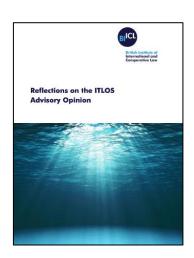


# **Centre for International Law**

#### **Summer Newsletter 2024**

In this **Summer newsletter**, you will find more information about the activities undertaken at the <u>Centre for International Law</u> (CIL) over the last three months.

Over the last quarter, important decisions were handed down by international courts in the field of climate change, such as with the ruling of 9 April of the European Court of Human Rights which held that Switzerland breached the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) by failing to implement measures to combat climate change effectively. In addition, on 21 May, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) issued an advisory opinion on States' obligations to protect and preserve the world's oceans from climate change impacts, such as ocean warming, sea level rise and ocean acidification. This was the first time that an international court or tribunal has addressed States' obligations to combat climate change within the framework of



the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).



We published a blog, which was co-authored by Dr Constantinos Yiallourides, and convened a rapid-response event on this advisory opinion. The Report of this event, which was recorded, is available here. This advisory opinion is of great interest, in particular as we await the advisory opinion of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the obligations of States in respect

of climate change, which are due to be released later in 2024 and 2025, respectively.

In other news, the Centre for International is looking forward to working with the Institute's eleven new Honorary International Law Practice Fellows. The newly appointed Honorary International Law Practice Fellows will have the opportunity to work closely with other distinguished experts in the field through our experienced research team and our wider international law network, including members of our existing Public International Law Advisory Panel.

Recently, we have also wrapped our analysis of the <u>Rules-Based International Order (RBIO)</u> concept and have published a discussion paper as well as reports of our expert roundtable and public conference on the project's page. Finally, we are very excited to have secured funding for projects on <u>Immigration Detention and the Rule of Law</u>, and, working with the American Bar Association, for a project addressing the <u>exploitation of migrant workers</u> in Jordan. You will find more information about these new projects and other current activities in our newsletter!

If you would like to know more about our work and ways to support us, please do get in touch with <u>Kristin Hausler</u>, Dorset Senior Fellow and Director of the Centre for International Law.

#### To jump to a particular section, please click on the hyperlinks below:

- Training Courses & Teaching
- Business & Human Rights
- Climate Change Law
- International Investment Law
- Cultural Heritage Law
- Cyber Operations
- European Law

- Human Rights
- International Criminal Law
- <u>Labour Rights</u>
- Law of the Sea
- Migration & Anti-trafficking
- People at the CIL
- Upcoming Events

# TRAINING COURSES & TEACHING

We are delighted to announce our **Autumn short courses on international law** which run from September onwards. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in registering for one of our short courses on international law, you can find the full list of our upcoming courses below, as well as further information on how to register. We will again pursue our initiative offering three scholarships for each of our short courses to participants from communities and backgrounds currently under-represented in the legal community.

Our catalogue includes a new special course focused on Transitional Justice: Timing and Tools. This inaugural short course on Transitional Justice will be held online in September-October 2024. Please see our website for further details - and join us virtually!



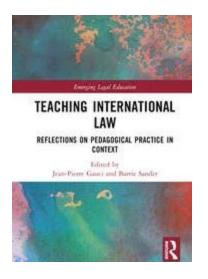
We are currently accepting registrations across the following range of courses:

- Business and Human Rights
- International Migration and Refugee Law
- Pharmaceuticals and the Law (Executive Education)
- Transitional Justice: Timing and Tools
- Artificial Intelligence Governance
- International Cultural Heritage Law
- Cyber Operations and International Law
- International Labour Law
- Climate Change Litigation
- Energy Law
- Law of the Sea

More information about our upcoming courses can be accessed here.

Note that our self-paced online course on <u>International Investment Law and Dispute Resolution</u> is also continuing to take registrations.

If you would like to discuss your training needs, please contact our Director of teaching and training and Arthur Watts Senior Fellow, <u>Dr Jean Pierre Gauci</u>.



We are also delighted to announce the publication of Teaching International Law: Reflections on Pedagogical Practice in Context, co-edited by <u>Dr Jean-Pierre Gauci</u> and <u>Dr Barrie Sander</u> (<u>Leiden University - Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs</u>). This volume brings together insights from a diverse group of international law teachers from around the world, building on a webinar series hosted at BIICL in 2021.

