

Karen Musalo

Professor, Bank of America Foundation Chair in International Law
UC Hastings College of the Law, telephone 415 565-4720, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

Academic Appointments

Professor of Law, UC Hastings College of the Law	2005-Present
Founding Director, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies UC Hastings College of the Law	1998-Present
Director, International Human Rights and Migration Project Santa Clara University	1996-1998
Visiting Professor, Acting Director International Human Rights Clinic Washington College of the Law, American University	1995-1996
Visiting Professor Santa Clara University School of Law	1994-1995

Expertise

Refugee Law, Immigration Law, Women's Rights

Education & Degrees

Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters, Lehman College, City University of New York	2012
J.D., Berkeley Law, University of California	1981
B.A., Brooklyn College, City University of New York Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa	1973

Publications

Books & Reports

REFUGEE LAW AND POLICY: A COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL APPROACH (5th ed. 2018). Co-authored with Richard A. Boswell, Annie Daher and Jennifer Moore

Contributing author, REPORT OF THE DHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CENTERS (2016), <https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Report/2016/ACFRC-sc-16093.pdf>

Co-editor, CHILDHOOD AND MIGRATION IN CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA: CAUSES, POLICIES, PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES (2015), available in English at https://cgrs.uchastings.edu/sites/default/files/Childhood_Migration_HumanRights_FullBook_English_0.pdf and Spanish at <https://cgrs.uchastings.edu/Ninez-Migracion-DerechosHumanos>. The result of a two-year multi-partner regional study funded by the MacArthur Foundation

Co-author, CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE, EVALUATION OF THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE'S SECOND REPORT ON EXPEDITED REMOVAL (2000),
<http://libraryweb.uchastings.edu/cgrs/GAO%20Report.pdf>

Co-author, REPORT ON THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF EXPEDITED REMOVAL (2000). Funded by the Ford Foundation

Co-author, CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE REPORT ON THE SECOND YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EXPEDITED REMOVAL (1999),
<http://libraryweb.uchastings.edu/cgrs/Expedited%20removal%201999.pdf>. Funded by the Ford Foundation

Co-author, MARKKULA CENTER FOR APPLIED ETHICS, REPORT ON THE FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EXPEDITED REMOVAL (1998),
<http://libraryweb.uchastings.edu/cgrs/Expedited%20removal%201998.pdf>. Funded by the Ford Foundation

Co-author, ECUMENICAL PROGRAM IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, CHIAPAS:, THE REBELLION OF THE EXCLUDED (1994)

Book Chapters

The Evolution of Refugee and Asylum Law in the United States, in REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE UNITED STATES, (Praeger Press 2018)

Co-author, *Immigration Remedies and Procedural Rights of Migrant Children and Adolescents*, in CHILDHOOD AND MIGRATION IN CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA: CAUSES, POLICIES, PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES (2015),
https://cgrs.uchastings.edu/sites/default/files/Childhood_Migration_HumanRights_FullBook_English.pdf

The Evolving Refugee Definition: How Shifting Elements of Eligibility Affect the Nature and Focus of Expert Testimony in Asylum Proceedings, in AFRICAN ASYLUM AT A CROSSROADS: ACTIVISM, EXPERT TESTIMONY, AND REFUGEE RIGHTS (Iris Berger et al. eds., Ohio University Press 2015)

A Tale of Two Women: The Claims for Asylum of Fauziya Kassindja Who Fled FGC, and Rody Alvarado, A Survivor of Partner (Domestic) Violence, GENDER IN REFUGEE LAW: FROM THE MARGINS TO THE CENTRE 73 (Efrat Arbel et al. eds., Routledge Press 2013)

Women Refugees: Does the United States Provide Adequate Protection?, 1 INTER ALIA 48 (1996)

Articles

[*The Legal and Moral Responsibility to Protect*](#), 45 Fordham Int'l L.J. 751 (2022)

[*El Salvador: Root Causes and Just Asylum Policy Responses*](#), 18 HASTINGS RACE & POVERTY L.J. 178 (2021)

The Struggle for Equality: Women's Rights, Human Rights and Asylum Protection, 48 SW. U.L. REV. 531 (2019)

El Salvador – A Peace Worse than War: Violence, Gender and a Failed Legal Response, 30 *YALE JOURNAL OF LAW & FEMINISM* 3 (2018)

Seeking a Rational Approach to a Regional Refugee Crisis: Lessons from the Summer 2014 "Surge" of Central American Women and Children at the US-Mexico Border, 5 *J. OF MIGRATION AND HUM. SECURITY* (No. 1) 137 (2017), available at <http://jmhs.cmsny.org/index.php/jmhs/article/view/78>

