



Emerging Scholars Network

YEAR IN REVIEW



The Kaldor Centre's Emerging Scholars Network is a global interdisciplinary community of graduate and early career scholars undertaking research on refugees and forced migration.

With more than 220 members based in 30 countries, the Network allows scholars to share ideas across disciplines and institutions. Our members are working in diverse fields of research, such as refugee mental health, migration law and governance, and climate-related displacement.

Each year the Network gathers for a workshop ahead of the Kaldor Centre's annual conference, so next-generation researchers can exchange ideas with peers and world-leading experts on refugee issues. The Network also features three research groups – Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Gender & Diversity – to allow focused discussion among members working in these areas.

See our website for details: <https://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/networks-and-collaborations>

This 'Year in Review' newsletter highlights just a few of our members' academic achievements in 2020. These include: MPhil and PhD completions; international conferences; fieldwork and doctoral research; and, a range of publications from blogs and podcasts to book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles.

JOIN OUR NETWORK

All graduate and early-career scholars undertaking research on refugees and forced migration are invited to apply to join the Kaldor Centre's Emerging Scholars Network. Those scholars who are based in, or conducting research on, the Asia-Pacific or Africa, or whose work focuses on issues of Gender & Diversity, are also encouraged to join those research groups within the broader Network (outlined below).

For more information see our website:

<https://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/networks-and-collaborations>

Or contact the Emerging Scholars Network convenor Dr Claire Higgins directly:

c.higgins@unsw.edu.au

Building research capacity in the Asia-Pacific

The Emerging Scholars Network has an Asia-Pacific Research Group. Members of this inter-country, inter-disciplinary academic community share updates on their own research, as well as important legislative and policy developments on refugee law and practice in their countries. The work of scholars in our Asia-Pacific Research Group today can inform better solutions in future, in a region where legal frameworks for refugees are only just developing. Scholars undertaking research on refugees and forced migration in the Asia-Pacific, who wish to join the Network's Asia-Pacific Research Group, are invited to visit the website and submit an application to the Kaldor Centre's Madeline Gleeson at: kaldor-emergingscholars-asiapacific@groups.unsw.edu.au

A focus on Africa

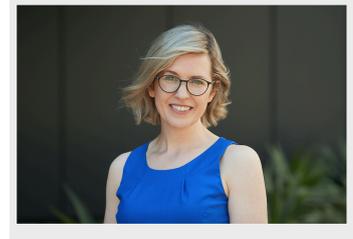
The Emerging Scholars Network's Africa Research Group brings together graduate and early-career scholars studying on forced migration in that region, and to build networks with established scholars. The Africa Research Group is led by Dr Tamara Wood, an internationally recognised expert on African regional refugee protection and climate change-related displacement. Interested scholars are invited to visit the group website for more details or email Dr Wood at: kaldor-africagroup@groups.unsw.edu.au

Highlighting gender & diversity

The Emerging Scholars Network has launched a new Gender & Diversity Research Group, to connect early-career academics exploring issues of gender, sexuality, age and disability in the field of refugee and forced migration studies. Scholars conducting research on gender (broadly defined) or other intersectional factors, or who are keen to expand their research agenda to include these perspectives, are invited to join this forum. The Gender & Diversity Research Group is led by Dr Kate Ogg, a senior lecturer in law at ANU who undertakes interdisciplinary research in the areas of refugee law, human rights, litigation, access to justice and feminist legal theory. Interested scholars are invited to contact Dr Ogg at: kaldor-emergingscholars-gender@groups.unsw.edu.au

A note from the convenor

2020 has presented some unique challenges to the field of forced migration studies, with COVID-19 disrupting both humanitarian programs and academic life. In this context networks such as ours are more important than ever. This year the Kaldor Centre's Emerging Scholars Network has worked to better connect our community through virtual meetings and active research groups.



Our annual workshop was held virtually from 10-12 November, with seven Zoom sessions scheduled across different timezones. Members dialled in from all over the world, making the online format a great success and one we plan to use again in 2021. Thanks to all those members who contributed to this wonderful event.

