

Center for International Law and Policy – 2010 Conference

Reviewing the UN Human Rights Council: Looking back and moving forward

Kyung-wha Kang, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

Kyung-wha Kang was appointed Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights in September 2006 and took up the position on 15 January 2007. Her appointment is at the level of Assistant Secretary-General. Before joining the United Nations, Ms. Kang, a national of the Republic of Korea, was Director-General of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic, with a portfolio that covered a wide range of UN issues, including human rights. She also served as Minister at the Republic of Korea Mission to the United Nations in New York and chaired the Commission on the Status of Women for its forty-eighth session in 2004 and its forty-ninth session in 2005, which marked the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service in 1998, Ms. Kang worked for the National Parliament of the Republic of Korea, assisting the Speaker of the National Assembly on global issues in the fields of human rights, women's advancement and parliamentary diplomacy. During that time, she also served as the spokeswoman of the Korean Women's NGO Committee at the Beijing Conference in 1995. Earlier in her career, she worked for the Korean Broadcasting System, and lectured in universities both in Korea and the United States.

Ms. Kang graduated from Yonsei University where she completed a BA in political sciences and diplomacy. She then obtained an M.A. in mass communication and a Ph.D. defending a doctoral thesis on intercultural communication, from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, United States. Ms. Kang was born on 7 April 1955 in Seoul, Korea. She is married to Yillbyung Lee. They have two daughters and one son.

Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho

Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho is a career diplomat since 1988 and was appointed Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva in June 2009.

He holds a Master's Degree in International Law from Georgetown University Law School, in Washington, D.C. and a Bachelor Degree in Law from the Iberoamericana University in Mexico City where he also taught as professor of this same subject.

Along these years, he has served at the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs in different capacities, the most recent one, Director General for Human Rights and Democracy from 2002-2006. Abroad, he has served as the Head of the Legal Affairs Section at the Embassy of Mexico in the United Kingdom, as Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington D.C., and between 2006-2009 as Ambassador of Mexico to the Republic of Singapore concurrently to the Union of Myanmar and the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam.

Over the years, he has headed several Mexican delegations to both multilateral and bilateral meetings and negotiations. He has participated as an expert on International Law in numerous academic fora, both national and international, and has written several articles on the subject.

Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe, U.S. Ambassador to the Human Rights Council

Ambassador Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe is an Affiliated Scholar at the Center for international Security and Cooperation at Stanford University. Her research has focused on norms on use of force, UN reform, and the international rule of law. Her 2006 Ph.D. dissertation entitled: "Humanitarian Military Intervention: The Moral Imperative Versus the Rule of Law," addressed conflicting legal and ethical justifications for humanitarian military intervention.

Previously, Ms. Donahoe was a litigation associate at Fenwick & West in Silicon Valley, where she served technology clients in intellectual property and commercial disputes. Prior to that, she was a teaching fellow at Stanford Law School and law clerk to the Honorable William H. Orrick. Ms. Donahoe has worked with various human rights organizations including The Lawyer's Committee for Human Rights, where she did research on the nexus between US foreign policy and human rights, and Amnesty International's Ginetta Sagan Fund, where she did strategy work related to human rights concerns of women and children. She received her B.A. from Dartmouth College, a Masters in Theology from Harvard University, her J.D. from Stanford Law School, an M.A. in East Asian Studies from Stanford University, and her Ph.D. in Ethics from the University of California's Graduate Theological Union.