Co-author, *Health Impact of Human Rights Testimony: Harming the Most Vulnerable*, 1 *BMJ GLOB. HEALTH* 1 (2016)

Co-author, *Crimes Without Punishment: An Update on Violence Against Women and Impunity in Guatemala*, 10 *HASTINGS RACE & POVERTY L.J.* 265 (2013)

A Short History of Gender Asylum in the United States: Resistance and Ambivalence May Very Slowly be Inching Towards Recognition of Women's Claims, 29 *REF. SURV. Q. (SPECIAL ISSUE)* 46 (2010)

Co-author, *The Role of Mental Health Professionals in Political Asylum Processing*, 38 *J. AM. ACAD. PSYCHIATRY & LAW* 479 (2010)

Co-author, *Crimes Without Punishment: Violence Against Women in Guatemala*, 21 *HASTINGS WOMEN'S L.J.* 161 (2010)

Co-author, *The Implementation of the One-Year Bar to Asylum*, 31 *HASTINGS INT'L & COMP. L. REV.* 693 (2008)

Conscientious Objection as a Basis for Refugee Status: Protection for the Fundamental Right of Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion, 26 *REF. SURV. Q.* 69 (2007)

Protecting Victims of Gendered Persecution: Fear of Floodgates or Call to (Principled) Action?, 14 *VA. J. SOC. POL. & L.* 119 (2007)

La Convención de 1951 Sobre el Estatuto de la Persona Refugiada y la Protección de las Mujeres Frente a las Violaciones de sus Derechos Fundamentales, 8 *REVISTA DE DERECHO MIGRATORIO Y EXTRAGENRÍA* 9 (2005)

Claims for Protection Based on Religion or Belief, 16 *INT'L J. REFUGEE L.* 165 (2004).

Revisiting Social Group and Nexus in Gender Asylum Claims: A Unifying Rationale for Evolving Jurisprudence, 52 *DEPAUL L. REV.* 777 (2003)

Co-author, *Steps Forward and Steps Back: Uneven Progress in the Law of Social Group and Gender-Based Claims in the United States*, 13 *INT'L J. REFUGEE L.* 51 (2001)

Matter of R-A-: An Analysis of the Decision and its Implications, 76 *Interpreter Releases* 1177 (1999).

Ruminations on In re Kasinga: The Decision's Legacy, 7 *S. CAL. REV. L. & WOMEN'S STUD.* 357 (1998).

Irreconcilable Differences?; Divorcing Refugee Protections from Human Rights Norms, 15 *MICH. J. INT'L L.* 1179 (1994)

Co-author, *No Justice, No Peace: Accountability for Rape and Gender-Based Violence in the Former Yugoslavia*, 5 HASTINGS WOMEN'S L.J. 91 (1994)

Beating a Hasty Retreat, 5 PEACE REV. 293 (1993)

Swords into Ploughshares: Why the United States Should Grant Refuge to Young Men Who Refuse to Bear Arms for Reasons of Conscience, 26 SAN DIEGO L. REV. 849 (1989)

Commentary and Short Articles

Book review of Rebecca Hamlin's *Crossing: HOW WE LABEL AND REACT TO PEOPLE ON THE MOVE*, 56 *Law & Soc. Rev.* 163 (2022)

[*Deploring the Violence, Abandoning the Victim*](#), Just Security, Feb. 17, 2022 (co-authored with Anne Dutton and Mark Hetfield)

Op ed, [*Continuing Trump's pretext to block asylum claims, Biden defies the law and good politics*](#), L.A. Times, Nov. 24, 2021

Op ed, [*The U.S. could take in 150,000 Afghan refugees after Taliban siege*](#), L.A. Times, Aug. 20, 2021

[*Asylum and the Three Little Words that Can Spell Life or Death*](#), Just Security, May 28, 2021.
(Co-authored with Stephen Legomsky)

[*One quick asylum fix: How Garland can help domestic violence survivors*](#), The Hill, May 9, 2021.
(Co-authored with Stephen Legomsky)

[*The Wrong Answer to the Right Question: How to Address the Failure of Protection for Gender-Based Claims*](#), March 9, 2021, ImmigrationProfBlog.

Restore Asylum for Women Fleeing Abuse and Death, L.A. TIMES, Nov. 22, 2019.

Trump's Senseless Cruelty Towards Evacuees from the Bahamas, L.A. TIMES, Sept. 3, 2019.