In partnership with the team behind UNHCR's Global Academic Interdisciplinary Network (GAIN), we held an online event on 10th November, titled: Empowering emerging scholars in forced migration: a UNHCR and UNSW signing ceremony and discussion. The event celebrated the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNHCR and UNSW Sydney, and began with remarks by Assistant High Commissioner for Protection Gillian Triggs, UNSW Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Nicholas Fisk, Kaldor Centre Director Professor Jane McAdam and Professor Geoff Gilbert, chair of the GAIN secretariat.



UNHCR's Rachel Criswell introduced the panel discussion, chaired by University of Geneva Masters student Innocent Ntumba Tshilombo. It featured Anila Noor, Abdikadir Bare Abikar, Dr Laine Munir and Tristan Harley (pictured). Together these Network members reflected on their career development strategies and ways to advance implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees through academic research.

The feedback that I have received from many of you (thank you for emailing!) tells me that these online initiatives have been a valuable way to stay connected during COVID.

I would like to thank research group convenors Madeline Gleeson, Dr Tamara Wood and Dr Kate Ogg, and the Kaldor Centre's administrator Frances Nolan and communications officer Lauren Martin for their dedication to the Network this year. I would also like to thank Maddie Barclay for her excellent work in preparing this year's newsletter. Maddie is a third-year Arts and Business student at UNSW, and she completed an internship and further volunteer work with us in 2020.

The Network has exciting plans for 2021, including a new research group on climate & disaster displacement. The Kaldor Centre's Dr Tamara Wood and Frances Voon will also be designing and piloting a mentoring program for emerging scholars from refugee backgrounds, in a new project supported by the Universitas 21 Researcher Resilience Fund and run in partnership with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at Lund University.

In the meantime I hope you enjoy reading about the research and career achievements featured in this 'Year in Review' newsletter. They are testament to the hard work and creativity of Emerging Scholars Network members.

Dr Claire Higgins

Convenor, Emerging Scholars Network

ARC DECRA (2020-22) & Senior Research Fellow at the Kaldor Centre

Affiliate Scholar, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

Ashrafal Azad

PhD Candidate, UNSW Law and Affiliate, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law

Ashrafal Azad is currently writing a PhD thesis on unauthorised migration and access to documentation of Rohingya in Myanmar, Bangladesh and Malaysia. His research looks at how Rohingya are able to obtain documents and cross borders despite various restrictions by the states. His research on the Rohingya in Bangladesh was extensively cited by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal of Australia in an [asylum case](#).

He is a member of the Asia-Pacific Research Group. Ashrafal has recently published '[Crossfire and criminal cases: How Bangladesh's counter-trafficking actions changed the game for migrants and refugees in Southeast Asia](#)' and '[How this pandemic is testing the limits of political community](#)'. He is scheduled to be a speaker at a panel on 'Forced migration and the Rohingya Crisis' in the 9th Oceanic Conference on International Studies (OCIS 2020) to be held in December 2020 at the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, Australian National University.

Abdul Aziz

PhD Candidate, School of Communication, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

Abdul Aziz is a PhD candidate at School of Communication and affiliated with the Digital Media Research Centre of Queensland University of Technology, Australia. His research focuses on digital and cultures practices of everyday life with particular emphasis on diaspora, religion, gender, ethnic identity and inclusion. His current research focuses on understanding the Rohingya diaspora: the identity construction and integration in the age of digital media.

He recently published an article on '[Rohingya Diaspora: Transnational Identity in the Digital Age](#)' published in The Diplomat and presented on '[Researching diaspora in the digital age: new directions towards a transnational approach](#)' at 7th Biennial ACSPRI Social Science Methodology Conference.

Ashley Binetti Armstrong

Acting Assistant Professor, New York University School of Law

Ashley Binetti Armstrong teaches Lawyering at NYU Law, and her scholarship critically evaluates refugee rights and *non-refoulement*, safe third country protection, and responsibility-sharing as they relate to asylees in the United States and Europe. Armstrong received her J.D. *cum laude* and her LL.M. in Advocacy with distinction from Georgetown Law. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with her bachelor's from Cornell University.

She has published '[Co-opting Coronavirus, Assailing Asylum](#)' and '[You Shall Not Pass! How the Dublin Regulation Fueled Fortress Europe](#)'. Ashley is currently working on 'Making Refugees Safe Again: The Danger of "Safe Third Country"'.


