

## Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

The Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law organizes the following programs to help strengthen a culture and prominence of human rights and humanitarian law around the world:

**The Specialized Summer Program** is the only three week intensive program of its kind offering courses in both English and Spanish in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. Each year, over 30 world-renowned scholars and activists in the field of human rights teach 17 courses to over 170 participants from around the world.

The **Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition** is the only trilingual --English, Portuguese and Spanish-- competition established to train law students how to use the Inter-American human rights legal system as a legitimate forum for redressing human rights violations. The Competition has trained over 1000 students and faculty participants from more than 100 universities and 20 countries.

The **Human Rights Essay Award** is an annual writing competition that encourages scholarly work in International Human Rights Law. The Academy grants two awards for the best articles in English and in Spanish. Winners receive a scholarship to attend the Academy's Summer Program and their articles are published in the American University International Law Review.

The **Annual Meeting on Human Rights** enables the Academy to continue its commitment to provide a venue where different sectors can openly discuss core issues concerning the development, sustainability, and effectiveness of the Inter-American Human Rights System, as well as current issues regarding human rights in the Americas.

The **Legal Education and Curriculum Development Project** coordinates and develops cooperation agreements with academic institutions in Latin America and Europe to support local capacity development in the area of International Human Rights Law at universities.

Scholarship and scholarly research is conducted and published by the Academy on a continuous basis. It also develops the **Inter-American Human Rights Digest** and maintains the **Inter-American Human Rights Database**.

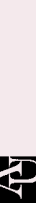


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# Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

A LEGAL APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS



## Human Rights Month

May 19 – June 13, 2008

**LAW**  
WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

## Human Rights Month

Human Rights Month is an annual event sponsored by the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law featuring conferences, workshops, a film festival, and site visits to international organizations. Through Human Rights Month, the Academy provides a forum for the education on and discussion of human rights theory. Participants have the opportunity to share first hand experiences, as well as network with fellow practitioners, scholars, and activists in the field. We hope you will join us for several of the events planned that feature world-renowned actors in human rights.

Claudia Martin and Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón  
Co-Directors  
Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law



## Third Annual Meeting on Human Rights: The Inter-American Human Rights System May 30, June 2 and June 3

This year's Annual Meeting is being held in conjunction with Human Rights Month, in order to give the public greater access to this important event. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to address common concerns and share innovative ideas for the future of the Inter-American Human Rights System. The meeting will feature discussions that will focus on the effectiveness and feasibility of both current and proposed reforms as well as recent jurisprudence. Our panelists include former presidents of the Commission and the Court, as well as representatives from states, civil society organizations and academia.



# Calendar of Events

Events are free and open to the public. Please register online: [http://www.wcl.american.edu/secl/cle\\_form.cfm](http://www.wcl.american.edu/secl/cle_form.cfm).

Panels will be in Spanish and English, with simultaneous interpretation provided.

Panels will be webcast live on website. Panels from last year are currently available.

All events will take place from 12:30– 2:00 pm in WCL Room 603.

### XIII Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition

- Monday, May 19 – Wednesday, May 21, 8:30 am – 6:30 pm, Preliminary Rounds
- Thursday, May 22, 9:00 am – 11:30 am, Semifinal Rounds
- Friday, May 23, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, Final Round

### The Relationship between Human Rights and Humanitarian Law: Contemporary Issues

**Wednesday, May 28: The Role of Human Rights Supervisory Bodies in Applying Humanitarian Law: Benefits and Drawbacks**

Phillip Fundel, Deputy Legal Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross  
Robert K. Goldman, Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law  
Leo Zwaak, Senior Researcher, Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM)  
Commentator: Elizabeth Andersen, Executive Director, American Society of International Law

**Thursday, May 29: The Duty to Prosecute and Punish and the Interaction between Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**

Douglass Cassel, Director, Center for Civil and Human Rights, University of Notre Dame  
Juan Méndez, President, International Center for Transitional Justice, New York  
Rodrigo Uprimny, Director, Research Center for Law, Justice and Society (DeJuSticia), Colombia  
Johan Vande Lanotte, Professor, Ghent University and former Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium  
Commentator: Diane Orentlicher, Professor, International Law, Washington College of Law

### Third Annual Meeting on Human Rights: The Inter-American Human Rights System

**Friday, May 30: Current Status of the Inter-American Human Rights System: a Reflection on the “Reform Process”**

Carlos Ayala, Former President, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
Robert K. Goldman, Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law  
Juan Méndez, President, International Center for Transitional Justice, New York  
Commentator: Diego Rodríguez-Pinzón, Co-Director, Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

**Monday, June 2: The Procedures of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights: a Debate on its Practices and Regulations**

Ernesto de la Jara, Founder, Legal Defense Institute, Peru  
Francisco Quintana, Associate Director, Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL)  
Margarita Rey, Human Rights Advisor, Colombian Mission to the Organization of American States  
Commentator: Juan Carlos Arjona, Humphrey Fellow and Former Coordinator, Human Rights Program, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico

**Tuesday, June 3: Recent Jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights: Weighing the Impact and Scope of its Decisions**

Elizabeth Abi-Mershed, Principal Specialist, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
Antônio Cançado Trindade, Former President, Inter-American Court of Human Rights  
Leonardo A. Crippa, Staff Attorney, Indian Law Resource Center  
Rodrigo Durango Cordero, Attorney, Attorney General's Office, Ecuador  
Commentator: Claudia Martin, Co-Director, Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

### The United Nations and the Challenges of Protecting Human Rights in the 21st Century

**Friday, June 6: UN Special Procedures: a Conversation with the Experts on the Future and Impact of these Mechanisms**

Santiago Corcuera, UN Rapporteur and Chair, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Gay McDougall, UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues

Vitit Muntarbhorn, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Manfred Nowak, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture

Commentator: Claudio Grossman, Dean, American University Washington College of Law

**Thursday, June 12: Human Rights and the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: Hopes and Challenges**

**Co-Sponsored by: The Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation**

Santiago Cantón, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Steve Crawshaw, UN Advocacy Director, Human Rights Watch, New York

Ngonlardje Mbaidjol, Director, New York Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Eric Rosand, Senior Fellow, Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation

Martin Scheinin, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism

Commentator: Robert K. Goldman, Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law

## FILM FESTIVAL

**Wednesday, May 28:  
Yesterday, 2004**

**\*\*6:30 pm, Room 603**

A South African woman struggles with HIV while trying to secure a successful future for her daughter.



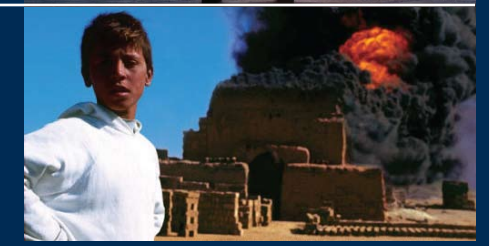
**Wednesday, June 4:  
God Grew Tired of Us, 2006**

The story of three “Lost Boys” from the Sudan and their experience relocating to the US.



**Tuesday, June 10:  
Iraq in Fragments, 2006**

Three part documentary about the current issues facing Iraq as seen through the eyes of Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds.



[www.wcl.american.edu/hracademy](http://www.wcl.american.edu/hracademy)