Her Husband Beat and Raped Her. Jeff Sessions Might Deport Her. NEW YORK TIMES, May 17, 2018
(Co-authored with Jane Fonda)

Personal Violence, Public Matter: Evolving Standards in Gender-Based Asylum Law, HARV. INT'L REV. 45 (Fall 2014/Winter 2015)

Co-author, *Unequal Protection*, 58 BULL. ATOMIC SCIENTISTS 57 (2002)

Co-author, *Gender-Based Asylum: An Analysis of Recent Trends*, 77 *Interpreter Releases* 1533 (2000)

The Developing Jurisprudence of Gender-Based Claims, IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW HANDBOOK (1997)

Crushing A Chance at Freedom, COMMENTARY, THE RECORDER (September 25, 1996)

In Re Kasinga: A Big Step Forward for Gender-Based Asylum Claims, 73 *Interpreter Releases*, 853 (1996)

A Refusal of Compassion for Refugees?, COMMENTARY, THE RECORDER (January 23, 1996)

Proposition 187: It's Not the Solution, MAG. SANTA CLARA SCH. L. Fall 1995–Winter 1996

Comparison of the Use of Social Group in Canadian and United States Jurisprudence, IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW: 1993 ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM - ADVANCED TOPICS (1993)

Preparing a Case for Hearing in the Immigration Court, IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW IN TRANSITION 252 (1990)

Circumstances Under Which Prosecution Constitutes Persecution Within the Definition of the 1980 Refugee Act, IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW, 42ND ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM OF THE AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYER'S ASSOCIATION: ADVANCED TOPICS 354 (1988)

Conscientious Objection to Military Service as Valid Basis of Claim to Political Asylum for Salvadoran Men, 10 IMMIGR. J. 8 (1987)

Notable Research Grants

National Science Foundation, 2016, three-year grant, *Judging Gender-Based Asylum – A Study of Decision-Making in U.S. Immigration Courts*

MacArthur Foundation, 2013, two-year grant, *Childhood and Migration in Central America and North America: Causes, Policies and Challenges*

The Ford Foundation, 1997, three-year grant, *The Implementation of Expedited Removal*

Awards, Appointments & Recognitions

Recipient of the Lawyer of the Year Award from the Immigration Law Section of the Federal Bar Association, 2018 (second time recipient; earlier award in 2015)

Recipient of National Science Foundation grant for three year study (2016-2019) of decision- making in gender asylum cases

Appointed to two-year term of the Department of Homeland Security Advisory Committee on Family Residential Center, November 2015

Recipient of the Lawyer of the Year Award from the Immigration Law Section of the Federal Bar Association, 2015

Recipient of the Bank of America Foundation Chair in International Law, 2014

Recipient of the 2012 Rutter Award for Excellence in Teaching

Recipient of the 2010 California Lawyer of the Year (CLAY) Award

Recipient of the Daily Journal's Top 100 Attorneys in California Award, 2009

Recipient of the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant's 2004 Human Rights Award

Recipient of the National Immigration Project's 2003 Carol King Award for commitment to social justice on behalf of immigrants and refugees

Recipient of the American Immigration Lawyers Association Human Rights Award in recognition of outstanding service in advancing the cause of human rights, 2002

Recipient of the New York Central American Refugee Center's Annual Award for dedication to the struggle for human rights and in defense of immigrants, 1998

Recipient of the Political Asylum Immigration Representation Project's Outstanding Achievement Award for excellence in developing the law of asylum to recognize new claims and to protect those fleeing persecution, 1998

Recipient of The Immigrant Legal Resource Center's Eighth Annual Phillip Burton Immigration and Civil Rights Award, 1997

Recognized by THE AMERICAN LAWYER as one of the leading young public interest lawyers in the country. *The Public Sector: forty-five young lawyers outside the private sector whose vision and commitment are changing lives*, THE AMERICAN LAWYER, Jan./Feb. 1997

Presentations

Select Keynotes, Plenaries and Invited Lectures

Plenary, *The Pretense of Protection: How the U.S. and Peer Countries Flout Legal and Moral Obligations*, Annual Conference of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, Aug. 5, 2022.

Lecture, *Recognizing the Racisms Embedded in the International Refugee System: Experiences from Haiti, Central America, Afghanistan and the Ukraine*, San Diego State University, April 21, 2022.

Lecture, *The Decades Long Controversy over Protection for Women Fleeing Gender-based Harms*, San Diego State University, April 20, 2022.

Lecture, *Forced Migration from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras: U.S. Legal and Moral Responsibility to Protect*, Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of North Carolina, April 11, 2022.

Lecture, "Refugee and Asylum Protection: An Historical and Contemporary Perspective," presentation to judges and staff of the California Court of Appeals, Sixth Appellate District, May 25, 2021.

Lecture, "Refugee and Asylum Protection: The Struggle for Gender Equality and against Racism and Xenophobia," University of North Carolina 26th Annual Conference on Race, Class, Gender & Ethnicity, March 19, 2021.