H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, President of the 64th Session of the UN General Assembly

H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki was elected President of the sixty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly on 10 June 2009. He is Libya's Secretary (Minister) of African Union Affairs, a post he has held since 2004. Dr. Treki brings to the position a deep knowledge of United Nations issues, having served three times as his country's Permanent Representative to the world body—from 1982 to 1984—when he also chaired the General Assembly's Fourth Committee (Decolonization) and represented Libya on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights; from 1986 to 1990; and, most recently, in 2003. Earlier, in 1982, he served as a Vice-President of the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

A veteran in the fields of diplomacy and international relations, Dr. Treki served as Libya's Ambassador to France from 1995 to 1999, as Permanent Representative to the League of Arab States in Cairo (Egypt) from 1991 to 1994, and as Foreign Minister from 1977 to 1980. Dr. Treki has played a significant role in the creation of the African Union and has been directly involved in mediating several conflicts in Africa, notably in the Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia/Eritrea and Djibouti/Eritrea, as well as in other parts of the world, such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus and the Philippines. Over the course of a career spanning four decades, Dr. Treki led Libya's delegation to numerous African summits and conferences including ministerial meetings of the former Organization of African Unity and, more recently, of the African Union Executive Council. In addition, he headed the Libyan delegation to summits and conferences of the League of Arab States and chaired the League's Council of Ministers from 1976 to 1977. He also led his country's delegation to summits and ministerial conferences of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and chaired the Council of Ministers of Islamic States. He further headed Libya's delegation to ministerial meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement as well as to the Movement's 1979 summit conference in Cuba. Dr. Treki is the recipient of honorary doctorate degrees from universities in the United States of America, Europe, Africa and Asia, and has been decorated by a number of Governments around the world.

Born in 1938 in Misrata, Libya, Dr. Treki holds a bachelor's degree in history from Garyounes University, Benghazi, Libya, and earned a doctorate in political history from Toulouse University, France. He is fluent in Arabic, English and French. Dr. Treki is married with four children.

Christina Cerna, Principal Human Rights Specialist, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Organization of American States

Christina Monica Cerna is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center teaching a Graduate Honors Seminar in international human rights. Before Ms. Cerna joined Georgetown University, she was an Adjunct Professor at Dickenson School of Law at Pennsylvania State University and an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University Law School, both times teaching international human rights.

Ms. Cerna has also been a Fulbright Fellow conducting research at the European Court of Human Rights, a Senior Legal Specialist and Principle Human Rights Specialist for Organization of American States in Washington, D.C.. Ms. Cerna is also a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia.

Christina Monica Cerna has received a B.A. from New York University, a M.A. from Ludwig-Maximilian Universitat in Munich Germany, a J.D. from American University, a L.L.M. from Columbia University, and was Visiting Fellow at St. Anthony's College, Oxford University.

John Cerone, Director of Center for International Law and Policy; Special Advisor, U.S. Delegation to the Human Rights Council

John Cerone is a Professor of Law at New England Law | Boston. He teaches Public International Law, Human Rights Law, Constitutional Law, and International Criminal Law and serves as director of New England Law | Boston's Center for International Law and Policy. He has been a fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law and a visiting scholar at the International Criminal Court. He has also been a Fulbright scholar at both the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.

As a practicing international lawyer, Professor Cerone has worked for a number of different intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, including the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the International Secretariat of Amnesty International, and the International Crisis Group. He also has extensive field experience in conflict and post-conflict environments, such as Afghanistan, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, and East Timor. He is accredited by the United Nations to represent the American Society of International Law before various U.N. bodies and is an elected member of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law. In 2009 he served as special adviser to the first U.S. delegation to the UN Human Rights Council.

He is the author of several articles and book chapters on international law.

Hurst Hannum, Professor of International Law, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University

Hurst Hannum is Professor of International Law at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, where he teaches courses in international human rights and related topics. In 2006-2008, he was Sir Y.K. Pao Professor of Public Law at the University of Hong Kong.

Professor Hannum has served as counsel in cases before European, Inter-American, and UN human rights bodies and has served as a consultant to the United Nations on issues ranging from minority rights to the situations in Afghanistan, East Timor, and Western Sahara.