Dr Jen Azordegan

Evaluation and Strategic Projects Manager, ACU Engagement, Australian Catholic University

Dr Jen Azordegan's research interests focus around the role of educational institutions in building social cohesion and promoting the inclusion of people from diverse and marginalised communities. In March 2020, she completed her PhD, which explored the experience of a Queensland primary school in engaging parents from an Afghan refugee background. Jen completed her thesis on '[School-family relationships in diverse Australia: A sociological case study of the connections between a school community and parents from an Afghan refugee background](#)'. In 2021, Jen hopes to navigate that tricky transition from PhD scholar to Early Career Researcher; develop articles from her thesis that will further both the theory and practice of refugee education; and to continue to heal from the PhD experience and this year.



Dr Sally Baker

Senior Lecturer, School of Education, UNSW

Dr Sally Baker's teaching and research interests centre on language and equity in higher education, particularly with regard to culturally and linguistically diverse students, and refugee students in particular. Sally is the Chair of the national [Refugee Education Special Interest Group](#).

Sally was the Guest Editor of a recent edition of the Human Rights Defender, titled '[Defending the human right to quality education in a time of disruption](#)', which asked how we can better support human rights for all through quality education. She is hopeful that the #StudentsLikeUs campaign will be reignited in 2021, and that changes can be made to the Refugee Community Sponsorship Program to make the idea of an Australian higher education community sponsorship part of the suite of resettlement options available to refugees.

Brian Barbour

Affiliate, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, UNSW Law and Regional Refugee Protection Adviser, Act for Peace

Brian Barbour is currently a PhD candidate whose research looks at "building state asylum systems from the ground up". Brian is admitted to the New York Bar and has worked in the field of refugee protection for more than 12 years throughout the Asia Pacific. Brian is a member of the Emerging Scholars Network Asia Pacific Research Group.

Brian has submitted a co-authored article with Lilianne Fan and Chris Lewa for the special edition of the Asia-Pacific Journal on Human Rights and the Law marking 5 years since the Andaman Sea crisis, tentatively entitled 'State Systems, Non-State Actors, and the Capacity to Respond to Large Scale Movements in South and South-East Asia', and established a [joint pledge](#) at the Global Refugee Forum which aims to give every refugee access to a lawyer. He has also organised a series of webinars for NGOs working with refugees in [Cox's Bazar](#) and is currently conducting research commissioned by UNHCR and the Government of the Philippines, and will produce a desk review on populations at risk of statelessness. In 2021, Brian hopes to further develop his PhD thesis and complete a number of chapters, publish a co-authored paper comparing RSD procedures and has been invited to join a reference group to support a global and independent evaluation of UNHCR's work on strengthening national asylum systems.

Dr Andrew Burridge

Lecturer in Human Geography, Department of Geography and Planning, Macquarie University

Dr. Andrew Burridge is a political geographer, based in the Department of Geography and Planning at Macquarie University. Andrew's work has focused primarily upon undocumented migration, the effects of border securitisation and immigration detention, the legal geographies of asylum appeals, and policies of refugee reception and settlement. He has recently published 'What's missing from legal geography and materialist studies of law? Absence and the assembling of asylum appeal hearings in Europe' and 'Hotels are no 'luxury' place to detain people seeking asylum in Australia'. Andrew was an invited speaker at 'The politicisation of seeking asylum' symposium, co-sponsored by Challenging Racism Project and the Diversity and Human Rights Research Centre (Western Sydney University) and Academics for Refugees, as well as an invited speaker at 'Migration 2030: Challenges and opportunities for Canada and the world', presenting on 'Temporary Migration in Australia: the Entrepreneurial State, Rights, Belonging and Everyday Security' (with Claudia Tazreiter, UNSW),



Dr Sara Dehm

Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney



Dr Sara Dehm teaches and researches in the areas of public international law, international migration and refugee law, and the history and theory of international law and institutions. Her first book, *Administering Migration: International Law and the Global Ordering of People*, is under contract with Cambridge University Press. She published a number of book chapters, including 'Outsourcing, Responsibility and Refugee Claim-Making in Australia's Offshore Detention Regime' in *Asylum for Sale: Profit and Protest in the Migration Industry*, 'Transnational Migration Law: Authority, Contestation, Decolonization' in *Oxford Handbook on Transnational Law* and 'Contesting the Right to Leave in International Law' in *International Law and the Cold War*.