Lecture, "Asylum Law, Human Rights, and the Critical Role of the Health Professional," Society of Refugee Healthcare Providers, Oct. 24, 2020.

Keynote, “A Failure of Protection: Forty Years of U.S. Refugee Law and Policy” University of Arizona, Immigration Speaker Series, Oct. 2, 2020.

Keynote, “The Plight of Migrant Mothers: Restoring Protections for Victims of Gender-based Violence,” Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, American University, Feb. 13, 2020.

Keynote, “Refugee Protection in the Time of Trump: Resistance not Despair,” Binger Center for New Americans, Univ. of Minn. Law School, Nov. 1, 2019.

Panelist, Violence against Refugee Women and Girls, Weill Cornell Medical, New York, Sept. 20, 2019.

Panelist, “The Human Rights of Migrants: Current Tensions and Controversies,” Global Migration Conference: Inclusion and Exclusion, Boston College, Boston, MA, April 11, 2019.

Panelist, “Gender Violence and Justice in Latin America and U.S. Courts,” Gendered Justice Symposium, Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, March 18, 2019.

Panelist, “The Struggle for Equality: Women’s Rights, Human Rights and Asylum Protection,” Symposium – Immigration in the Trump Era, Southwestern Law School, L.A., CA, Feb. 1, 2019.

Panelist, “Practices and Ethics of Anthropologists in Expert Witness Testimony,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, Nov. 16, 2018

Panelist, “Systemic Plan to Narrow Humanitarian Protection: A New Era of U.S. Asylum Policy,” 15th Annual Immigration Law & Policy Conference, Georgetown University, Wash. D.C., Oct. 1, 2018.

Lecture, “Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Crisis in U.S. Policy,” as part of the prestigious Public Interest Law & Policy Speakers Series, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, MI, Sept. 20, 2018.

Plenary, *The State of the law for Refugees and Asylum Seekers, and Opportunities for Legal-medical Collaboration*, North American Refugee Health Conference, Portland, OR, June 7, 2018.

Keynote, *Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Historical Context and Contemporary Issues in the Trump Era*, 2018 O’Connell/Lorwin Conference on Immigration Law and Policy, Knight Law Center, University of Oregon, Feb, 8, 2018

Plenary, *Medical-Legal Partnerships and Advocacy in Light of the Trump Administration's Executive Orders on Immigration*, North American Refugee Health Conference, Toronto, Canada, June 17, 2017

Gender Violence as a Basis for Asylum in Contemporary Context, Lori E. Talsky Center for Human Rights of Women and Children, Fifth Annual Symposium, Michigan State University, College of the Law, East Lansing, MI, March 27, 2017

Protected Classes, Rethinking the Global Refugee Protection System, Center for Migration Studies, New York, NY, July 6, 2016

Particular Social Group and the Potential for the Protection of Women, Children and Individuals Fleeing Criminal Violence, The Future of Refugee Law, Human Rights Consortium, Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study, University of London, United Kingdom,

July 1, 2016

Comparative Responses to Asylum Seeking in Europe, Australia, the U.S., and Middle East, Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, University of California, San Diego, CA, November 30, 2015

The Protection of Women and Children: Refugee Policies in the U.S., Annual Conference of the U.S.-Mexico Forum for Cooperation, Understanding and Solidarity (US-Mex FoCUS), Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, November 6, 2015

Keynote, *Fronteras y barreras: Retos para las refugiadas en España y Estados Unidos (Borders and Barriers: Challenges for Refugee Women in Spain and the United States)*, XX Coloquio anual sobre la mujer (20th Annual Colloquium on Women), International Institute, Madrid, Spain, October 30, 2015

Keynote, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant Awards Dinner, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Berkeley, CA, October 25, 2015

Fleeing Violence: Finding Prison: The Treatment of Migrant Women in Flight from Domestic Violence in the US Immigration System, James E. Rogers College of Law, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, April 23, 2015

The Battle for Equality in Refugee Law: The Resistance to Protection of Women and Children, 2015 Bieber Guest Lecture Series, Loyola University, New Orleans College of Law, March 19, 2015

Excluding those Worthy of Protection: How US Interpretation of International Refugee Norms have Consistently Narrowed Protection, Loyola Law School Faculty Colloquia, Loyola University, New Orleans College of Law, March 19, 2015

Addressing the Asylum Crisis: Religious Contributions to Rethinking Protection in Global Politics, convened by the University of Kent (UK), University of Groningen, and Georgetown University Institute for the Study of International Migration, Washington, D.C., May 1, 2014

Forensic Psychiatry and Immigration: Cross Cultural Competency, American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, San Diego, CA, October 24, 2013

Immigration and Its Adversities: Mental Illness, Detention and Deportation, American Psychiatric Association, San Francisco, CA, May 22, 2013