He has served on the boards of a number of non-governmental human rights organizations and currently is on the Advisory Council of the International Service for Human Rights (Geneva) and International Council of Minority Rights Group International (London). Among his many publications are *International Human Rights: Problems of Law, Policy, and Practice* (Aspen, 4th ed. 2006; 5th ed. forthcoming 2011); *Guide to International Human Rights Practice* (Transnational/Martinus Nijhoff, 4th ed. 2004); "Reforming the Special Procedures and Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights," 7 *Human Rights Law Review* 73

(2007); and "Human Rights in Conflict Resolution: The Role of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in UN Peacemaking and Peacebuilding," 28 *Human Rights Quarterly* 1 (2006).

Andrew Hudson, Manager, Human Rights Defenders Program, Human Rights First

Andrew Hudson is a Senior Associate in the Human Rights Defenders Program, Andrew assists and supports human rights advocates in Latin America, focusing on Guatemala and Colombia. He seeks policy change through field-based analysis and high level advocacy with the Colombian, Guatemalan and US governments; by engaging with UN system and regional human rights mechanisms; and by mobilizing the media and public support.

Before coming to Human Rights First, Andrew was a human rights lawyer in Australia, where he represented indigent clients and refugees and spearheaded major law reform projects, such as the adoption of a Bill of Rights. Internationally, he has considerable human rights experience working within the United Nations system. He worked with Colombian refugees for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Ecuador and was a member of the Australian delegation to the United Nations General Assembly.

He was also a consultant to the UN Regional Commission for Asia-Pacific in Thailand and to UNESCO in the Pacific Islands. He has also worked for the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions and on counter-terrorism and transitional justice issues with Human Rights Watch, the Center for Constitutional Rights and the International Center for Transitional Justice. Andrew earned his BA, with honors in international relations, and law degree (LLB) from the University of Melbourne, Australia, in 2001. He obtained his Masters of Laws (LLM) from New York University School of Law in 2006, specializing in international human rights law.

Melanie Khanna, Legal Advisor, U.S. Mission to the U.N. and Other International Organizations

Melanie Khanna served as an attorney in the Department of State Legal Adviser's Office for ten years before being posted to Geneva, where she heads the legal department. Her office provides legal advice to the Ambassador and senior staff on the Human Rights Council and other Geneva based organizations. She has extensive experience in multilateral affairs, having led or advised the US delegation at dozens of environment treaty negotiations (on topics ranging from air pollution to fisheries), health agreement negotiations (including the agreement establishing the Global Fund to combat AIDS, TB and malaria), international science project agreement negotiations, and peace agreement negotiations. She received her B.A. from Columbia College and her J.D. from Yale Law School.

Andrew Loewenstein, Partner, Foley Hoag LLC and Chair, Committee on Public International Law and Human Rights, Boston Bar Association

Andrew Loewenstein is a Partner at Foley Hoag LLC and Chair of the Committee on Public International Law and Human Rights. Mr. Loewenstein has significant experience in international litigation and arbitration. He has represented foreign government and state-owned corporations before the ICJ, international arbitration tribunals, and US courts.

Mr. Loewenstein also has domestic litigation practice. His particular area of expertise centers on contract disputes, fraud, trademark infringement, and economic espionage. Andrew Loewenstein has advised governments, corporations, NGOs, and multilateral financial institutions on international law and law reform.

Besides extensive work at home and abroad, Mr. Loewenstein is a member the American Bar Association and the International Bar Association. He has also published numerous materials relating to international law. Andrew Loewenstein has received an A.B. from Brown University, a M.Sc. from the London School of Economics, and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Craig Mokhiber, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Headquarters

Craig Mokhiber is a senior human rights official at United Nations Headquarters in New York. A lawyer and specialist in international human rights law, policy and methodology, he has served the UN since January of 1992. Mokhiber led the team of human rights specialists attached to the High Level Mission on Darfur from January to March 2007.

He has served as both Officer-in-Charge and Deputy Director of the New York Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and has represented the High Commissioner in New York throughout the human rights reform process, including in the lead up to the World Summit, and in the process leading to the establishment of the Human Rights Council. He has also served as the UN's Senior Human Rights Advisor in both the Occupied Palestinian Territories and in Afghanistan, and has headed the Human Rights and Development Unit, and the Rule of Law and Democracy Unit at OHCHR headquarters.