Sarah also published a number of public commentaries related to refugees and COVID-19 including 'The Entrenchment of the Medical Border in Pandemic Times', 'Refugees Need Protection from Coronavirus too, and Must Be Released' and 'COVID-19 and the Relentless Harms of Australia's Punitive Immigration Detention Regime'.

Dr Cristiano d'Orsi

Senior Research Fellow & Lecturer (South African Research Chair in International Law (SARCIL), University of Johannesburg, South Africa

Dr Cristiano d'Orsi is a Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer at the South African Research Chair in International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Johannesburg. He holds a PhD in International Relations (International Law) from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (GIIDS) in Geneva. His research interests focus on the legal protection of asylum-seekers, refugees, migrants and IDPs in Africa, on African Human Rights Law, and, more broadly, on the development of Public International Law in Africa. He is a member of the Africa Research Group. He has a forthcoming paper titled 'Migrant smuggling in Africa: Challenges yet to be overcome'. While the literature on the trafficking of persons in Africa is abundant, the phenomenon of the smuggling of migrants on the continent, above all under a legal point of view, has not been deeply investigated until now.



Oyewo-Umoh Adetola Elizabeth

PhD Candidate at the University at KwaZulu-Natal

Oyewo-Umoh wears many hats as a research consultant, student mentor and freelance journalist. She does substantial work with 'persons of concern', providing information literacy and ICT training skills through the platform of the Dennis Hurley Centre, Durban South Africa.

Oyewo-Umoh participated and presented in several conferences, workshops, and roundtables on 'Refuge and Refugee: Stateless in a primitive society in a Globalized Era' at the Kaldor Centre Emerging Scholars Network Annual Workshop 2019. She was a commentator on 'Xenophobia in South Africa; The political football blame game' at the African Centre for Migration & Society, Johannesburg in 2017. She was a presenter at the 12th Annual Centre for Refugee Studies Student Caucus Conference, bordering on a Crisis on Citizenship, Borders and Forced Displacement, Canada, 2017 on the paper 'State Actors, Migration and Asylum policy in South Africa' and also a delegate to the dialogue on the internationalisation informality: work, precarity and Vulnerability, Durban South Africa. She is currently involved in a certificate programme on Global Compact for Migration (GCM). She participates in regular meetings organised by UNHCR around the 2020 High Commissioner's Dialogue, including 'Protection and Resilience during Pandemics' in October-December 2020. She has won a conference scholarship from the CARFSM and IASFM, and is a member of the ESN's Africa Research Group.

Eleonora Frasca

PhD Candidate in EU migration law, Charles De Visscher Center for International and European Law (CeDIE), UCLouvain, Belgium



Eleonora Frasca works on the interdisciplinary GLOBMIG project, which focuses on the impact of EU legal and policy measures on migration flows. In her PhD research, she investigates the implications of the use of soft law instruments in the context of EU cooperation with African countries. She is a member of the Emerging Scholars Network's Africa Research Group, and is also a member of [EDEM](#).

In 2020, she published a blog post on the [Malta declaration on search and rescue, disembarkation and relocation](#) and two case law commentaries of the Court of Justice of the European Union on [public access to documents of Frontex Search and Rescue Activities in the Mediterranean](#) and on the [EU relocation mechanism](#) and one commenting the [ECtHR humanitarian visa case of M.N. and others vs. Belgium](#).

Madeline Gleeson

Senior Research Associate, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, UNSW Law

Madeline convenes the Asia-Pacific Research Group of the Emerging Scholars Network. In 2020, her research focused on the intersection of international refugee law and the law of State responsibility, with emphasis on situations in which one State is 'complicit' or provides aid or assistance to another State for the commission of an internationally wrongful act. She has also continued her research into the extraterritorial scope of international human rights treaty obligations, and undertaken a comprehensive review of UN treaty body jurisprudence on this topic. She has directed and curated the Kaldor Centre's [special series marking the five year anniversary of the 2015 Andaman Sea crisis](#), and is the Guest Editor for a special edition of the Asia Pacific Journal on Human Rights and the Law on the same topic, due out in 2021. She recently co-authored an [opinion piece](#) with Professor Jane McAdam about why the UK should not replicate Australia's 'offshore processing' model.



