Course Objectives

Transitional justice is broadly concerned with responses to mass human rights violations after armed conflict, periods of repression, and violations of the rights of part or a whole group of persons. These responses include initiatives such as criminal prosecutions, truth commissions and reparations for wrong-doing, and traditional or restorative justice. Transitional justice initiatives constitute a political and legal response to large-scale human rights abuses and typically comprise a variety of objectives: holding individuals accountable, deterring future violations, providing victims with a means of redress, establishing a historical record and memory, reconciling a traumatized population, creating institutions that foster peace, and promoting the rule of law.

In this workshop participants will be exposed to a variety of subjects, including a focus on post-conflict institutional reform issues as well as topics which are related to transitional justice but may not fall within its traditional framework. For instance, displacement, the reintegration of ex-combatants and the role of justice in peacebuilding have become important new practical challenges. This symposium is intended to cover the wide variety of issues an individual working in a post-conflict environment might encounter where transitional justice mechanisms are at work.

Location
Institute of International Education
Main Conference Room 714 A-C (7th Floor)
1400 K Street
Washington, DC

Arrival: Nearest Metro: McPherson Sq. / ID Required
Contact Information
Coordinator: Kristen Check
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Interagency Workshop
“Transitional Justice, Rule of Law, and Post-Conflict Institution Building”

Thursday, July 18

8:15-8:30  Registration

8:30-9:00  Welcoming Remarks
Andrew Solomon, USAID
Dr. Gordon Smith, University of South Carolina

9:00-10:00  Transitional Justice Overview
Jane Stromseth, Georgetown University Law Center

10:00-11:00  Accounting for Atrocities: Approaches to Transitional Justice
Moderator: Joel Samuels, University of South Carolina
Dr. Anu Chakravarty, University of South Carolina (Rwanda)
Ari Bassin, DOS (Asia and reparations)
Naomi Roht-Arriaza, UC Hastings College of the Law (Latin American experiences)
Katya Salazar, Due Process of Law Foundation (TRC in Peru)
Christina Giffin, DOJ (Former Yugoslavia)

11:00-11:15  Break

11:15-12:00  Continuation of ‘Accounting for Atrocities’: Approaches to Transitional Justice

12:00-1:30  Lunch

1:30-2:30  Memorialization and Rights Education
Dr. Doyle Stevick, University of South Carolina
Dr. Luba Fajfer, USAID/Europe and Eurasia Bureau

2:30-3:30  Challenges of Post-Conflict Internal Displacement
Andrew Solomon, USAID
Roger Duthie, ICTJ
Kristen Check, University of South Carolina

3:30-3:45  Break

3:45-5:00  Vulnerable Populations: Women, Minorities and Children
Aparna Polavarapu, University of South Carolina
Naomi Roht-Arriaza, UC Hastings College of the Law
Friday, July 19

8:15-8:30  Registration

8:30-9:00  Overview of Day 2 and WJP ROL Index Discussion
          Joel Samuels, University of South Carolina

9:00-10:00 Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
            Dr. Michael Wessells, Columbia University
            Andrew Michels, USAID

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:45 Security Sector Reform
            Ari Bassin, DOS/ Global Criminal Justice
            Julie Werbel, USAID
            Erin Barclay, DOS/INL
            Col. James Dapper, DOD/U.S. AFRICOM

11:45-1:15 Lunch

1:15-2:45  Justice Sector Reform and Institution Building
            Jonathan Simon, Chemonics
            George Huber, DOJ/OPDAT
            Riva Kantowitz, DOS/DRL

2:45-3:00  Break

3:00-3:45  Emerging Issues: Syria in Context
            Nora Nassri, University of South Carolina
            Dara Katz, USAID

3:45-4:30  Transitional Justice and the Way Forward
            Hamid Khan, USIP