Reflecting on the responsibilities of teachers of international law to engage with and confront histories, contemporary crises, and everyday events in their teaching, the collection explores efforts to decenter the teacher and the law in the classroom, opportunities for dialogical and critical approaches to teaching, and the possibilities of co-producing

non-conventional pedagogies that question the mainstream underpinnings of international law teaching. Focusing on the tools and techniques used to teach international law to date, the collection examines the teaching of international law in different contexts. Traversing a range of domestic and regional contexts around the world, the book offers insights into both the culture of teaching in particular domestic settings, as well as the structural challenges and obstacles that arise in terms of who, what, and how international law is taught in practice.

Gleider Hernández, Professor of Public International Law (KU Leuven) described the volume as "a thought-provoking, diverse compilation of established and emerging voices that call attention to a vital, under-appreciated component of the academic craft. As teachers of international law we will all benefit from the debates and provocations put forward in this volume."

# **BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS**



In June, the business and human rights team, including Dr Irene Pietropaoli, Dr Jasmine Elliott, and Dr Sofia Gonzalez, held a roundtable with Nordic businesses as part of our project on the impacts of human rights due diligence laws on internal corporate practice, funded by the Laudes Foundation. The roundtable was held in Stockholm in collaboration with Enact, a consultancy company, and attended by over 30

individuals representing large Nordic companies. Our final report will be published in October 2024 and launched at a public event at BIICL.

Recently, the team also held the summer <u>HRDD Forum roundtable</u> focusing on disengagement and exit in challenging contexts and human rights due diligence considerations. Legal experts

from different jurisdictions, including Russia and Myanmar, discussed different challenges. The autumn HRDD Forum is planned for September and in October we will hold our Annual Conference.

### CLIMATE CHANGE LAW

You will remember that we announced in our latest newsletter the launch of the Global Toolbox on Corporate Climate Litigation. If you missed it, you can now access the speakers' contributions here. Our Climate Change team has now organised the first half of a series of 17 national conferences to disseminate findings, in collaboration with the National Rapporteurs from the Global Perspectives on Corporate Climate Legal Tactics project. The recordings of these events, as well as the national reports which were



discussed during these hybrid conferences, are all available on the project's webpage.

#### These events included:

- The <u>national conference for the United</u> <u>Kingdom</u> held at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences on 27 of March
- The <u>national conference for Nigeria</u> held at the University of Port Harcourt on 2 of May



• The <u>German</u> and <u>Polish</u> national conferences held at the University of Lausanne on 21 and 22 of May. They were part of a broader comparative conference on Climate Change Litigation which was organised by Professor Eva Lein, BIICL Senior Research Fellow in Private International Law and Director of the Centre for Comparative Law, and Professor



at the University of Lausanne. This event also included a panel focusing on Switzerland and the recent decision by the European Court of Human Rights in the case of <u>Verein Klimaseniorinnen Schweiz and Others v Switzerland</u>, as well as a comparative panel chaired by Dr Ivano Alogna, analysing the hurdles and prospects for corporate climate litigation in the UK, France, the Netherlands and Poland.

 The <u>Chinese</u> and <u>Indian</u> national conferences held at the Research Institute of Environmental Law (RIEL) in Wuhan and at Nirma University in Ahmedabad on 1 June, with the participation of distinguished Indian and international speakers including the Hon. Justice



Swatanter Kumar, former justice of the Supreme Court of India and chairperson of the National Green Tribunal.



The Africa Regional Summit held in Nairobi on 20 and 21 of June, with contributions from the project's Kenyan and Nigerian expert groups and other distinguished voices from the judiciary, legal practice, academia, NGOs, and companies. It was also the occasion to organise BIICL's first Judicial Training on Corporate Climate Litigation in collaboration with our national rapporteurs from Kenya and Nigeria, Dr Omondi Owino and Dr Uzuazo Etemire, and other experts from their national working groups.

Between July and September, we will be hosting more regional conferences: Asia (Manila, 8-9 July), Oceania (Melbourne, 6 August) and Europe (Aix-en-Provence, 30 September and 1 October), as well as the national conferences for Italy (Milan, 11 September) and Norway (Oslo, 20 September), which will be organised in collaboration with the national expert groups.

In June, Dr Ivano Alogna participated in several external events to further disseminate the findings of the projects, including: a roundtable on Climate Change Litigation (6 June) at Palazzo Visconti in Milan hosted by Italian law firm BonelliErede, joining their legal practitioners and other speakers from Boston Consulting Group and Italian multinational energy company ENI; a panel discussion on "Climate Change Litigation and the Small State" at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London; an academic workshop organised by the University of Perugia on 'A New World Order?', as part of the project GLOBEU, where he talked about the impact of wars on the environment, through the prism of current conflicts (Ukraine, Gaza and the Democratic Republic of Congo), the role of environmental law in promoting sustainability in post-conflict reconstruction, as well as emerging challenges and future directions, such as ecocide and international accountability.

# INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW



On 13 May 2024, the Investment Treaty Forum brought together over 80 representatives of governments, law firms, academics and other experts to discuss the current and future implications of UNCITRAL Working Group III's (WG III) work. The event's special guest was Shane Spelliscy, Director General and Senior General Counsel at the Trade Law Bureau (Canada) and Chair of UNCITRAL Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform. Read more about the event in this blog.

On 26 June 2024, Young Investment Treaty Forum explored the role of mediation in the investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) context. This event, organised by Young ITF and SG VYAP, delved into whether mediation can be a transformative force in ISDS or if its potential is overstated. The webinar featured a panel discussion followed by 15-



minute small group discussions in virtual breakout rooms with panellists. Sunita P. Advani, Arbitral Assistant to Michael Lee of Twenty Essex, Singapore, chaired the event. Panellists included Tat Lim, Managing Partner at Aequitas Law LLP, Singapore; Fan Yang, Director of the International Dispute Resolution Academy, Hong Kong SAR; Bart Wasiak, Senior Associate at Arnold & Porter, London; and Karolina Latasz, Senior Associate at Squire Patton Boggs, London. Read more about the Young ITF <a href="here">here</a>.

# **CULTURAL HERITAGE LAW**



In April, a giant galliwasp specimen from The Hunterian collection at the University of Glasgow was returned to Jamaica. This case and many others were discussed at the conference From Scotland to the World: Repatriation and Museums which was organised by CREATE the Centre for the Regulation of the Creative Economy, at the School of Law, University of Glasgow, the Institute of Art and Law and The Hunterian, and funded by the AHRC. Kristin

Hausler participated in this event in Glasgow to discuss our Beyond Restitution project.



Kristin Hausler, Dorset Senior Fellow and Director of the Centre for International Law, took part in the UNESCO International Conference 'Cultural Heritage and Peace: Building on 70 years of The Hague Convention', which was hosted by the Kingdom of the Netherlands in The Hague (13-15 May). The

Hague Convention for the protection of cultural property

in situations of armed conflict was adopted on the 14th of May 1954 under the aegis of UNESCO. It was the first international treaty devoted exclusively to the protection of heritage. The Institute was well represented as Professor Roger O'Keefe (Bocconi University), a member of our Public International Law Advisory Panel, participated in the same panel discussion on criminal accountability for attacks against cultural heritage. The event was also an opportunity to meet colleagues from Ukraine, including Dr Dmytro Koval, who has contributed to our work in the past.





On 21 May, we held an event on the return of spoliated art and colonial loot, which was chaired by Pierre Valentin (Fieldfisher). Our international panel included Isabel von Klitzing (Provenance research and art consulting), Till Vere-Hodge (Payne Hicks Beach), Dr Evelien Campfens (University of Amsterdam), Dr Robert Peters (ICOM) and Dr Njabulo Chipanguro (Manchester Museum). They

reflected on their experiences and discussed some recent developments, including the recently adopted Best Practices for the Washington Conference Principles on Nazi-Confiscated Art and the recent Strasbourg decision in <u>J. Paul Getty Trust and Others v Italy</u>. The discussion was held in a hybrid format, allowing our overseas participants to directly interact with our panellists. This event, which was kindly sponsored by Restitution Partners, can now be watched here.

<u>Dr Alina Holzhausen</u>, Research Fellow in Public International Law and Climate Change, presented on 'Climate Change Impacts on Cultural Heritage: The Role of Cultural Rights' during the Research Week on 'Constitutionalizing in the Anthropocene', organised by Tilburg Law School in the Netherlands. During her talk, Alina shared findings from previous research conducted at BIICL, including on the intangible cultural heritage of



<u>South Pacific Islanders in the climate crisis</u>, and from her PhD thesis. Together with other panellists from the fields of archeology and heritage studies, Alina discussed the impacts of

climate change on cultural heritage, contributing to the workshop's theme 'Moving from Heritage Loss to Reparation'.

In June, Kristin Hausler participated in the first meeting of the new legislature of the Swiss Commission for UNESCO, in which Ignazio Cassis, Member of the Federal Council and head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs took part. It was an opportunity to meet the other members and discuss our various interests



including the promotion of science, education and, of course, culture and human rights!