Tristan Harley

PhD Candidate, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, UNSW Sydney

Tristan Harley is dual-trained as a lawyer and historian, and is a doctoral candidate at the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law at UNSW. He has published in the fields of refugee law and policy, including as author (with Penelope Mathew) of *Refugees, Regionalism and Responsibility*. He is a member of the Asia-Pacific Research Group.



During 2020, Tristan continued his PhD research, which focuses on how refugees can more meaningfully participate in decision-making processes that affect them. In addition, he published a research article (with Dr Harry Hobbs) in the June edition of the *International Journal of Refugee Law* entitled '[The Meaningful Participation of Refugees in Decision-Making Processes: Questions of Law and Policy](#)'. He also undertook a research consultancy with UNHCR to examine the contributions of refugees to the development of early international refugee law and policy between 1921 and 1955. This research was commissioned to inform the forthcoming publication of UNHCR's *The State of the World's Forcibly Displaced* in 2021.

Dr Sara Halpern

Graduate, Ohio State University



Dr Sara Halpern recently defended her doctoral dissertation, "Saving the Unwanted: The International Response to Shanghai's Jewish Refugees, 1943-1949." Her research interests are the history of modern Jewish diaspora, refugees, the Holocaust, and humanitarianism. She also recently published '[The Integration of Jewish Refugees from Shanghai into Post-World War II San Francisco](#)'. Her goals for 2021 are to draft an article on elderly Jewish refugees in Shanghai for *Yad Vashem Studies*, begin revising her dissertation into a monograph, and land a postdoctoral fellowship or a tenure-track position.

Kyli Hedrick

Psychologist and PhD Candidate, Centre for Mental Health, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, The University of Melbourne

Kyli Hedrick is a registered psychologist with a Master's degree in Community Psychology. Both her practice and research interests lie at the intersection of health and human rights. Kyli has recently submitted her PhD (Melbourne School of Population and Global Health) examining self-harm among asylum seekers in Australia. In 2020, Kyli published the three remaining articles for her "PhD with publications". These included an article in *BMC Public Health*, '[Self-harm among asylum seekers in Australian onshore immigration detention: How incidence rates vary by held detention type](#)'; an article in *BMC Psychiatry*, '[An evaluation of the quality of self-harm incident reporting across the Australian asylum seeker population according to World Health Organization \(WHO\) guidelines](#)'; and an article in *PLOS Medicine*, '[Temporal variations in the distribution of self-harm episodes and methods across the Australian asylum seeker population: An observation study](#)'. She also recently published an article in *The Conversation*, '[Self-harm in immigration detention has risen sharply: Here are 6 ways to address this health crisis](#)'.



Khanh Hoang

PhD candidate, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law

Khan Hoang's PhD research examines the benefits and pitfalls of community sponsorship in Australia, drawing upon historical and comparative perspectives. He has previously worked in academia at the Australian National University in its migration law program, and as a Senior Protection Assistant at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees multi-country representation in Canberra. He has research interests and expertise in refugee and Australian migration law.

He contributed to a chapter titled 'Private Humanitarian Sponsorship: Searching for the Community in Australia's Community Refugee Sponsorship Program' in Shauna Labman and Geoff Cameron (eds), *Strangers to Neighbours: Refugee Sponsorship in Context*. He was an invited participant to expert roundtable on community sponsorship hosted by the Refugee Hub, University of Ottawa. Khanh also contributed to the University of Birmingham, Institute for Research into Superdiversity, [Community Sponsorship – Summary of Global State of Knowledge](#).

Nursyazwani Jamaludin

PhD student, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania



Nursyazwani Jamaludin is interested in refugees' everyday struggles to rethink new kinds of politics emerging from the global south. She has been working with Rohingya refugees in Malaysia for the past few years. Currently, Nursyazwani is involved in a research project employing photovoice to explore how Rohingya students imagine time in exile.

She has recently published '[The Hidden Heterogeneity of Rohingya Refugees](#)', '[Moral Refugees, Malaysia, and Covid-19](#)', and '[Mobile Refugee: Rohingya Refugees' Practices of Imaginary Citizenship in Klang Valley, Malaysia](#)'. She has also worked in collaboration with Geutanyoe Foundation-Malaysia, starting an Instagram page,

"[Rohingya Narratives](#)" to centre the narratives of Rohingya with lived experiences.