Refugees: Endangered by Acts of Nations: Protected by International Law? State Bar of Arizona Annual Convention, Phoenix, AZ, June 10, 2010

El Sistema de Asilo estadounidense frente a la persecución por motivos de género (the U.S. Asylum System and its Response to Cases of Gender Persecution) Comisión Española Asistencia al Refugiado (CEAR - Spanish Commission for Refugee Assistance), Primer Congreso sobre Persecución por Motivos de Género y Derecho de Asilo (First Conference on Gender Persecution and the Right to Asylum), Bilbao, Spain, February 26, 2010

Acceso a información sobre el país de origen y la carga de la prueba (Access to Information about the Country of Origin and the Burden of Proof), Comisión Española Asistencia al Refugiado (CEAR - Spanish Commission for Refugee Assistance), Primer Congreso sobre Persecución por Motivos de Género y Derecho de Asilo (First Conference on Gender Persecution and the Right to Asylum) Bilbao, Spain, February 26, 2010

Human Rights and Gender: Domestic and International Perspectives, University of Iowa, Center for Human Rights, Iowa City, IO, November 14, 2009

Gender Asylum Breakthrough? New U.S. Policy on Asylum for Battered Women, University of Virginia Law School, Charlottesville, VA, October 22, 2009

Access to Justice, Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Experts (CEVI): Seminar on Strategies for Monitoring Implementation of the Recommendations of the Committee of Experts to the Governments, Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States, Washington, DC, August 2008

Refugee Protection - Historical and Contemporary Issues, Foreign Policy Institute for State Legislators, sponsored by the Center for Women Policy Studies, Washington, DC, August 2008

Vidas en Tránsito: Derecho de Asilo y Nuevos Refugiados (Lives in Transit: The Right to Asylum and New Refugees), Las Palmas, Gran Canarias, Spain, June 2008

Refugee Law and Policy in the United States and Canada in Historical and Comparative Perspective, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Montreal, Canada, May 2008

Solidarity and International Strategies to Address Femicides in Latin America, Conference: No al Femicidio en America Latina (No to Femicide in Latin America), Guatemala City, Guatemala, May 2008

Violence against Women and the Femicides in Guatemala, 5th Walker Latin American Symposium, Colby College, Waterville, ME, April, 2008

Models of International Cooperation, Ninth World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety, Merida, Mexico, March 2008

Keynote, *Rape as a Weapon of War: Punishing the Perpetrators, Protecting the Victims*, Foundation for the Social Development of the Canary Islands, Tenerife, Spain, February 2008

Keynote, *The Right to Protection from Gender-Based Harms: Developing International Norms and State Practice*, Third International Seminar on Human Rights and Refugees, University of Vila Velha, Espirito Santo, Brazil, December 13, 2006

The 1951 Refugee Convention: Evolving Interpretations and Contemporary Challenges at University of Vila Velha, Espirito Santo, Brazil, December 14, 2006.

Plenary, *Asilo y refugio: Nuevas formas de Persecución*, (Asylum and refugees: New Forms of Persecution), II World Social Forum on Migration, Madrid, Spain, June 23, 2006

Persecución por Motivos de Género, (Persecution for Reasons of Gender), II World Social Forum on Migration, Madrid, Spain, June 23, 2006

Women and Gender in Global Perspectives, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL, April 2006.

Keynote, *Gendered Violence as a Basis for Asylum: Fear of Floodgates or Call to (Principled) Action?* University of Virginia Center on Families, Children and the Law, Charlottesville, VA, March 2006

Immigration Policy after 9/11: U.S. and European Perspectives, Center for European Studies, Austin, TX, March 2006

Gendered Injustice: Transcending the Male Paradigm in the U.S. and Beyond, Distinguished Lecture Series, Institute for Research on Women, Rutgers University, NJ, October 20, 2005

Gender-Based Asylum - a Decade of Developments, Univ. of Michigan Law, School, Ann, Arbor, MI, September 2005

El Derecho de Asilo y La Protección de los Refugiados Politicos y de Subsistencia, (The Right to Asylum and Subsistence for Political Refugees), 15 Encuentro de Abogados sobre Derecho de Extranjería, Zaragoza, Spain, April 2005

Keynote, *The 1951 Convention and the Protection of Women from Violations of their Fundamental Human Rights*, Conference on Asylum and Gender-Related Persecution, Bilbao, Spain, December 2004

World Affairs Council, *Immigration after 9-11: Security at What Cost?* San Francisco, CA, August 4, 2003

Beyond Belonging: Challenging the Boundaries of Nationality, Annual DePaul Law Review Symposium, Chicago, IL, March 2002