Also in June, Kristin chaired the newly created ILA Committee for the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict, along with Rapporteur Dr Andrzej Jakubowski (Polish Academy of Sciences) in Athens. This new ILA Committee, which met during the ILA 81st Conference organised by the Hellenic branch, counts 42 members from all regions of the world. The Committee discussed its mandate and planned its work for the next four years, which will include a transitional justice element.

Finally, on 26 June, the PACE adopted Resolution 2558 <u>Countering</u> the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace. <u>Kristin Hausler</u> and <u>Kateryna Busol</u> advised the drafting team since the beginning of the work on the instrument in 2023. The resolution advances the nuanced reading of violations against cultural heritage, explaining



their intricate connection not only with atrocity crimes but also with human rights violations and wider redress measures under a transitional justice framework.

#### CYBER OPERATIONS

As part of the project <u>Beyond theoretical differences on international law: Identifying common ground among states on unlawful behaviour in cyberspace</u>, led by <u>Dr Jack Kenny</u>, two BIICL research reports are being finalised on normative issues raised by debates over the application of international law to new technologies. The reports are expected to be published on our website, with a final research report to be published later this year to conclude the project.

This project is funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, and seeks to carry out research related to underlying normative issues that have a direct impact on the debate among states over the application of international law to state cyber operations.

# **EUROPEAN LAW**

We have recently finalised the research commissioned by the <u>European Committee of the Regions</u> (CoR) regarding the Better Regulation agenda, in particular active subsidiarity and enhanced territorial dimension. The research was undertaken by <u>Dr Alina Holzhausen</u>, <u>Dr Jean-Pierre Gauci</u> and <u>Dr Rosana Garciandia</u>. The final report takes stock of existing EU instruments and processes on Better Regulation, and analyses the interaction between Better Regulation tools as well as identifies gaps from a local or regional



European Committee of the Regions

point of view. To close these gaps, the report considers various reform possibilities, including within the current Treaty framework and with a view to potential Treaty amendments.

In March, <u>Professor Roman Petrov</u>, Head of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence since 2011 and Jean Monnet Chair in EU Law at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and a BIICL British Academy fellow, organised an online training session for Ukrainian doctoral students on **getting published** in legal journals with the participation of Professor Michael Dougan of the University of Liverpool, who is on the editorial board of the Common Market Law Review. Professor Petrov also recently chaired a session at a University of Westminster conference on UK-Ukraine Relations at the Time of War.



On 16 April, Professor Petrov took part in an online discussion on the **EU Common Security and Defence Policy** and the place of Ukraine therein.

Professor Petrov also published a paper All's well that ends well: short story of Ukraine's road towards European Union membership in the Yearbook of European Law (OUP) and, on 26 June, he organised an international workshop on Ukraine's Accession Negotiations: methodology, law and war at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. BIICL's Dr Oliver Garner also took part in the event.

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS**



Dr Rosana Garciandia and Dr Jean-Pierre Gauci published a special issue of the International Human Rights Law Review focusing on Inter-State Communications before Human Rights Treaty Bodies. This special issue, based on exploratory research on inter-state communications undertaken by CIGAD and BIICL, proposes a revisitation of the potential of inter-state communications by considering their features, opportunities, challenges contradictions. It offers thought-provoking arguments on how the existing mechanisms that States have at their disposal can be most effectively used to settle disputes with a human rights dimension. The articles also questions whether and how the features of inter-state communications (at the UN treaty body level and elsewhere) help

achieve the perceived aims of the procedures envisaged in the respective treaties. States and other international actors have traditionally seen those aims as limited to ensuring treaty compliance or avoiding human rights violations. But this could be progressively changing as the work of UN treaty bodies puts emphasis on dispute settlement as an aim (e.g. CERD Committee), or as States decide to use inter-state communications to hold other States to account, or to signal themselves as a good 'citizen' or others as failing to behave as such. How different actors understand those aims is likely to impact any decision on the features of interstate communications and on the use of these mechanisms. You can read the special issue here.

Finally, in June, <u>Dr Ivano Alogna</u> and <u>Crisela Bernardino</u> submitted their input to the <u>Special Rapporteur on the human right to a healthy environment</u> in the same month. This contribution focused on the overview of the implementation of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. <u>Sara Al Khashlok</u> also submitted an input to the <u>Special Rapporteur on the right to food</u> focusing on the topic 'human rights and starvation, with an emphasis on the Palestinian people's food sovereignty'.

#### INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

On 24 June, the ICC issued two more <u>arrest warrants</u> concerning Russian attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure. In a <u>podcast</u> for Just Security, <u>Kateryna Busol</u> discussed with Prof Rebecca Hamilton and Prof Paras Shah what this move signals about the ICC's investigation of Russia's atrocities and how it impacts the pursuit of justice for Ukrainian survivors.

Beyond Sexual – Reproductive and Obstetric Violence in Russia's Aggression against Ukraine



In May, together with Prof Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, Kateryna coauthored an analysis on the <u>central role of women in Ukraine's path</u> <u>to justice</u>. The co-authors commend the action on various atrocity crimes, including conflict-related sexual violence, affecting females in Russia's aggression. However, they also argue that this response should be more nuanced in redressing the suffering of male survivors and recognising women's crucial role in Ukraine's military, government and civil society, all indispensable to the nation's inconflict resilience and post-conflict recovery.

Kateryna has also published an analysis of <u>reproductive and</u> <u>obstetric violence</u> in the ongoing aggression against Ukraine,

discussing how Russia's attacks on hospitals and maternity wards, inhuman detention conditions and targeted harm to intimate body-parts impact Ukrainians' desire and ability to procreate.

And on 11 June, Kateryna presented her wider analysis of the connection between reproductive violence and the crime of aggression at the conference Reproductive Violence in International Criminal Law in The Hague. The event united survivors and leading lawyers in the field, including several Special Advisors to the ICC Prosecutor. A full recording of the conference is available (part 1 and part 2).





In June, <u>Anthony Wenton</u> was invited to The Hague to judge the International Criminal Court Moot Court Competition. Over the course of one week, Anthony scored and provided feedback on the contestants' written submissions and acted as a judge in several two-hour mock trial sessions, assessing the validity and strengths of the contestants' oral legal arguments and the persuasiveness of their presentation.

# **LABOUR RIGHTS**

There have been a number of developments on the <u>GLP-Power project</u>, in which our role consists of the provision of international and comparative law analysis to assist the work of grassroots organisations supporting informal workers in South and Southeast Asia. We have continued to develop and disseminate informational handouts and materials to partners relating to international labour law and human rights.

In May 2024, Jean-Pierre Gauci, Rosana Garciandia and Georgia Greville co-ordinated the delivery of a **training of trainers program** on business and human rights for the project's country representatives and partner organisations, with sessions presented by Irene Pietropaoli and Jasmine Elliott. Further, we have continued to advance our work on a <u>major research piece</u> focused on challenges and issues faced by workers in the gig or platform economy and the measures being taken by workers, employers, civil society and governments to improve working conditions and advance the rights of gig workers.

#### LAW OF THE SEA



Dr Constantinos Yiallourides was invited to deliver a paper titled 'Global Rules & Standards', Local Actions: How the International Law of the Sea Regime Shapes Domestic Sub-Seabed CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Policies to Fight Climate Change at the Japan Chapter of the Asian Society of International Law 15h Annual Conference. This was an in-person event held at Chuo University Law School, Tokyo, on 30 June 2024, under the

auspices of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations. He was also invited to deliver separate guest lectures at Waseda University Institute of Asia Pacific Studies in Tokyo and at the Kobe University Graduate School of Law. Finally Constantinos Yiallourides was invited to speak at an event organised by the Australian & New Zealand Society of International Law (ANZSIL)on A First Reading of ITLOS' Advisory Opinion on Climate Change: Implications for Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific on 28 May 2024, and at an online event organised by the Faculty of Law, Universitas Diponegoro Indonesia on the Triple Planetary Crisis on 31 May 2024.

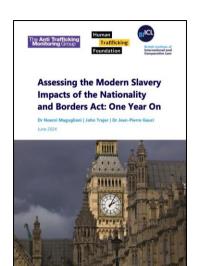
# **MIGRATION & ANTI-TRAFFICKING**

As mentioned at the outset, we are extremely excited to have secured funding for a new project looking at Immigration Detention and the Rule of Law. The project, which is being funded by the Nuffield Foundation, will update a set of safeguarding principles developed by BIICL in 2012 to ensure that they continue to be relevant, useful and usable by stakeholders working in the migration space. In the context of legislative and policy developments in various countries and regions, including the United Kingdom, having the direct effect of broadening the use of immigration detention (e.g. UK Illegal Migration Act; EU Immigration Pact), this project aims to ensure that the rule of law (RoL) is upheld, and migrants' (rights) are protected. Its objective is to ensure that the safeguarding principles reflect the latest developments and thereby continue to provide a practical and effective resource to stakeholders.