Gillian Kane

PhD Candidate, School of Law, Queen's University, Belfast

Gillian Kane's PhD research focuses on the role of international law in preventing and tackling human trafficking among refugees and asylum seekers in Africa and Europe. Alongside her PhD research, Gillian is an active member of the QUB Law PhD Student Research Network (SRN). Gillian is a member of the Africa Research Group.

In 2020 Gillian was involved in the organisation of an online seminar series, with the QUB Law SRN, that allowed PhD candidates to present their work online and receive valuable feedback. Gillian also worked together with a small team to organise the QUB Human Rights Centre PGR Symposium, on the theme of 'Emerging Issues in Human Trafficking Research'. In 2021, she hopes to continue to make the most of opportunities to share with and learn from others in virtual spaces.



John Kirwa Tum Kole

Masters of Philosophy, University of Melbourne

In Kenya, John has worked as a secondary school teacher, a school principal and a teacher trainer. In Australia, he has also worked as a teacher in a number of secondary colleges, an English language teacher (TESOL), an employment trainer at Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE (Gotafe) and a case worker with unaccompanied asylum-seeker minors at Mackillop Family Services. He is a member of the Emerging Scholars Network Africa Research Group and the International Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood from Care.



He recently published '[An exploration of key informant perspectives on factors influencing settlement of male Hazara youth who migrated to Melbourne as unaccompanied minors](#)'. In 2021, John aims to complete writing his book titled *Sacred Lives: Recovery and Resilience* and to begin his PhD project.

Emilie McDonnell

DPhil in Law Candidate, University of Oxford



Emilie is currently completing her DPhil in Law at Oxford focusing on externalised migration control and the right to leave. She is an Adjunct Researcher at the University of Tasmania School of Law, a Researcher at the Oxford Human Rights Hub and Co-Convenor of the Refugee and Migration Law Discussion Group. She is a member of the Asia-Pacific Research Group. She has recently published '[An Overview of Emerging International Human Rights Law Guidance: Promoting Human Rights Compatibility of Government COVID-19 Responses](#)', '[Will COVID-19 finally force us to reconsider the Global \(Im\)mobility Regime?](#)' and '[Bad Role Models: The UK's Proposal to Pushback Asylum Seekers at Sea, the Australian Model, and International Law](#)'. She was also a panellist in a [webinar](#) on 'Post COVID-19: Displacement – Lockdown when you have no home'.

Riona Moodley

PhD Candidate / Teaching Fellow, Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, Faculty of Law (UNSW)

Riona Moodley is an Australian lawyer and PhD candidate at the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law. Her doctoral research is focused on assessing the legal feasibility of introducing complementary pathways to protection in Europe and, in particular, the possibility of the European Union and its member states introducing measures to process international protection claims before asylum seekers arrive in Europe. In February 2020, Riona presented a research paper 'Rethinking "Regional Processing": Could the lessons learned from the Comprehensive Plan of Action for Indochinese refugees (CPA) offer a roadmap for international cooperation in response to 'regional' refugee situations?' at the 2020 Comparative Network on Refugee Externalisation Policies Conference, 'Responsibility Sharing or Responsibility Sharing?', held at Deakin University, Melbourne. Riona recently joined the Refugee Law Initiative's Working Group on Externalisation Policies.



Dr Laine Munir

Faculty of Global Challenges, African Leadership University, Senior Research Fellow, Center of Excellence in Biodiversity, University of Rwanda

In 2020, Dr Laine Munir started a new faculty position and pursued several new lines of research on gender, forced displacement, and natural resources. She became full-time faculty at African Leadership University, where she teaches political economy. As a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Rwanda, she spearheaded an ethnographic mapping project to assess local women's spatial relationships with the mining industry and also joined an international collaboration to assess environmental resiliency during COVID-19. She served on several academic and public panels for a University of Sheffield workshop on natural resource conservation and armed violence.



