

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY INTERVENTION: LIBYA AND BEYOND

With political uprisings taking place across the Arab World, and difficult decisions being taken in terms of the international response to the situation in Libya, ELAC researchers have frequently been asked to comment on the ever changing situation in Libya and beyond. Questions over the drafting of Resolution 1973, the express purpose of the intervention in Libya, whether the coalition can legally arm the rebel forces, and issues surrounding civilian protection have all been at the hotly debated.

Dapo Akande has been leading an online debate on the legal issues surrounding the UN Security Council Resolution 1973 and its scope for allowing the use of force in Libya by coalition forces, as well as the legality of arming rebel forces at <http://www.ejiltalk.org/>. Dapo has been interviewed by BBC News 24, BBC Five Live, and the BBC World Service, just to name a few.



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Prof. Jennifer Welsh has also weighed in on the UN Security Council's response to Libya and the international intervention now taking place. She has written a piece in the Canadian Globe and Mail questioning the overall goal of the intervention and highlighting ambiguities in Resolution 1973 which could create difficulties for its drafters and indeed even split the international consensus. The article can be found at <http://www.elac.ox.ac.uk/news/index.html#news>. In addition, Jennifer was interviewed by CBC, BBC News 24, BBC World Service, and others.

Dr David Rodin (ELAC) and Prof Mervyn Frost (Head of the Department War Studies, King's College, London) have co-authored a insight briefing on the wider implications of the Libyan conflict for the Oxford Martin School. It is entitled "How to Get Humanitarian Intervention Right: What Libya Teaches Us About the Responsibility to Protect", and can be downloaded at <http://www.elac.ox.ac.uk/news/index.html#insightlibya>. The briefing was widely distributed to policymakers and relevant NGOs.

Dr. Serena Sharma also contributed to the Politics in Spires blog with a piece entitled 'Is Operation Odyssey Dawn a Just Intervention: Assessing the Relationship Between Cause and Conduct'. The full blog is available at <http://politicsinspires.org/>

ELAC will continue the debate by holding an interdisciplinary event in Trinity term entitled 'Intervening to Protect Civilians: Debating the NATO-led Mission in Libya'. The event is currently scheduled for 19 May at 1pm, Seminar Room A, Manor Road Building, Oxford. Further details can be found on our events page www.elac.ox.ac.uk/events.

ABOUT US

The Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict (ELAC) is an interdisciplinary research programme with a central aim to strengthen law, norms and institutions to restrain, regulate and prevent armed conflict in the 21st Century.

Created in 2008 through the generous funding of the Oxford Martin School, ELAC undertakes a unique collaborative research programme crossing the disciplines of law, philosophy, political theory and international relations. The Institute is led by Professor Jennifer Welsh, Dapo Akande and Dr David Rodin. The Institute's research addresses all aspects of armed conflict, including the recourse to war, conduct of war, and post-conflict governance, transition and reconstruction.

DAVID RODIN HONOURED BY WEF



Dr David Rodin has been selected as a Young Global Leader 2011 by the World Economic Forum. He was chosen because of his exceptional professional achievements, proven leadership experience and willingness to serve society at a global level. The Young Global Leader Forum has established a comprehensive selection process for identifying and selecting the most exceptional leaders 40 years of age or younger. Every year, thousands of candidates from around the world are proposed through a qualified nomination process and assessed according to rigorous selection criteria. Only the best candidates are selected and invited to join the Forum. As a Young Global Leader, David will attend the annual World Economic Forum meeting in Davos. He is looking forward to the opportunity this will afford to strongly advocate a greater emphasis on ethics among business and political leaders.

HILARY TERM HIGHLIGHTS

ELAC was pleased to continue the series of **lunchtime seminars** in association with the University of Oxford Programme on the Changing Character of War (CCW). We welcomed renowned names in the fields of International Relations, Philosophy and Law, including Dr. Paul Cornish (Chatham House), Prof Ian Clark (Aberystwyth), and Prof. Martin Cook (US Naval College). Many thanks to all our speakers and contributors who helped to make the seminars this term such a success. All of the seminars are made available as podcasts and can be accessed at <http://www.elac.ox.ac.uk/podcasts>

ELAC and CCW co-hosted another **film discussion evening** this time with a screening of 'Restrepo', the 2010 film by Sebastian Junger and Tim Hetherington, winner of the Sundance Grand Jury Documentary Prize, and heralded as perhaps the best war film ever made. The screening was followed by a discussion on the ethics of contemporary warfare introduced by Dr David Rodin (ELAC) and Professor Hew Strachen (CCW). The screening was hugely popular, and another film discussion is currently being planned for Trinity term.

The **Oxford Humanitarian Group** (OHG) held two seminars, one given by Dr. Hugo Slim (Visiting Fellow, ELAC) and the other by Jon Bennett (Director, Oxford Development Consultants).

