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10:30–10:50  Coffee and Tea

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10:50–12:20

**Panel 2: Democratic Accountability, Transnational Rights, and International Obligations**

Chair: Mark Donfried, Director of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, Berlin

Rosa Pavanelli, General Secretary of Public Services International, the Global Federation for Public Sector Trade Unions
*International Trade Agreements and Democratic Rights*

Thomas Hammarberg, former Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
*Gaps are Growing: How to Ensure Universal Economic and Social Rights?*

Yvonne Vissing, Professor of Sociology, Salem State College
*Child Rights in the United States: 25 Years Later and Counting*

Azril Mohd Amin, Chief Executive, Centre for Human Rights Research & Advocacy (CENTHRA)
*ASEAN Human Rights Mechanisms: EU Assistance to the NGO Sector*

Dimitris Christopoulos, Professor and Vice-President of the International Federation for Human Rights
*Can the EU-Turkey Agreement on Refugees be reconciled with international Humanitarian Law and the Geneve Convention?*

Akaash Maharaj, CEO of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC)

Discussion

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12:20–14:00  Lunch

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14:05–15:35


Chair: Julia Sebutinde, Judge at the International Court of Justice (ICJ)

Xavier-Jean Keïta, Principal Counsel, Office of Public Counsel for the Defence, International Criminal Court (ICC)

*How Continued State Cooperation via Agreements on Provisional Release and Acquittal are Vital to Uphold the Rome Statute Principle of Presumption of Innocence*

Össur Skarphéðinsson, Member of Parliament and former Foreign Minister of Iceland

*The United Nations and the Politics of Self-determination*

Fabian Hamilton, British Labour Member of Parliament and Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, United Kingdom

*Power Politics and the "Tibetan Question"*

Fayik Yagızay, Representative of the Council of Europe, People’s Democratic Party (HTP), Turkey

*Juxtaposing State Interests against Fundamental Values: The Kurdish Experience*

Discussion

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15:35–15:55  Coffee and Tea

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16:00–17:30

**Panel 4: Human Rights Conventions: International Governance, State Prerogatives, and Non-State Involvement**

Chair: Ingibjörg Davíðsdóttir, Ambassador and Foreign Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Iceland, Prime Minister’s Office

Christos Giakoumopoulos, Professor and Director for Human Rights, Council of Europe

*Enforcing Human Rights Regimes: The Collective Responsibility of States and Non-State Actors*

Julia Sebutinde, Judge at the International Court of Justice (ICJ)

*The International Court of Justice: Holding Sovereign States to Account for Human Rights Violations*

Alexander Belohlavek, University Professor of International Law, Ostrava, Czech Republic

*The Right to Access to the Secret Security Service Archives In Light of the European Convention on Human Rights*

Djoomart Otorbaev, former Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan

*Finding the Best Governance Model to Reduce Poverty and Protect Human Rights*
Ögmundur Jónasson, Chairman of the Constitutional and Supervisory Committee of Parliament and former Icelandic Minister of the Interior

Roundtable Summary and Conclusion

Discussion

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