Gender Claims and the Fuller Incorporation of Human Rights Norms into the Refugee Definition, Chicago-Kent College of Law Conference on International Refugee Law and U.S. Asylum Policy, Chicago, IL, October 9, 1998

When Rights & Cultures Collide, The Kenna Club, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA, April 24, 1998

From Female Genital Mutilation to Domestic Violence: Should Women Who Flee Gender- Related Persecution be Protected as Refugees? Stanford University, 1996-97 Ethics in Society Lecture Series on Immigration Stanford, CA, April 11, 1997

Effects of War and Occupation Upon Women, and Confronting Female Genital Mutilation: Asylum as Remedy? University of Michigan Law School, Symposium on Women's International Human Rights, Ann Arbor, MI, November 4, 1995

Human Rights and Legal Practice: Shall the Twain Meet? Graduate Theological Union, Center for Ethics and Social Policy; Berkeley, CA, October 20, 1994

Report to Non-Governmental Organizations on the Situation in the Former Yugoslavia. U.N. Human Rights Commission, Geneva, Switzerland, February 23, 1993

A Comparative View of Refugee Rights in Mexico and the United States, Conference on Ethnicity and Human Rights in Latin America, Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, May 30, 1991

Other Presentations

Lecture, *Refugee and Asylum Protection: History, Trump Assault on System, Restoration*, Lamorinda

Democratic Club, April 8, 2021.

Panelist, *Immigration Policy under the Biden Administration*, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Berkeley, CA, March 10, 2021.

Panelist, *The Struggle for Equality: Recognizing Rights and Extending Protection*, U.C. Davis, Women's Law Association, March 8, 2021.

Lecture, *Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador – Human Rights and Root Causes*, UCSF Human Rights Cooperative, Nov. 13, 2020.

Panelist, *Advanced Asylum: Particular Social Group Claims*, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Nov. 12, 2020.

Lecture, *Legal Issues in Asylum*, 2020 Health and Human Rights Initiative, UCSF Advanced Asylum and Refugee Symposium, Sept. 12, 2020.

Participant, *Press and congressional briefing on the U.S.-Canada Safe Third Country Agreement*, Sept. 1, 2020.

Panelist, *How to Formulate a Legally Cognizable Social Group*, American Immigration Lawyers Association Annual Conference, July 22, 2020.

Panelist, *Defending Asylum*, Psychologists for Social Responsibility, June 26, 2020.

Panelist, *Post-Matter of A-B- and Domestic Violence-Based Asylum Strategies*, Annual Conference, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Orlando, FLA, June 20, 2019

Panelist, *Particular Social Groups*, Federal Bar Association Immigration Law Conference, Austin, TX, May 18, 2019

Panelist, Special 4 Hour Training Session, *Forensic Evaluation of Asylum Seekers*, North American Refugee Health Conference, Portland, OR, June 8, 2018

Panelist, *Policies and Debates on Migration and Media in North and Central America*, Journalism and Refugees: Media Coverage and Public Discourses about Refugee Flows and Integration into the European Union and the Americas, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Nov. 11, 2017

Presenter, *Towards a Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework*, UNHCR Regional Roundtable, San Jose, Costa Rica, Sept. 4, 2017

Panelist, *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Women and Girls: Updates on Legal and Medical Considerations in the U.S. and Canada*, North American Refugee Health Conference, Toronto, Canada, June 17, 2017

Roundtable Participant, *Berlin Symposium on Whistle-blowing and Asylum*, International Whistleblower Project, Berlin, Germany, April 27, 2017

Panelist, *Asylum Protections at the Border*, Stanford Journal of International Law, Stanford, CA, April 22, 2017

Panelist, *Anticipating Changes: Challenges on the Horizon*, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C., January 13, 2017

Panelist, *Current Concerns for Migrants' Rights in California, Access to Asylum and Protection in the Region*, Center for Gender and Refugee Studies and International Justice Resource Center, San Francisco, CA, September 23, 2016

Presenter, *Overview of the Law of asylum, with a focus on gender and children's cases, and fear of gang cases*, UC Davis School of Law, Davis, CA, September 1, 2016

Presenter, *The Battle for Gender Equality in Refugee Law*, Fromm Institute, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, May 17, 2016

Panelist, *Gender Based Asylum*, Federal Bar Association, Annual Immigration Law Conference, Denver, CO, May 13, 2017

Panelist, *Researching and Formulating a Particular Social Group*, Federal Bar Association, Annual Immigration Law Conference, Denver, CO, May 13, 2017

Panelist, *Advanced Asylum Issues*, Immigration Judges Annual Training Conference, Washington, D.C., August 15, 2016

Presenter, *The Battle for Gender Equality in Refugee Law*, Fromm Institute, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, May 17, 2016