The project will seek to answer the following questions: What new challenges to detained migrants' human rights have arisen in the last ten years that should be included in the updated principles? What RoL safeguards have emerged from legislative, judicial, policy, and other developments in the last decade? How can these be best articulated to provide effective support to those challenging violations occurring in the context of detention? Do existing detention safeguards meet basic RoL safeguards? If so, how? If not, how can adherence to RoL in this context be enhanced?

We have also secured funding for a project with the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) on the Prevention and Protection of Migrant Workers from Trafficking in Jordan. The project will support reform of the legal framework that comprises kafala; TIP actors to provide greater oversight of recruitment agencies in the form of more reports when violations occur; and survivors and Migrant Workers to better advocate for their rights, report violations, and access legal services. We will work with ABA ROLI and other project partners to achieve this goal through the implementation of activities across two objectives, including but not limited to the activities set out below.

In the first stages of the project, our activities will include: supporting the Government of Jordan to establish a roadmap for kafala reform; applying the findings of our Determinants of Anti-Trafficking Efforts project to establish systems thinking for TIP actors to reform kafala and supporting evidence-based civil society, survivor, and Migrant worker-led advocacy campaigns.



We will also work on building TIP actors' oversight and accountability of recruitment agencies working in Jordan including through both supporting governmental efforts and building capacity and working with civil society organisations and migrant workers to support their ability to hold recruitment agencies to account.

Finally, in June, we published our Report on Assessing the Modern Slavery Impacts of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022: One Year On. The report is the main output of a project funded by the Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre and implemented by the CIL in partnership with the <a href="Human Trafficking Foundation">Human Trafficking Foundation</a> and the <a href="Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group">Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group</a>. The report identifies a wide range of

detrimental effects of the Nationality and Borders Act (NABA), categorised across impacts on decision-making outcomes, impacts on people with lived experience of modern slavery, and impacts on organisations working in the modern slavery sector. Some of the most notable impacts include: very significant numbers of persons with lived experience of modern slavery going unidentified and being denied support through the NRM; significant delays in the formal identification procedure, especially at the 'reasonable grounds' stage; significantly higher risks of asylum applications being certified as 'clearly unfounded'; considerable uncertainty and confusion caused for organisations in the performance of their duties; and added pressure placed on the capacity of organisations working in the sector. The report was authored by <u>Dr Noemi Magugliani</u>, <u>John Trajer</u> and <u>Dr Jean-Pierre Gauci</u>. You can read the <u>report here</u>.

# PEOPLE AT THE CIL



Sara Al Khashlok, who recently joined as a researcher in Labour Exploitation and Human Rights, has a range of experience in academic research and legal work. Her expertise centres on immigration, identity, and race in legislation and policies in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Her past research has focused on examining the efficacy of legal frameworks and policies in MENA in protecting the rights of marginalised communities, particularly in conflict zones. Sara's legal background includes working as a paralegal in international

criminal law, where she concentrated on both domestic and international accountability. She has also collaborated with Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International on cases of human rights violations.



Céline Hocquet recently joined as a research fellow in Labour Exploitation and Human Rights. Her research focuses on international and EU migration and asylum law. Her PhD examined the externalisation of EU borders and the use of informal agreements to develop EU cooperation with third countries in the context of the 2015 'crisis'. Prior to joining BIICL, she worked as a Teaching Fellow in EU, international, and comparative law at the University of Birmingham and has conducted research in comparative legislation for the French Senate.

We have also continued to welcome volunteer researchers to the team. Over the last months, we welcomed: Aaron Hill (Syracuse University); Abigail Judge, Jenny Zhang, AnnaKate Manhester (Harvard); Anna Agathis (NYU); Tom Raffaelli and Caroline Cassir (University of Chicago) to the team. The researchers are contributing across the various areas of work of the centre and bring new insights and energies to the work.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS - Selected Highlights**

11 July, 17.00 - 18.30

<u>Public International Law in the Courts of the United Kingdom</u> Book your place for this in-person event on our <u>website</u>.

#### 17-18 October 2024

## **London Conference on International Law**

The London Conference on International Law has become an **unmissable event** in the international law calendar. This year again, BIICL is pleased to support the organisation of the conference, which will include many topical panels, as well as unique opportunities to meet and discuss all international law matters with experts and practitioners. Do not forget to book your place here!

We hope to see you soon at our forthcoming events or training courses, in person or online!

Stay tuned for our next newsletter, which will be out in October 2024!