She has published '[When Local Law Impedes Conflict Resolution: Women's Oil Protests in the Niger Delta](#)' and '[Gender Roles in Nigeria's Non-Violent Oil Resistance](#)', and continues her work on [Dispatches on African Politics and Security](#). She co-authored with another Gender sub-group member, Anila Noor, a book chapter for the Migration Institute of Finland. "Vulnerabilities and Strategic Responses to LGBTIQ+ Identity Among Refugees and Their Families" will be published in *Separated Families: Forced Migration, Everyday Insecurities, and Transnational Tactics* next year.

Shepherd Mutsvara

PhD Candidate, Pedagogical University of Krakow (Poland) and Ghent University (Belgium)



Shepherd Mutsvara is a member of Africa Research Group as of 2019. His PhD research focuses on the effects of economic liberalization on refugee movements in sub-Saharan Africa. In August 2020, he undertook ethnographic fieldwork in Hamburg and Berlin to observe the infrastructure and administrative framework available for refugees and asylum seekers in Germany. He also presented his research project "Economic refugees: An analysis of persecution and displacement in the new global era" at the Migration Conference 2020, which was held online between 8 -11 September. Shepherd also presented a paper on Poland's refugee policy at the Muslim Migrants in Europe-Overcoming Stigma Conference, which was organised by the Halina Niec Legal Aid Centre, in Krakow, Poland. His partnership with the Emerging Scholars and Practitioners on Migration Issues Network (ESPMI) saw him participating

in the [ESPMI Podcast Series: Supporting Emerging Scholars and Practitioners in Migration Research](#). Going forward to 2021, Shepherd intends to expand his knowledge on Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) in development and humanitarian programmes in the MENA region by taking up a remote internship position with TRUST Consultancy and Development based in Turkey.

Dr Gloria Nguya

Part-time professor at University of Mwene-Ditu in DRC

Dr Gloria Nguya is a part-time professor at the University of Mwene-Ditu in DRC. She is a member of the Kaldor ESN's Africa Research Group and the Internal Displacement Research Programme (IDRP) at the Refugee Law Initiative. She has recently published 'Triple Nexus Implementation And Implications For Durable Solutions For Internal Displacement: On Paper And In Practice', which asks what does or does not work in implementing the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding triple nexus to address protracted and repeated crises.



Dr Kate Ogg

Senior Lecturer, School of Law, Australian National University

Dr Kate Ogg is a socio-legal researcher in refugee law, international human rights law and feminist legal theory. This year, Kate published her research on Palestinian refugees in *Human Rights Review* ('International Solidarity and Palestinian Refugees: Lessons for the Future Development of Refugee Law') and *The Australian Yearbook of International Law* (Backlashes Against International Commitments and Obligations: Migration as Restorative Justice). She is a member of ESN's Africa Research group and convenor of the Gender & Diversity group.



Kate has also been working on a co-authored chapter on the safe third country principle that is forthcoming in Cathryn Costello, Michelle Foster and Jane McAdam (eds) *Oxford Handbook on Refugee Law*. Kate also received a contract with Cambridge University Press for publication of her monograph in 2021 – *Protection from Refuge: From Refugee Rights to Migration Management*.

Dr Derya Ozkul

University of Oxford



Dr Derya Ozkul has worked on UNHCR's RSD practices in Lebanon and refugees' experiences and perceptions of the refugee recognition regime in the country. As part of Prof Cathryn Costello's RefMig project, she conducted fieldwork and is currently finalising a detailed Country Profile on Lebanon. Her work on the politics of Syrian refugees' return was published by *Forced Migration Review*. Her work on the participatory research methods, titled 'Participatory Research: Still a One-Sided Research Agenda?', was published by *Migration Letters*. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions, she had to cancel her fieldwork in Turkey, and is currently conducting online interviews with experts working on RSD in Turkey. In 2020, she also wrote a policy report on the conditions of refugees and irregular migrants during

COVID-19 pandemic in Turkey. In this report, she shows that even though treatment for COVID was made available for all residents in Turkey, including irregular migrants and asylum seekers, they still refrained from accessing hospitals due to fear of being deported. Derya has recently been awarded the John Fell Fund by the University of Oxford. This grant will enable her to study the use of biometrics and AI-based technologies in asylum seekers' and refugees' registration and access to humanitarian aid. She would welcome collaborations with the members interested in these areas.

