



Moving On From Conflict Workshop

May 16, 2022

On May 16, The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts and The Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University Belfast hosted a workshop entitled *Moving On From Conflict*.

Reflecting on the impact of music and storytelling in conflict and post-conflict communities, as well as the role of lawyers in conflict and transition, this workshop focused on how societies move forward once conflict has been resolved.

The workshop began with opening remarks from James A. Robinson, Institute Director of the Pearson Institute. Following the remarks, Richard English, Director of The Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University Belfast introduced the two panels.

The first panel, “**Sounding Conflict: From Resistance to Reconciliation**,” was led by Pedro Rebelo, Professor at the School of Arts, English and Languages at Queen's University Belfast. José Luis Falconi, Assistant Professor of Art and Art History and Human Rights Institute at the University of Connecticut joined the panel for a discussion with Rebelo and English.

This talk investigates the effects of music, sound and storytelling in conflict and post-conflict communities and their distribution through digital media activities. Comparative case studies in the Middle East, Brazil and Northern Ireland serve as a basis for evaluating how sound is used to articulate experiences of violence, to support narratives of resistance and to promote peace building. It will consider common patterns of response and engagement across different conflict settings and



identify how participatory music, sound art and performance can influence political agendas and feed into policy-making.

The conceptual frameworks of resistance, resilience and reconciliation highlight specific conflict conditions through which to analyze the effects of sound on community participants and interpret their conflict narratives. This research also addresses a constantly evolving global security environment in which music and the arts are increasingly being recognized as a means of healing or an arena for shared dialogue. However, there is still a gap in scholarship in addressing exactly how participatory and community-led approaches to music, sound and storytelling are being used to mediate and articulate the politics of conflict for wider policy outcomes. The talk will feature excerpts from an artwork created in dialogue with fieldwork from the three case studies, juxtaposing embodied and sonic articulations of conflict.

The second panel, “**Lawyers in Conflict and Transition**,” was led by Louise Mallinder, Legacy Theme Lead at The Senator George J. Mitchell Institute and Professor at School of Law at Queen's University Belfast. Following the presentation, Tom Ginsburg, Pearson Faculty Affiliate, joined the panel to discuss the top on lawyers’ role in conflict and post-conflict settings.

National and international lawyers are ubiquitous in transitional political negotiations. However, their role in advancing or stalling negotiations, or in advocating or resisting progressive change, is generally carried out behind closed doors. This talk explores when and how lawyers living and working within repressive, conflicted and transitional states influence the content of transitional political agreements. It draws on 25 interviews with lawyers who participated directly in negotiations and other informed commentators in our case study sites. Combining this empirical data with literature on lawyers as negotiators, the sociology of the legal profession, and critical international legal theory, the chapter explores the factors that shape relationships between lawyers and the political leadership in negotiations.



The talk further critically analyses the extent to which lawyers' negotiating styles and legal skills can advance or inhibit the reaching of an agreement. The final section explores the discretion and capacity of lawyer-negotiators for legal imagination in crafting transitional futures. We find that lawyer-negotiations often have to grapple with reconciling their role as legal technicians with the ethical and political challenges of advising on law's content at times when the law itself is indeterminate or subject to negotiation.

Participating speakers concluded the workshop by reiterating the importance of music and storytelling in conflict and post-conflict communities and the role of lawyers in conflict and transition.



Participating speakers and discussants in the conference:

James Robinson

Bio an economist and political scientist, James Robinson has conducted influential research in the field of political and economic development and the relationships between political power and

institutions and prosperity. His work explores the underlying causes of economic and political divergence both historically and today and uses both the mathematical and quantitative methods of economics along with the case study, qualitative and fieldwork methodologies used in other social sciences. Robinson has a particular interest in Latin America, where he has taught every summer for over 25 years at the University of the Andes in Bogotá, Colombia, and in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has conducted fieldwork and collected data in Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti, the democratic republic of the Congo, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. He has published three books co-authored with Daron Acemoglu, an institute professor of economics at MIT. Their first book, *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* proposed a theory of the emergence of and stability of democracy and dictatorship. Their second book, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* (translated into 41 languages since its publication in 2012), pulled together much of their joint research on comparative development and proposed a theory of why some countries have flourished economically while others have fallen into poverty. Their most recent book, *The Narrow Corridor: States, Society and the Fate of Liberty*, examines the incessant and inevitable struggle between states and society, and gives an account of the deep historical processes that have shaped the modern world.

Chair

Richard English

Richard English is Director of the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University Belfast, where he is also Professor of Politics. Between 2011 and 2016 he was Wardlaw Professor of Politics in the School of International Relations, and Director of the Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV), at the University of St Andrews. His books include the award-winning studies *Armed Struggle: The History of the IRA* (2003) and *Irish Freedom: The History of Nationalism in Ireland* (2006). His most recent books are *Does Terrorism Work? A History* (2016), *The Oxford Handbook of Terrorism* (co-edited, 2019), and *The Cambridge History of Terrorism* (edited, 2021). He is a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA), a Member of the Royal Irish Academy (MRIA), a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE), a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (FRHistS), an Honorary Fellow of Keble College Oxford, a Faculty Affiliate at the



University of Chicago, and an Honorary Professor at the University of St Andrews. In 2018 he was awarded a CBE for services to the understanding of modern-day terrorism and political history. In 2019 he was awarded the Royal Irish Academy's Gold Medal in the Social Sciences. He has delivered invited Lectures about his research in more than twenty countries.

