AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON
Counterterrorism, Electoral Politics, and Human Rights

FREE EVENT
THURSDAY
APRIL 27, 2017
9AM – 4PM
107 CAPEN HALL
NORTH CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

We like to view counterterrorism as an essential policy to keep innocent people safe, and electoral politics as a way to protect human rights. Yet, counterterrorism measures can result in immigration policies and military tactics that violate human rights, and elections and referenda may provide opportunities for racist demagoguery, nativist discrimination, and violence against civilians. This symposium will explore these counterintuitive relationships, and seek ways to mitigate the unwanted side effects resulting from such policies and institutions.

Schedule of Events

9:00  REGISTRATION & WELCOMING REMARKS
9:30-11:00  AFRICA
Human Rights in the Context of Elections in Burundi, Uganda and Rwanda
Sarah Jackson, Deputy Regional Director, Amnesty International (via Skype)
International Responses to Human Rights Crises in Sudan and Southern Sudan
Jehan El Hadi, Senior Researcher, Africa Division, Human Rights Watch
Political Process, Inclusion and Citizen Satisfaction with Governance in West Africa
Ryan Dalton, Program Officer, Central and West Africa, National Democratic Institute

11:00-12:00  LUNCH

12:00-2:30  EUROPE
Recasting Refugees as Terrorists: Populist Exploitation of the National Security Narrative in European Electoral Politics
Iain Hardie, Expert on Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights, Amnesty International
European Complicity in U.S. Drone Attacks and Mass Surveillance
Eric Topol, Senior Researcher and Policy Advisor, German Institute for Human Rights
Turkey’s AKP after the July 15 Coup Attempt: Moving towards End Game
Howard Fogelstock, Associate Professor St. Lawrence University

2:30-4:30  UNITED STATES
National Security and Human Rights in the U.S.
Naureen Shah, Director, Security with Human Rights, Amnesty International
U.S. Counterterrorism and Human Rights Post Presidential Election
Laura Pitter, Senior U.S. National Security Counselor, Human Rights Watch
National Security and Recent Changes in U.S. Immigration Policy
Nicole Henriett, Assistant Clinical Professor of Law and Director, Community Justice Clinic, University at Buffalo School of Law

3:30-4:00  WRAP-UP GENERAL DISCUSSION

SPONSORS: Alison Des Forges Memorial Committee, University at Buffalo Eddy Center for Law and Social Policy, Center for Social Equity, Department of Comparative Literature, Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Department of History, Humanities Institute, James Agee Chair in American Culture, Department of Philosophy, Samuel R. Capen Chair, Department of Political Science, and Office of the Vice Provost for International Education

This symposium honors the life and work of human rights advocate Alison Des Forges.