Dr Jenny Poon

PhD, graduate of Western University, Faculty of Law

Dr Jenny Poon's research interests include international law, human rights, and refugee issues. Jenny was a former Visiting Fellow at the University of Oxford, Refugee Studies Centre, and was previously a Visiting Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. She has recently published 'A Legal Pluralist Approach to Migration Control: Norm Compliance in a Globalised World', which proposes a legal pluralist understanding of refugee law.



Uwem Umoh Samuel

Lecturer in History and Cultural & Oral Heritage, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa

Prior to Uwem Umoh Samuel's current position, he was a postgraduate Research Assistant. He is a PhD Candidate, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa. He is also a field researcher for Tourism Kwazulu-Natal. Samuel works within the intersection of migration policies and political elites.



He was a delegate at Xenophobia in Africa, organised by Institute of Security Studies (ISS), Nairobi, Kenya, in 2015. He was also part of the Roundtable discussion on the application of the South African legal framework on arrest and detention and its impact on migrants, organised by the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum and the University of the Witwatersrand, Braamfontein, Johannesburg, 2017. Uwem was also a participant at the special OGP Youth Dialogue on Open Government Data (OGP) with the Embassy of France in South Africa in 2017. He is a member of the Emerging Scholars Network's Africa Research Group and several migration groups. His goal for 2021 is to seek post-doctoral opportunities, collaboration and networking opportunities.

D.G. Niruka Sanjeevani

Lecturer in International Relations, Department of Strategic Studies, Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana



D.G. Niruka Sanjeevani works as a lecturer in International Relations at the Department of Strategic Studies, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka. She has obtained BA (Hons) and MA in International Relations from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. She has published a number of research papers on Refugees and Asylum seekers, Common European Asylum System, Post War Reconciliation and National Security.

She has recently published 'Family Reunification of Unaccompanied minors: Realities of the European Asylum System', 'Trafficking in Rohingya Women: The ASEAN Perspective' and 'The Impact of EU'S Externalization Policies on Libya'. She has also obtained membership of the United Nations Network on Migration, United Nations.

Dr Richa Shivakoti

Senior Research Associate, Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Migration and Integration, Ryerson University, Canada

Dr Richa Shivakoti is a Senior Research Associate at the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Migration and Integration program at Ryerson University. She helps lead the "Managing Labour Migration in the 21st Century" research theme. Her research interests include the different facets of the migration-development nexus including international labour migration, remittance, gender, forced migration, diaspora and Asian migration governance.

She has recently published 'Asian Migration Governance', 'Protectionist or Discriminatory Policies? The case of Nepal's policy banning female migrant workers' and 'Migration Governance Indicators: A Global Perspective'.



Dr Laura Smith-Khan

Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Technology Sydney

Dr Smith-Khan is an interdisciplinary law and linguistics scholar, whose current research is interested in the work, regulation, and education of Australian migration advisors, with a particular focus on their language practices and communicative resources. She is co-founder of the Law and Linguistics Interdisciplinary Researchers' Network (LLIRN). She is a member of the Asia-Pacific and Gender and Diversity Research Groups.



She has published 'Migration practitioners' roles in communicating credible refugee claims', 'Why refugee visa credibility assessments lack credibility: a critical discourse analysis', 'Bringing linguistic research into legal scholarship and practice' and 'Reflections on developing enduring research collaborations across law and linguistics'. Laura was also the event organiser and facilitator for 'Rights, Rules and Rhetoric: Exploring Language for and about Migrants in Australia, Europe and North America', event organiser and panel member at 'Linguistic Diversity as a Challenge for Legal Policy' and panel chair (with Alexandra Grey), 'Building Bridges between linguistics research & law: a review of outreach in 2020' and presenter, 'Using sociolinguistic research to inform the registration requirements and training of Australian Registered Migration Agents (RMAs)'.

Max Walden

PhD Candidate, Asian Law Centre, University of Melbourne



During 2020, Max Walden began fieldwork for his thesis, which took the form of phone or video-call interviews due to travel restrictions. He published an article on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on refugees for the Lowy Interpreter and co-wrote an article in August with Balawyn Jones for *The Conversation* on why Aceh is a rare place of welcome for Rohingya refugees. Max presented the paper 'Indonesia's transition to democracy, civil society and human rights' at the 2020 Centre for Indonesian Law, Islam and Society's Islamic Studies Postgraduate Conference at the University of Melbourne in November.