Presenter, *Legal-medical Collaboration on Behalf of Survivors of Persecution and Torture*, Wright Institute, Berkeley, CA, April 28, 2016

Symposium panelist, *Ensuring their Rights in the United States*, UC Davis Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy, Davis, CA, March 4, 2016

Symposium panelist, *Human Trafficking and Immigration*, 2016 Santa Clara International Law Symposium, Global Justice for Women - Advancing Equality, Santa Clara, CA, February 19, 2016

Presenter, *Hot Topics in Asylum Law, DV and Related Gender Claims after A-R-C-G-*, Federal Bar Association, May 13, 2016

Particular Social Groups: Domestic Violence and Children's Claims, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Annual Conference, Washington, DC, June 19, 2015

Presenter, *Young Lives in Limbo: Update on the Status of Central American Child Refugees in the U.S.*, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees, June 3, 2015

Credibility, Documentary Evidence and Expert Witnesses in Asylum Claims, Federal Bar Association, Immigration Law Conference, Memphis, TN, May 16, 2015

Domestic Violence and Fear of Gang Cases in the Aftermath of A-R-C-G-, Federal Bar Association, Immigration Law Conference, Memphis, TN, May 16, 2015

Child Migration: A Regional Challenge to Human Rights Commitments, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, San Francisco, CA, April 3, 2015

Conceptualizing Children's Asylum Claims, Immigration Theory and Practice Workshop, Yale School of Law, November 6, 2014

Child Migrants: A Journey of Desperation and Hope," Center for Latin American Studies, UC Berkeley, September 2014

Panelist, *Hot Topics in Asylum - Particular Social Group Issues, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services*, Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., October 20, 2011

Panelist, 8th Annual Federal Bar Association, *Immigration Law Seminar*, Memphis, TN, May 13, 2011.

Panelist, *Gender Justice in the Americas*, University of Miami School of Law, Miami, FL, February 25, 2011

Roundtable participant, *African Scholars Association Conference*, San Francisco, CA, November 20, 2010

Panelist, *The Mindful Lawyer: Practices and Prospects for Law School, Bench and Bar*, Berkeley School of Law, Berkeley, CA, October 30, 2010

Moderator and commentator, Immigration Law Teachers Workshop, panel on Specialized Courses in Immigration Law (moderator) and Works in Progress session (commentator), Chicago, IL, May 25, 2010

Presenter, U.C. Berkeley, Latin American Studies Center, *Crimes without Punishment: Violence Against Women in Guatemala*, Berkeley, CA, April 8, 2010

Presenter, Alianza Regional (Regional Alliance), *Best Practices for Investigating and Prosecuting Gender Crimes of Violence*, Mexico City, Mexico, February 18, 2009

Panelist, *Bridges or Blockade, Refugee Protection in an Era of Increased Militarization of Borders*, International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, March 2008

Speaker, *Femicide in Guatemala*, Univ. of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA, May 2007

Panelist, *Using Refugee and Human Rights Law as a Vehicle to Teach about Social Justice: Case Studies on Guatemala and Haiti*, Fourth Global Conference of Global Alliance for Justice and Education (GAJE), Cordoba, Argentina, November 2006

Panelist, *Amnesty International Annual General Meeting*, Portland, OR, April 2006

Panelist, *Gender & Migration Symposium*, Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice, Boalt Hall, Berkeley, CA, November 2005

Speaker at a series of conferences in Spain on the issue of Gender Asylum, sponsored by the Spanish Commission of Refugee Assistance, November 2001

Presenter, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, presenter at *Roundtable discussion on expedited removal procedures*, Washington, D.C., June 26, 2000

Panelist, Stanford University, *Conference on Cosmopolitanism and Nationalism*, Stanford, CA, April 16,

1999

Panelist, American Association of Law Schools, *Public Responsibility of Law Professors*, Washington, D.C., January 5, 2000

Presenter, Practicing Law Institute, *31st Annual Immigration and Naturalization Institute, Refugees and Asylum - Issues of Credibility*, San Francisco, CA, November 9, 1998

Panelist, American Bar Association, *Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities, Refugee and Asylum Cases: A Comparison of Canada and the United States*, Toronto, Canada, August 3, 1998

Panelist, American Immigration Lawyers Association, *Asylum and Refugee Issues*, Houston, TX, June 21, 1998

Panelist, Practicing Law Institute, *30th Annual Immigration and Naturalization Institute, Refugees and Asylum*, San Francisco, CA, November 21, 1997

Panelist, American Bar Association, Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, *Female Genital Mutilation: Domestic and International Concerns*, San Francisco, CA, August 3, 1997

Panelist, *National Conference of Christians and Jews, Ethical Leadership*, Pebble Beach, CA, February 15, 1997

Panelist, Amnesty International, Women's Human Rights Symposium, *Domestic and International Intersections*, Los Angeles, CA, December 10, 1995.