Speakers

Professor Pedro Rebelo

Pedro Rebelo is a composer, sound artist and researcher. In 2002, he was awarded a PhD by the University of Edinburgh where he conducted research in music and architecture. Pedro has recently led participatory projects involving communities in Belfast, favelas in Maré, Rio de Janeiro, travelling communities in Portugal and a slum town in Mozambique. This work has resulted in sound art exhibitions at multiple venues internationally. His music has been presented at the Melbourne Recital Hall, National Concert Hall Dublin, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Ars Electronica, Casa da Música, and in events such as Weimarer Frühjahrstage für zeitgenössische Musik, Wien Modern Festival, Cynetart and Música Viva. His work as a pianist and improviser has been released by Creative Source Recordings and he has collaborated with musicians such as Chris Brown, Mark Applebaum, Carlos Zingaro, Evan Parker and Pauline Oliveros as well as artists such as Suzanne Lacy. Pedro has been Visiting Professor at Stanford University (2007), senior visiting professor at UFRJ, Brazil (2014) and Collaborating Researcher at INEM-md Universidade Nova, Lisboa (2016). In 2012 he was appointed Professor of Sonic Arts at Queen's University Belfast, where he is Director of the Sonic Arts Research Centre, and an Associate Fellow of the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice.

Louise Mallinder

Louise Mallinder is a Professor of Law at Queen's University Belfast, School of Law, and a Fellow of the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queen's University Belfast. Within her broad interests in international human rights law, international criminal law and law and politics in political transitions, Louise has a particular research interest and



expertise in amnesty laws, the role of lawyers as transitional actors, and socio-legal research methods related to transitional justice. She has conducted fieldwork in numerous locations including Northern Ireland, Cambodia, Chile, South Africa, Israel, Palestine, Tunisia, Argentina, Uruguay, Uganda and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Her research has been funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Nuffield Foundation and the Socio-Legal Studies Association. In addition, Louise's monograph was awarded the 2009 Hart SLSA Early Career Award and was jointly awarded the 2009 British Society of Criminology Book Prize. Louise is also a member of the AHRC and ESRC Peer-Review Colleges and the Royal Irish Academy Ethical, Political, Legal and Philosophical Studies Committee. In addition, Louise is the Chair of the Committee on the Administration of Justice, a human rights non-governmental organisation in Northern Ireland and a former Co-Chair of the American Society of International Law Rule of Law and Transitional Justice Interest Group.

Discussants

Tom Ginsburg

Tom Ginsburg is the Leo Spitz Professor of International Law at the University of Chicago, where he also holds an appointment in the Political Science Department. He is also a Research Professor at the American Bar Foundation. He holds B.A., J.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California at Berkeley, and currently co-directs the Comparative Constitutions Project, an NSF-funded data set cataloging the world's constitutions since 1789, that runs the award-winning Constitute website. His latest book is *Democracies and International Law* (2021). He is also the author of *How to Save a Constitutional Democracy* (2018, with Aziz Huq), winner of the Best Book Prize from the International Society for Constitutional Law; *Judicial Reputation: A Comparative Theory* (2015) (with Nuno Garoupa); *The Endurance of National Constitutions* (2009) (with Zachary Elkins and James Melton), and *Judicial Review in New Democracies* (2003), the latter two both winning best book awards from the American Political Science Association. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Before entering law teaching, he served as a legal advisor at the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal, The Hague, Netherlands, and he has consulted with numerous international development



agencies and governments on legal and constitutional reform. He currently serves a senior advisor on Constitution Building to International IDEA.

José Luis Falconi

Born in Lima (1973), José Luis Falconi is Assistant Professor of Art and Human Rights at the University of Connecticut. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2010. From 2001 to 2011 he was Art Forum Curator at the David Rockefeller for Latin American Studies at Harvard University, curating more than thirty shows of cutting-edge Latino and Latin American artists in an academic setting. Until July 2017, he was an Associate of the Department of Art History and Architecture of Harvard University, where he completed his postdoctoral studies in 2011, under the supervision of Prof. Thomas Cummins. His latest academic publications include *Portraits of an Invisible Country: The Photographs of Jorge Mario Múnica* (2010), *A Singular Plurality: The Works of Darío Escobar* (2013), *The Great Swindle: A Project by Santiago Montoya* (2014) and *Ad Usum / To be used: The Works of Pedro Reyes* (2017). His monograph on Mexican artist Pia Camil, *There are no Friendly Fires*, will be published in 2022. In the United States, he has been appointed Lecturer in the Department of Art History and Architecture at Brandeis University (2014-2020), Boston University in the Spring of 2016 and in the School of the Arts at the University of Connecticut in the Spring of 2021. In Latin America he has been "Bicentennial" Visiting Professor of Aesthetics at the University of Chile (Santiago de Chile, 2012 and 2019), "International Professor" at the National University of Colombia (Bogotá, 2013), Visiting Professor at the Center for Latin American Studies "Manuel Galich" at the Universidad San Carlos of Guatemala (2016) and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Costa Rica (2017).