

COVID-19: Human Rights and International Cooperation

Friday, April 30, 2021

SPEAKERS

(in order of appearance)



Marta Hanson is Associate Professor of the history of East Asian medicine in the Department of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University (2004-present). Before that she taught late imperial Chinese history at the University of California, San Diego (1997-2004). Her first monograph is titled *Speaking of Epidemics in Chinese Medicine: Disease and the Geographic Imagination in Late Imperial China* (Routledge, 2011). She was senior co-editor of the journal *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity* (2011-2016) and President of the International Society for the History of East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine (ISHEASTM, 2015-2019). Within Chinese history, she is currently writing a book titled “‘Grasping Heaven and Earth’ (*Qian Kun zaiwo* 乾坤在握): The Healer’s Body-as-Technology in Classical Chinese Medicine.” Within cross-cultural medical history, she has an on-going scholarly collaboration with Professor Gianna Pomata on 17- to 18th-century translations of Chinese medical texts into European languages. She has also written about why practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine were mobilized in mainland China to fight the SARS epidemic in 2002-3. She is currently writing a follow-up essay about a comparable response in China during the initial COVID-19 outbreak.



Chunyan Ding is Associate Professor in the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong. She obtained her LLB and LLM degrees at Peking University, LLM at University College London, and PhD at the University of Hong Kong. She became a qualified lawyer in the Peoples’ Republic of China in 2001. Before joining the Law School in July 2010, she was a Fulbright research fellow at Harvard Law School, where she conducted research on comparative health law and tort law from 2008-09. Her primary areas of research and teaching are medical law, public health law, tort law, and comparative and Chinese law. She has authored a monograph titled *Medical Negligence Law in Transitional China* (2012) and published over thirty journal articles and book chapters in her research fields.



Juhwan Oh is Professor of International Health Policy and Management at Seoul National University (SNU) College of Medicine and SNU Hospital. He holds an MD degree and a PhD in Public Health. He was a Takemi Fellow in international health from 2008-2010, and a visiting scientist under research leave grant support from SNUH at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health from 2019-2020. He has served as Chair of the Diseases Specific Priority Setting Committee, Chair of the National Committee for Catastrophic Medical Payment Prevention, and recurrent Co-chair of the Participatory Priority Setting Committee for Health Insurance Benefit Coverage of Health Technology. He has also served as a national committee member of the ODA (Official Development Assistance) Evaluation Committee in the Korean Prime Minister’s Office and Poverty Eradication Fund in the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Rajat Khosla is Senior Director, Research, Advocacy and Policy at the International Secretariat of Amnesty International in London. He previously worked for the World Health Organization in Geneva, where he served as Human Rights Adviser starting in 2013. In this capacity, he led research and normative work on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular regarding women's rights and issues related to sexual and reproductive health. He also guided countries and WHO regional offices on policy and legal analysis, and represented WHO in high-level negotiations and processes related to human rights. Additionally, he led WHO's policy work on the integration of women's rights in humanitarian emergencies. In 2018-19 he was seconded to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Previously, he worked in a variety of research and policy roles in organisations such as the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, the International Environmental Law Research Centre and others. He worked as independent research and policy consultant working on advocacy and human rights for UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, among others. He holds a LLM in International Human Rights Law (University of Essex), LLB (Faculty of Law, Delhi University), and Bachelor's degree in commerce and economics (Delhi University). He was admitted to the Bar in 2002.