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Keep up to date with all of our latest news and events by subscribing to our email list at <http://www.elac.ox.ac.uk/contact>

VISITORS

Dr Simon O'Conner joined us in January 2011 from the Norwegian Red Cross. Whilst at ELAC, Simon undertook research on the nature and character of legal permissions in the laws of war, who those permissions extend to and what consequences these conclusions might have for the conduct of hostilities. While in Oxford, Simon gave two talks: 'Corporate Complicity in International Crimes' and 'Allegations of Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes in Libya and South Korea - What role for the ICC?'

Prof. Cheyney Ryan, Professor of Philosophy and Law, University of Oregon, continued his work as a Visiting Fellow with ELAC where he is engaged in a multi-year project exploring the relation of pacifism and non-violence to contemporary just war theory.

Dr Olav Ofstad (IFRC) has recently joined us as a Visiting Fellow. His research will focus on the peace-building efforts in East Timor (2002-2006), with a focus on overall leadership, UN capacity and the planning process.

Laurence Lustgarten is continuing his research into the governance of the arms trade. The current project looks to integrate the analysis of the political, legal and ethical dimensions surrounding arms transactions.

Prof. Molly Cochran, Georgia Institute of Technology, recently joined ELAC as a Research Associate.

Details of our visitor programme can be found at <http://www.elac.ox.ac.uk/vacancies>

RESPONSIBILITY TO PREVENT

This exciting research project led by Professor Jennifer Welsh and Dr Serena Sharma, seeks to advance the implementation of the principle of R2P in the response of the international community to mass atrocities, such as genocide, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity, by elaborating on how one of its key elements – prevention – can be operationalized in international society.

This summer ELAC researchers will collaborate with key organisations around the globe in a series of regional policy dialogues. During these meetings, our researchers will engage with international organisations, academics, NGOs, policymakers and officials to disseminate the project findings. The first meeting will take place in Washington DC in conjunction with the Stanley Foundation. This will be followed by a workshop at the Global Centre for R2P in New York. In July, ELAC will partner with the Cardozo School of Law and the Kofi Annan Institute for Peacekeeper Training for an expert meeting in Ghana. The final policy meeting will take place at the Asia-Pacific Centre for the R2P in Brisbane, Australia. The meetings will culminate in a two-day final conference, to be held in Oxford in December 2011. The final conference will give the project participants the opportunity to present their research findings to interested academics and members of the UK policy community.

CLASSIFICATION OF ARMED CONFLICTS WORKSHOP

ELAC co-hosted a workshop on the "Classification of Armed Conflicts" with the International Law Group at Chatham House on the 18 and 19 February. The workshop is part of a project led by Elizabeth Wilmshurst (Chatham House) which is examining whether some of the problems in the application of law of armed conflict or international humanitarian law (IHL) are caused by difficulties of classifying armed conflicts as international or non-international for the purposes of IHL. The participants in the project (which include Dapo Akande, ELAC Co-Director) are leading academics working in IHL, current and former members of the military as well as staff of the ICRC. The group is examining a number of recent conflicts in order to gain an overview of the current practice on classification of conflicts and to provide an analysis of the problems of classification and its relevance. It is anticipated that the papers prepared by the group will be revised and published as an edited volume by a leading academic press.

OXFORD HUMANITARIAN GROUP

ELAC has been working to support the work of the Oxford Humanitarian Group (OHG), an inter-disciplinary discussion group for humanitarian studies headed by Dr. Hugo Slim and Urvashi Aneja. Through a regular seminar series, OHG aims to facilitate discussion and the sharing of research amongst academics, policymakers, and practitioners on humanitarian crises and the local, regional, and international responses they trigger. OHG also holds workshops for researchers from different disciplines, including international relations, international law, development studies, public health, anthropology and refugee and migration studies.

This term OHG hosted two seminars. The first was presented by Dr. Hugo Slim (Visiting Fellow, ELAC) and was entitled 'Being Humanitarian: Personal Morality and Political Project in Today's Wars' and the second by Jon Bennett (Director, Oxford Development Consultants) entitled 'Aiding Peace in Southern Sudan: A Multi-donor Evaluation of Support to Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities in Southern Sudan 2005-2010'.

Podcasts of both talks are available at <http://www.elac.ox.ac.uk/ohg/events/>

MEET THE TEAM

Dapo Akande (Co-Director)

Dapo Akande is a University Lecturer in Public International Law at the University of Oxford and Yamani Fellow at St. Peter's College, Oxford. He has published major articles on various aspects of international law in leading journals and is one of the editors of the *Oxford Companion to International Criminal Justice* (OUP). Dapo has acted as Consultant for the African Union on issues relating to terrorism, and was recently involved in the drafting of legislation for the government of Botswana to help the country implement its obligations under the Rome Statute of the ICC. In addition he was the only academic appointed by the Commonwealth to a group of experts tasked with updating and revising the Commonwealth's Model Law Implementing the Rome Statute of the ICC. Dapo was one of a group of international lawyers asked to submit evidence to the Chilcot Inquiry on the UK's Legal Justification for the Iraq War.



