



WHOSE CULTURE? WHOSE RIGHTS? EXPLORING THE UNIVERSALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Saturday, 12 March

Human rights in the age of global society prompt questions of how coexisting cultures accept the notion of human dignity. This conference will explore challenges to universality and the extent to which human rights, as reflected in international law, are perceived through cultural undertones.

PROGRAMME

9:00 Registration West Concourse

9:45 Welcome Address: Dr. David Harris, Co-Director, Human Rights
Law Centre, Professor Emeritus, University of Nottingham,
School of Law Room

Panel Session – Chaired by Dr. David Harris

Keynote Speech

- **Dr. Abdullahi A. An-Na'im**, Professor of Law, Emory University,
Against Mounting Odds: Is the Universality of Human Rights Coherent or Viable without International Legality?
- **Dr. Hugh Goddard**, Professor of Christian-Muslim Relations,
University of Nottingham
Islam, Christianity and Human Rights

11:00 Coffee Break West Concourse

11:20 Morning presentations and discussion

Group 1 Room

- **Khadijeh Hamidian Shour Masty**, University of Essex
Contributions of Islam as a Non-Western Value to Human Rights Law
- **Reema Ashraf**, St. Edmund's College, Cambridge University
Human Rights Law Practice in Pakistan
- **Dipti Patel**, University of Leicester
Religious Foundations of Human Rights: A Perspective from the Judeo-Christian Tradition and Hinduism

	Group 2	Room
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Vincent DePaigne, European Commission <i>The Individual and his or her Culture on Globalisation, Human Rights and Identity</i> ◦ Claire Physsas, King's College, University of London <i>Redefining Universality</i> ◦ Akihiro Ueda, Essex University <i>Criticizing 'Human Rights Relativism': Two Conditions for Interpretation</i> 	

12:30	Lunch	West Concourse
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13:30	Afternoon introduction:	Room
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Panel Session – Chaired by

- **Dr. Dominic McGoldrick**, Professor of Law, University of Liverpool
Multiculturalism and its Discontents
- **Dr. Michael Freeman**, Research Professor, Department of Government, University of Essex
Culture, Identity and Human Rights

14:45	Coffee Break	West Concourse
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15:05	Afternoon presentations and discussion	
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	Group 1	Room
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Jasmine Moussa, American University, Cairo <i>The Cultural Debate and Personal Status Law Reform in Egypt</i> ◦ Yuan Qiong Hu, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights <i>Parental Role in Protection of Child's Rights: Taking the Best Interest of the Child into Account in a Chinese Context</i> ◦ Laura Middleton-Guerard, Mansfield College, University of Oxford <i>The Law, Multiculturalism and Gender Equality: A Reconciliatory Exercise</i> 	

	Group 2	Room
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Olga Pleshkova, University of Nottingham <i>Human Rights and Legal Cultures: Challenges for Democratic Policing</i> ◦ Inese Kurme, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights & Humanitarian Law, Lund University <i>Russian Speaking Minorities in Baltic States</i> 	

16:15	Closing remarks: Robert McCorquodale, Professor of International Law and Human Rights, Head of Law School, University of Nottingham	
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