Fionnuala Ní Aoláin is concurrently Regents Professor and Robina Professor of Law, Public Policy and Society at the University of Minnesota Law School and Professor of Law at the Queens University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. She is currently the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism (2017-). Previously, she was a representative of the prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia at domestic war crimes trials in Bosnia (1996-97). In 2003, she was appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as Special Expert on promoting gender equality in times of conflict and peace-making. In 2011, she was appointed as a consultant jointly by the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and UN WOMEN to prepare a Study on Reparations for Conflict Related Sexual Violence. She has been nominated twice (2004 and 2007) by the Irish government to the European Court of Human Rights, the first woman and the first academic lawyer to be thus nominated. She has published extensively in the fields of emergency powers, conflict regulation, transitional justice and sex-based violence in times of war. Her book *Law in Times of Crisis* (CUP 2006) was awarded the American Society of International Law's preeminent prize in 2007 - the Certificate of Merit for creative scholarship. Her book *On the Frontlines: Gender, War and the Post Conflict Process* was published by Oxford University Press (2011). She edited the *Oxford Handbook on Gender and Conflict* (2017). She received her LLB and PhD in law at the Queen's University Law Faculty in Belfast and also holds an LLM degree from Columbia Law School.



Catherine Kyobutungi is the Executive Director of the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC). She was formerly the Center's Director of Research and has served APHRC in several leadership roles over the past fifteen years, having joined as a post-doctoral fellow in 2006. She holds a PhD in Epidemiology and a Master of Science in Community Health and Health Management from the University of Heidelberg. Prior to her graduate studies, she studied medicine at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda after which she worked as a medical officer in Western Uganda for three years. In 2018, she was elected as a Fellow of the [African Academy of Sciences](#) and, in 2019, she was selected for the [Joep Lange](#) Chair at the University of Amsterdam, a position in

which she investigates chronic disease management in African countries. She is the co-director of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa ([CARTA](#)), a program that seeks to build and strengthen the capacity of African research leaders and has trained more than 230 PhD fellows in eight African universities. She has also served on numerous boards, panels, and expert groups. She is a board member of the [Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health](#) (PMNCH), where she co-chairs the Accountability Working Group. She also serves as a co-Chair of the [Lancet](#)-SIGHT Commission on Peaceful Societies Through Health and Gender Equality, and a co-Chair of the steering committee of the [Countdown to 2030](#) Initiative.



Tamba M'bayo is an Associate Professor of History at West Virginia University. He obtained his PhD from Michigan State University, specializing in the history of colonial and postcolonial Francophone West Africa. His research interests, however, cut across the Francophone/Anglophone divide in West Africa and include Pan-Africanism, African colonial intermediaries, and historical epidemiology. His current research for his second book focuses on Sierra Leone, a former British colony—his country of origin. Provisionally titled “From ‘White Man’s Grave’ to Ebola: Sierra Leone’s History of Epidemics, 1787-2015”, the monograph seeks a more profound understanding of the country’s complex cultural, ecological, social, economic and political landscape that shape its prevalent disease outbreaks. A Fulbright U.S. Scholar award and a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship funded research for the book project in 2019 and 2020. He has conducted fieldwork and archival research in Senegal, Sierra Leone, and the United Kingdom.



Mausi Segun is the Executive Director, Africa Division, Human Rights Watch. With a law degree from Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria, and an LLM in human rights law from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London as a British Chevening scholar, she has over 25 years of experience in legal and human rights practice. She currently leads a team of 33 staff covering 25 countries in Africa on human rights issues around terrorism and counterterrorism, conflicts, cycles of communal violence, the humanitarian and refugee crises in Africa, sexual violence against women and girls, the repression of journalists, activists, and political opposition as well as natural resource exploitation and environmental rights. She previously worked at Nigeria’s Federal Ministry of Justice, and at the Nigerian National Human Rights Commission. She has written pieces and opinions for the New York Times, the Guardian and the Independent UK, Sunday Independent SA, the Huffington Post, Washington Post, MSNBC, and Salon. She is often featured and quoted on CNN, the BBC, Al Jazeera, Sky News, SABC, France 24 and other major news media.



Sponsors: Alison Des Forges Memorial Committee; University at Buffalo: Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy; Confucius Institute; Department of Comparative Literature; Gender Institute; Humanities Institute; James Agee Chair in American Culture; Office of Global Health Initiatives, School of Public Health and Health Professions; Office of the Vice Provost for International Education

This symposium honors the life and work of human rights activist Alison Des Forges (1942-2009).

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