David Rodin (Co-Director)

Dr David Rodin is a leading authority on the ethics of war and conflict. He is a Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs in New York and Senior Research Fellow at the University of Oxford. David was recently named as a Young Global Leader 2011 by the World Economic Forum. David is also currently assisting the US Army on the creation of its first formal code of Professional Military Ethics. The code will provide a baseline for training, garrison activities and operations for the more than one million soldiers who serve in the US Army.



Jennifer Welsh (Co-Director)

Jennifer Welsh is Professor in International Relations at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of Somerville College. She is a former Jean Monnet Fellow of the European University Institute in Florence, and was a Cadieux Research Fellow in the Policy Planning



Staff of the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs. She is the author, co-author, and editor of several books and articles on international relations. Her current research projects include the evolution of the notion of the 'responsibility to protect' in international society, the ethics of post-conflict reconstruction, the authority of the UN Security Council, and a critique of conditional notions of sovereignty.

Seth Lazar (Research Associate)

Dr Seth Lazar holds a doctorate in Political Theory from Oxford. His thesis was recently awarded the American Philosophical Association Sharp Prize and is due to be published as a book by OUP in 2012. He has published papers in *Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs*, the *Journal of Political Philosophy*, the *Journal of Applied Philosophy* and others. Seth has also been invited to contribute to the new *Wiley-Blackwell International Encyclopaedia of Ethics* and *Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Law*.



Serena Sharma (Research Associate)

Dr Serena Sharma is Co-Investigator on the Responsibility to Prevent project and Research Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford. Serena was recently appointed as the United Nations Association (UK) Special Advisor on R2P. She holds a PhD in International Relations from the LSE and her research focuses on the ethics of war. Serena is currently guest editing a special issue of *Global Responsibility to Protect* to appear later this year, and has co-authored a chapter with Meredith Preston-McGhie on Kenya's post-election crisis for an edited volume on R2P to be published by OUP in 2011.



Lucy Crittenden (Administrator)

Lucy Crittenden is Administrator for ELAC. She joined the team in 2009, and prior to this she worked for many years at the Environment Agency as a Parliamentary Advisor.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

TRINITY TERM 2011 LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES

Tuesdays 13:00-14:30

Seminar Room G, Manor Road Building, Oxford

This series is co-hosted by ELAC and the University of Oxford Programme on the Changing Character of War (CCW). Seminars are free and open to everyone, no registration required. A light sandwich lunch is provided.

3 May: *Dr Cecile Fabre (Oxford)*

'Killing in Humanitarian Wars'

10 May: *Colonel Duncan Barley (British Army [ret])*

'Stabilisation, Security and Capacity Building - What the Business Schools and Sociologists Might Tell the Military'

17 May: *Brad Roth (Wayne State, Detroit)*

'Sovereign Equality and Moral Disagreement: Premises of a Pluralist International Legal Order'

24 May: *William Owen (Cranfield Defence & Security, Defence Academy) and A.E. Stahl (King's College London)*

'Targeted Killings as Strategy'

31 May: *Camille Grand (Director Fondation pour la Recherche Strategique (FRS), Paris)*

'Intervention in Libya and Implications for European and Trans-Atlantic Defence Cooperation'

7 June: *Colonel W. Hays Parks (Former Senior Associate Deputy General Counsel, International Affairs, US Department of Defense) – to be confirmed*

14 June: *Dr John Mackinlay (King's College London)*

'How Europe Lost the Ability to Think Strategically'

21 June: ***No Seminar***

DR. RAMA MANI

Thursday, 5 May 10:30am

Seminar Room G, Manor Road Building, Oxford

'Does Culture Cause or Prevent Genocide?'

A Case for the Contribution of Culture and Religion to Implementing the Responsibility to Protect'

Discussant: Professor Jennifer Welsh, *Chair:* Dr David Rodin

INTERVENING TO PROTECT CIVILIANS: DEBATING THE NATO-LED MISSION IN LIBYA

Thursday, 19 May 1pm

Seminar Room A, Manor Road Building, Oxford

Speakers: Professor Jennifer Welsh, Dr David Rodin and Dapo Akande

With political uprisings taking place across the Arab World, and difficult decisions being taken in terms of the international response to the situation in Libya, this topical panel discussion will debate some of the issues surrounding recent events from the perspective of ethics, law and international relations.

For updates and details of other upcoming events, visit the events pages of the ELAC website: www.elac.ox.ac.uk/events

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