His fieldwork includes dozens of human rights missions in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Eastern Europe. He was for five years the Chairman of the UN Task Force for Action Two (a global initiative to advance rights-based approaches and the building of national protection systems), and is currently Chairman of the UN Democracy Fund consultative group. Craig Mokhiber has lectured and taught human rights, has authored several publications on human rights themes, and has served on the Secretariats of the World Conference on Human Rights (1993), the Commission on Human Rights (1995), the Working Group on the Right to Development (2001), and the World Summit (2005). In 1999, he led a global study on rule of law reforms, on behalf of the International Council on Human Rights Policy.

Before joining the UN, he worked as an NGO activist, human rights advocate, and lawyer in private practice.

Bertrand Ramcharan, former U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights ad interim.

Dr. Bertrand G. Ramcharan Ph.D (LSE), is a Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn and Professor at the Geneva School of Diplomacy. He was UN High Commissioner for Human Rights *ad interim* in 2003-2004 with the rank of UN Under-Secretary-General, and Deputy High Commissioner from 1998-2003. He was Professor and First Swiss Chair of International Human Rights Law at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva from 2006-2008 and has been Chancellor of the University of Guyana. He has been UN Fellow at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government (2004-2005) and, before that, Fellow of the LSE. He was a member of the UN Panel of Eminent Persons on Human Rights in Darfur (2007), Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the peace process in Georgia (2008), and Chairperson of the UN Expert Seminar on Freedom of Expression and Advocacy of Religious Hatred (2008).

He is currently member of an ILO Commission of Inquiry into trade union and human rights in Zimbabwe. He is the author or editor of thirty books, the latest of which are: *Contemporary Human Rights Ideas*, Routledge, 2008, and *Preventive Diplomacy at the UN*, Indiana University Press, 2008. He is also the editor of *Caribbean Perspectives on International Law and Organizations*. (Nijhoff).

Yvonne Terlingen, Head of Office and Representative at the United Nations, Amnesty International

Yvonne Terlingen heads Amnesty International's United Nations Office in New York where she has represented the organization since 2001. She has worked for many years at Amnesty International's International Secretariat, focusing on Asia and international organizations. Working for the United Nations, she served as Head of the Belgrade Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the former Yugoslavia and established the UN's first Victims and Witnesses Unit, at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague. She studied law at the University of Amsterdam, and criminology, international human rights and United Nations law at the London School of Economics.

Ted Piccone, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Ted Piccone is a Senior Fellow and Deputy Director for Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution. A foreign policy and legal expert on issues of democracy, human rights, international organizations and U.S.-Latin American affairs, Mr. Piccone has over 20 years experience in government, law and research. From 2001-2008, Mr. Piccone was the Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Democracy Coalition Project, a research and advocacy organization working to promote international cooperation for democracy and human rights around the world. Mr. Piccone also served as the Washington Office Director of the Club of Madrid, an association of nearly 70 former heads of state and government engaged in efforts to strengthen democracy around the world, and continues to act as an Advisor. Previously, Mr. Piccone served eight years as a senior foreign policy advisor in the Clinton Administration. He was the Associate Director of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff (1998-2001), Director for Inter-American Affairs at the National Security Council (1996-98), and Policy Advisor in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (1993-1996). Mr. Piccone also served as Counsel for the United Nations Truth Commission in El Salvador (1992-93) and as Press Secretary to U.S. Rep. Bob Edgar (1985-87).

Mr. Piccone received a law degree from Columbia University, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* and *The Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual*. At Columbia, Mr. Piccone was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and received a Parker School Certificate in International and Comparative Law and an International Human Rights Fellowship. He received a B.A. in History magna cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania and won the prize for best thesis in American history. He and his wife, Susan Gibbs, reside in Washington with their three children.

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