Moderator, American Bar Association, Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, *Public Rights, Private Injustice: Internationally Sanctioned Violence Against Women*, Chicago, IL, August 6, 1995

Panelist, State Bar Annual Meeting; *Navigating the Immigration Law Maze*. Anaheim, CA, September 23, 1994

Panelist, American Immigration Lawyers Association; "*Comparative Asylum*." Toronto, Canada, June 19, 1993

Panelist, Association of American Law Schools; *Teaching Immigration Law - From the More Traditional to Clinical Methods*. San Francisco, CA, January 9, 1993

American Immigration Lawyers Association, California Chapters Conference on Immigration Law; *Due Process in Immigration Proceedings*, Claremont, CA, October 10, 1992

U.S. Catholic Conference National Migration Conference; *Asylum: A Framework for Analysis and Representation*. Los Angeles, CA, June 14, 1990

Annual American Immigration Lawyers Association Conference; *Refugee and Asylum Issues; Documenting Institutionalized Bias in the System*. Seattle, WA, June 6, 1990

Litigation

Innovation Law Lab v. McAleenan, co-counsel in litigation challenging the "Remain in Mexico" policy

Grace v. Whitaker (2018), co-counsel in litigation challenging the application of *Matter of A-B-* in the credible fear context

Matter of A-B- (2018), co-counsel in litigation to overturn Attorney General Sessions' decision addressing protection for asylum seekers fleeing gender violence and gang violence

Amicus curiae, Matter of A-R-C-G- (2014), precedent decision on domestic violence as a basis of asylum

Matter of L-R-, (2010) granting protection to a Mexican woman in a highly publicized case establishing national policy on the legal standard for asylum in cases involving gender violence

Bah v. Mukasey, 529 F. 3d 99 (2d Cir. 2008) reversing the BIA's denial of relief to three Guinean women whose claims were based upon past female genital cutting

Abebe v. Gonzales, 432 F. 3d 1037 (9th Cir. 2005)(*en banc*) reversing the BIA's denial of relief to Ethiopian parents whose child faced female genital cutting upon return to their home country

Matter of R-A-, (2009), granting asylum to a Guatemalan woman whose case was the focal point of a 14 year controversy on the issue of domestic violence as a basis for political asylum

Matter of Kasinga, Int. Dec. 3278 (BIA June 13, 1996) precedent decision at the Board of Immigration Appeals, establishing that a successful claim to political asylum may be based upon resistance to, and flight from female genital mutilation

Amicus Curiae to U.S. Supreme Court in *Sale v. Haitian Centers Council Inc.*, 113 S.Ct. 3028 (1992)

Cañas-Segovia v. INS, 902 F.2d 717 (9th Cir. 1990) (holding that a refusal to serve in the military for reasons of conscience may form the basis for a claim to political asylum under the 1980 Refugee Act), *cert. granted and vacated*, 112 S.Ct.1152 (1992), and partially rev'd, 970 F.2d 599 (9th Cir.1992)

Ramirez-Rivas v. INS, 899 F.2d 864 (9th Cir. 1990) (rejects government's argument that assassination, torture and disappearance constitute legitimate governmental prosecution, rather than persecution), No. 88-7463 (9th Cir. Oct. 10, 1990) (granting request for attorneys fees), *cert. granted and vacated, and remanded* (as to attorneys fees only)

Select Media Appearances & Interviews

New York Times

Washington Post

CNN

CNN International

Associated Press

Ms. Magazine

Daily Journal

Vox

Huffington Post

Christian Science Monitor

Vice

PBS Documentary: Breaking Free: A Woman's Story

PBS Newshour

KQED Newsroom

Nightline
CNN International

International Administration Of Justice Projects

Faculty in U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) trial advocacy program for public defenders in Bogota, Colombia, July 1998

Designed training and served as faculty in U.S. Information Agency sponsored Administration of Justice projects for judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys in Caracas, Venezuela, September, 1996

Designed training and served as faculty in two USAID sponsored Judicial Reform Projects in Guatemala; one for Guatemalan law school faculty, judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys, and the other for Guatemalan law school students. Prepared initial evaluation and recommendations for practical training program at the University of San Carlos. Guatemala City, Guatemala, November, 1995

Co-director and faculty member of the U.S./Guatemala Jurist Exchange and Training Program. Designed and implemented an exchange program to provide support and training to Guatemalan human rights lawyers and law students. The program included an intensive trial advocacy program for the Guatemalan participants. November 1994

Bar Admissions

Member of the California Bar

Admitted to Practice in the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Second, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals