A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

2017 was the second year of the Institute as a foundation declared of public utility.

The activity of the Fondation has further increased, particularly in its essential area, which are education and training. Our traditional training sessions in Strasbourg have been carried on: the 20th Summer Course on Refugee Law, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the 48th Annual Study Session. Training sessions abroad are becoming even more numerous: there were 6 in 2016, 9 in 2017, and if all goes well, there will be 31 or 32 in 2018. The activism of the Fondation René Cassin is not the only reason of its expansion. More importantly, it is the result of the Fondation René Cassin’s prestige and its ability to fulfill the human rights training needs that we find everywhere in our very troubled world, notably because of terrorism, temptations of authoritarianism and arbitrariness. I admire the availability of specialists who are invited to teach in Strasbourg and abroad, and the high quality of their courses. It largely explains the influence and reach of the Fondation.

Without being exhaustive, I would like to mention other activities: symposium organized in partnership with universities - such as the symposium on “International Human Rights Law and Bioethics” organized with the University of Bordeaux this past June; seminars; and each spring, the Fondation co-organizes the René Cassin pleading competition – in cooperation with the Faculty of Law of the University of Strasbourg - and thanks to the support of many sponsors such as the ECHR. There are also the Francophone and Anglophone René Cassin Thesis Prizes, the Human Rights Clinic, which is co-organized with the Faculty of Law of the University of Strasbourg, that continue to deploy an activity that is worth noting.

All these actions require support.

On the financial side, the Fondation’s resources are constituted first and foremost by the registration fees to the training sessions (set at modest level to not be prohibitive). Thankfully, the Fondation has always benefited from public subsidies – from the City of Strasbourg but also from the Parliament and some ministries. These grants are modest (perhaps too modest!) and do not compromise the ideal of independence wished by René Cassin when he created the IHRI in 1959. More importantly, it is not the only reason of its expansion. More importantly, it is the result of the René Cassin’s prestige and its ability to fulfill the human rights training needs that we find everywhere in our very troubled world, notably because of terrorism, temptations of authoritarianism and arbitrariness. I admire the availability of specialists who are invited to teach in Strasbourg and abroad.

The 2017 Annual Report describes in detail the Fondation’s activities and presents testimonials of some actors. The purpose of this presidential word is to show that we are going forward. This is not a headlong rush but a will to respect our vocation and to answer all requests, while encouraging those who are able to assist us. On behalf of the whole team, I sincerely thank them.

Jean-Paul COSTA
President - International Institute of Human Rights

3 - The theme was « health and international human rights law ». In July 2018, the session will focus on « Human Rights Defenders ». It must be paid to their own difficulties: a political support to a victim just because, for example, to a trial of a political analyst or an activist of human rights.

5 - For the first time, we organized training sessions in Tbilisi, Pretoria, Lima and Buenos Aires, which indicate the geopolitical and linguistic diversification of the Fondation’s activities.

7 - The laureates are rewarded by the publication of their thesis (Pedone Edition).

8 - And especially the City of Strasbourg and the Région Grand Est – former Région Alsace. Recall that the late Denise Binschedler-Robert, Swiss judge of the ECHR, was President of the Jury of the Prize.

9 - On October 2017, the French President went a strong message when he gave a well-received speech in the Courtroom of the European Court of Human Rights.

1. The theme was « health and international human rights law ». In July 2018, the session will focus on « Human Rights Defenders ». It must be paid to their difficult status, a condition that compromises the ideals of independence wished by René Cassin when he created the IHRI in 1959.

2. - A particular interest is the new activity of the very active Director, Sébastien Touzé, and the permanent « staff » of the institution.

3. - In Moscow, it would be a first major step in an important country where there is a particular need to protect rights and freedoms.

4. - And especially in the framework of an important mission of our very active Director, Sébastien Touzé, and the permanent « staff » of the institution.

5. - These sessions are published by Pedone Editions – loyal and high-quality support in 2018, we will organize the event in Le Mans, on ‘Law of the Sea and International Human Rights Law’.

6. - Several judges participate to our training sessions and other activities. I would like to recall the late Denise Binschleder-Robert, Swiss judge of the ECHR, was President of the Jury of the Prize.

7. - These sessions are published by the publication of their thesis (Pedone Edition).

8. - And especially the City of Strasbourg and the Region Grand Est – former Région Alsace.

9. - In September 2017, the French President went a strong message when he gave a well-received speech in the Courtroom of the European Court of Human Rights.
THE RENÉ CASSIN FOUNDATION – INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS - ANNUAL REPORT 2017

THE RENÉ CASSIN FOUNDATION – INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The International Institute of Human Rights has become a Fondation by a decree taken in Council of State and published in the Journal Officiel on 13 December 2015. This change in status allows the new Fondation to have the means of its ambitions and to continue to work for the protection and the promotion of human rights in France and in the world.

The structure of the Fondation:

Jean-Paul COSTA, President
Françoise TULKENS, Vice-President
Luis JIMENA QUESADA, Secretary General
Jean-Pierre WACKER, Treasurer
Sébastien TOUZÉ, Director

DONORS AND PARTNERS

Thanks to the support of its donors and partners, the Fondation can set up and develop its training and research activities. The activities of the Fondation are supported by:


TRAINING SESSIONS ABROAD

Elsa ZIMMER, Program Officer
Muriel SOGNIGBÉ SANGBANA, Program Officer

SUMMER COURSE ON REFUGEE LAW
Muriel SOGNIGBÉ SANGBANA, Program Officer

RESEARCH – SEMINARS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION – DOCUMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION
Agathe PETIT, Research Assistant
Evangelia VASALOU, Research Assistant

ADMINISTRATION – FINANCES – ANNUAL STUDY SESSION
Kathy BINGLER, Administrative and Financial Officer
Anne-Laure SÉNÉ, Executive Assistant

INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES

FONDAÇÃO RENÉ CASSIN – INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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DONORS AND PARTNERS

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1. TRAINING SESSIONS

SUMMER COURSE ON REFUGEE LAW

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

Organized by the Fondation René Cassin and by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the 20th Summer Course was held at the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg from 6 to 17 June 2017. The lessons were taught in French by experts from the UNHCR, as well as by specialists from the academic, institutional and judicial world.

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| Welcome Speech | Jean-Paul COSTA, President of the Fondation René Cassin, Former President of the European Court of Human Rights  
Ralf GRUENERT, Representative in France for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee. |
| Inaugural Conference | Jean-Baptiste MATTEL, Ambassador, Representative of France to the Council of Europe. |
| Moot court exercise : Opening | Dia Jacques GONDO, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR Paris  
Hélène RASPAIL, Mission head for the Fondation René Cassin, Lecturer, University of Maine, Judge-Assessor HCR at the CNDA. |
| Refugee Law and International Human Rights Law | Idil ATAK, Professor, Ryerson University |
| The HCR : Its mandate and activities | Caroline LALY-CHEVALIER, Legal Advisor and Liaison Officer of the OFPRA and the CNDA, UNCHR Paris. |
| Refugee Status : Inclusion in the field of the Geneva Convention | Jean-Yves CARLIER, Professor, Catholic University of Louvain, Lawyer |
| Internally Displaced Persons | Jean-François DURIEUX, Former Director of the Program Support Management division, UNCHR Geneva, Research Associate, RSC and International Institute of Humanitarian law, San Remo. |
| The principle of non-refoulement and the rights of refugees | Sylvie SAROLEA, Professor, Catholic University of Louvain, Lawyer. |
THEMESPENCER

Statelessness: Legal framework
Hélène RASPAIL, Mission head for the Fondation René Cassin, Lecturer, University of Maine, Judge-Assessor HCR at the CNDA

Prevention and protection of Statelessness: UNHCR’s mandate and action
Dia Jacques GONDO, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR Paris

Special Conference at the European Court of Human Rights
Linos-Alexandre SICILIANOS, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights, Professor, Faculty of Law of Athens

Roundtable on UNHCR activities with its European interlocutors in the context of the migration crisis
In the presence of representatives of the UNHCR and European institutions. Moderation: Sébastien TOUZÉ, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Member of the UN Committee against Torture, Professor, University Pantheon-Assas Paris II

Asylum and Immigration European Policies
Catherine WIHTOL DE WENDEN, Emeritus Research Director, CNRS

The Protection of Refugees in Africa
Dia Jacques GONDO, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR Paris

The Protection of Refugees in Latin America
Jaime RUIZ DE SANTIAGO, Former UNHCR Civil Servant, Professor, Iberomerican University of Mexico and the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico.

The Protection of Refugees in the Arab World
Nabil BENBEKHTI, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR Tunis

Court simulation exercise: reading of reports, pleadings
Maître MONGET-SARRAIL, Lawyer

BALANCE

This year, the Summer School on Refugee Law welcomed 58 participants, including 18 women and 40 men from 25 different nationalities. This two-week training led to fruitful debates and reflections on the protection, defense and promotion of refugee law, demonstrating the great interest and enthusiasm of the participants for this training. The participants greatly appreciated this training that combined theoretical courses and practical exercises. Indeed, participants were able to participate in court simulations supervised by lawyers and experts working at UNHCR.

The participants underlined the high quality of this training and the relevance of the speakers.

At the end of this training, 46 certificates of success were awarded to the most deserving participants.
ANNUAL STUDY SESSION
IN INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW
HEALTH AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

Created for the first time in 1970 by René Cassin, founder of the Fondation René Cassin, the annual study session aims to improve the knowledge about international human rights law of legal practitioners, academics and researchers; advanced level students; staff of regional and international organizations and NGOs; national and local authorities; and any interested person. Each year, this session focuses on the study of a particular theme, while allowing participants to familiarize themselves with the various universal and regional human rights protection systems.

This session was intended for:
- Academics and Researchers
- Members of Non Governmental Organizations
- Members of legal professions
- National and International Officials
- Advanced level students in legal, political, human and social sciences
- Other professions concerned with human rights

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<td>Rebecca J. COOK, Professor Emerita, University of Toronto</td>
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<td>Jean-Marie CROUZATIER, Professor, University of Toulouse 1 Capitole</td>
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<td>Thematic course 3: Human Rights in Global Health Governance</td>
<td>Benjamin Mason MEIER, Professor of Global Health Policy, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill</td>
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<td>Xavier AUREY, Doctor of Law, Lecturer, University of Caen Normandie</td>
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<td>Thematic Course 5 : The patient rights and international human rights law</td>
<td>Christian BYK, Director of the International association of ethics and sciences, Judge at the court of appeal of Paris</td>
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<td>Thematic Course 6 : Sexual and reproductive rights in international human rights law</td>
<td>Diane ROMAN, Professor, University François-Rabelais of Tours</td>
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<td>Thematic Course 7 : The apprehension of the end of life in international human rights law</td>
<td>Emmanuel KABENGELE MPINGA, Professor, Institute of Global Health at the University of Geneva</td>
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<td>Thematic course 8: The fight against pandemics</td>
<td>Helena NYGREN-KRUG, Senior Adviser, Strategic Policy Directions, UNAIDS</td>
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<td>Thematic course 9: Persons with disabilities and the right to health</td>
<td>Hilary BROWN, Psychotherapist, Professor at Canterbury Christ Church University</td>
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THEME SPEAKER

**Theme 10: Deprivation of Liberty and the Right to Health**

**Thematic course 10: Deprivation of liberty and the right to health**

**Rick LINES**, Executive Director, Harm Reduction International

**Introductory Course**

**International Human Rights Law**

French: **Emmanuel DECAUX**, Emeritus Professor, University Panthéon-Assas (Paris II)

English: **Frans VILJOEN**, Professor, Director of the Human Rights Center, University of Pretoria

Spanish: **Mikel MANCISIDOR**, Professor, University of Deusto, Former Director at UNESCO Center of País Vasco, Vice President of UN Committee on economic, social and cultural rights

**Fundamental Courses**

**The human rights protection system of the United Nations and its specialized institutions.**


English: **Christian TOMUSCHAT**, Emeritus Professor, Humboldt University, President of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration

Spanish: **Fabian SALVIOLI**, Professor, Director of the human rights Institute, Faculty of legal and social sciences, University of La Plata, Former President of UNCHR

**The European human rights protection system.**

French: **David SZYMCZAK**, Professor, Institute of political sciences at Bordeaux

English: **Jim MURDOCH**, Professor at the University of Glasgow

Spanish: **Alejandro SAIZ ARNAIZ**, Professor, Director of the law department, University of Pompeu Fabra

**The inter-American human rights protection system.**

French: **Laurence BURGOUGE-LARSEN**, Professor, University Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris I) – Chaire Marangopoulos

English: **Antonio Augusto CANCADO TRINDADE**, Judge, International Court of Justice, Emeritus Professor, University of Brasilia, Former President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

Spanish: **Elizabeth SALMON GARATE**, Professor, Director of Democracy and human rights Institute, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

**The African human rights protection system.**

French: **Rafaa BEN ACHOUR**, Judge, African Court of Human and peoples’s rights, Emeritus Professor, University of Carthage

English: **Solomon, T. EBOBRAH**, Professor, Niger Delta University

Spanish: **Felipe GOMEZ ISA**, Professor, Human Rights Institute of Pedro Arrupe, University of Deusto

**Special Conferences**

**Understanding Human Trafficking in today’s world: law, causes, consequences and hope**

Parosa CHANDRAN, Barrister, 1 Pump Court Chambers, London

**Islamic Cooperation and Protection of Human Rights Organization**

Mohammed Amin AL-MIDANI, President of the Arab Center for Education on International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights (France), Lecturer, University of Strasbourg, Professor, Jinh University

**Special Courses**

**The Arab Charter of Human Rights**

French: **Abdeltomadjd ZAALANI**, Professor, University of Alger, Vice-President of Arabic Committee on Human rights

English: **Mohamed Y. MATTAR**, Senior Research Professor, American University Washington College of Law, Executive Director of The Protection Project at The Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies, Director of the Law Clinic, Qatar University College of Law

**Human Rights Protection in Asia**

French: **Wan-Hea LEE**, Representative of the Office of UHCR in Cambodia

English: **Debbie STOTHARD**, Secretary General, international Federation for Human Rights, Coordinator of the Alternative Asean Network on Burma

**Balance**

The 48th annual study session welcomed 157 participants from 44 countries. The participants came mainly from Africa and Central America and Latin America. During the 3 weeks the participants had the opportunity to take fundamental courses and thematic courses related to international human rights law and health. They have been able to meet the challenges raised by the health issues that have emerged in recent years. The courses were taught by academics and professionals from diverse backgrounds and from many different countries.

The program of this annual study session was completed by a public lecture by Raphael PTTI, Professor, Delegated Municipal Council « Emergency social and sanitary » and Humanitarian Doctor. During this conference, Dr. Raphael PTTI presented the health and social situation in Syria as well as his work on setting up emergency medicine teaching programs for doctors, medical students, nurses and midwives in Syria. This mission led him to visit Syria 14 times.
The Diploma of the Fondation is open to the participants of the annual study session who already have solid knowledge in international and comparative human rights law (post-graduate level, L.L.M. or Master). This diploma is distinct from the annual study session’s certificate of success. The exams consist of three tests (written, practical and oral) and require a very high level of knowledge.

The laureates of this 2017 Diploma are: Patrick BADUGUE, Zoe HARPER and Antigoni Maria SPYROPOULOU. The full list of laureates and all information about this diploma are available on our website.

**TESTIMONY**

**Zoé Harper**
Lawyer, UK  
Graduate of the 2017’s Annual Study Session

I participated to the René Cassin Fondation’s 48th Annual Study Session in Strasbourg which was held this year on the theme of health and international human rights law, in order to consolidate my continuing professional development and human rights practice.

I greatly valued the quality of training provided on the international and comparative law of human rights, which allowed us to be informed of new ideas and strategies in different regional human rights protection systems. Other specialists have addressed the right to health in relation with a variety of topics including the rights of persons with disabilities, sexual and reproductive rights, end of life care and the challenges of litigating social, economic and cultural rights, providing an interesting and thought-provoking program.

The urgency of the issues under discussion was underlined by the public conference given by Dr Raphaël Pitti on his work about emergency medical care in Syria. His overwhelming report of the collapse of Syria’s health system and basic infrastructure following six years of war, the systematic detention and torture of medical personnel and the extent of abuses committed against the population trapped within its borders challenged all of us to find responses to this major humanitarian catastrophe individually and collectively in our work.

We had the privilege to receive courses from judges, practitioners and scholars who have shaped the law as well as current and former UN committee members and Special Rapporteurs who brought unique overview into the legal protection of human rights.

The opportunity to appear before Judges of the European Court of Human Rights as well as the success of the various steps to obtain the diploma were for me significant moments.

The expertise of the faculty was complemented by the truly international nature of the study session, with over 150 human rights defenders from across the world, who contributed to the discussions, gave perspectives to the lectures and created a network of friendship and solidarity that I am confident will continue far into the future.
2. CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Fondation René Cassin organizes training sessions in international and European human rights law for practitioners with various bars, schools of administration and faculties. These sessions can be validated under the compulsory continuing education of professionals and are also open to advanced level students.

HUMAN RIGHTS AS A HORIZONTAL ISSUE IN EU EXTERNAL POLICY

From 9 to 13 January 2017, the Fondation René Cassin, the School of Political Science of the University of Bologna and the Higher School of Economics of Moscow organized a Winter School on « Human Rights as Horizontal Issue in EU External Policy ». This event took place in Forli (Italy) and welcomed 60 participants.

### THEME SPEAKER

**Session II: The EU and the UN**
- The EU at the UNHCR
  - Gjovalin MACAJ, University of Oxford

**Session III: The EU and the CoE**
- The EU and the Human Rights Treaty-based Bodies
  - Gjovalin MACAJ, University of Oxford
- The interaction between EU and CoE in the « European » definition of human rights
  - Romain TINIERE, University of Grenoble
- The CoE standards in terms of human rights as limits to the external action of the EU
  - Romain TINIERE, University of Grenoble
- The EU and the ECHR
  - Mustapha AFROUKH, University of Montpellier
- The accession to the ECHR
  - Mustapha AFROUKH, University of Montpellier

**Session IV: “Developing” Human Rights-based Relations**
- The CoE, the ECHR and Russian Legal Order
  - Nina BELYAEVA, Higher School of Economics – Moscow
- EU and Human Rights in Asia
  - Sanjay KUMAR RAJHANS, Higher School of Economics – Moscow
- EU and Human Rights in South America
  - Victor ALBERT, Higher School of Economics – Moscow

**Session V: Priorities in a Human Rights External Strategy**
- Migration and freedom of movement
  - Sylvie SAROLEA, University of Louvain, Rights and Migrations Team
- The “construction” of new norms for the protection of gender and LGBT
  - Ulrike LUNACEK, Member of the European Parliament / Co-President Intergroup on LGBTI Rights
- Human Rights as a value of EU trade policy
  - Marise CREMONA, European University Institute
- Closing Conference
  - Cécile KYENGE, Member of the European Parliament, Vice Chair of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly
3. THE PROCEDURE BEFORE THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

On 15 June 2017, the Fondation René Cassin organized a half-day of continuing education in partnership with the Bar Association of Strasbourg and the school of lawyers “École des Avocats du Grand-Est” (ERAGE). This half-day was aimed at educating law practitioners, especially lawyers, in the procedure before the European Court of Human Rights. 34 participants attended this training.

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<td>Pascal CRÉHANGE, President of the Bar Association of Strasbourg</td>
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<td>The procedure before the ECHR -</td>
<td>Vincent BERGER, Former Jurisconsult of the ECHR, Lawyer at the Paris Bar, Professor, College of Europe</td>
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<td>Perspective of the lawyer</td>
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<td>The procedure before the ECHR -</td>
<td>Pascal DOURNEAU-JOSETTE, Associate Professor, University of Strasbourg, Head of Division at the ECHR</td>
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<td>perspective of the Registry</td>
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<tr>
<td>The procedure before the ECHR -</td>
<td>Krzysztof WOJTYCZEK, Judge of the ECHR</td>
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<td>Perspective of the Judge</td>
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<td>The procedure before the ECHR -</td>
<td>Florence MERLOZ, Deputy Director of Human Rights, Director of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Europe and Foreign affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspective of the government officer</td>
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4. HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

The start of the Human Rights Clinic in Strasbourg took place on 7 November 2017 for the two promotions composed of 14 students. This training takes place over two years and combines theoretical training in international human rights law and practical training through the treatment of contentious cases as well as cooperation with various actors involved in the field of human rights.

Clinicians are encouraged to work with partners who seek the Clinic on different topics or legal issues, but also in groups on topics proposed by the students or professors framing this training. They also attend courses at the Faculty of Law of the University of Strasbourg, and seminars provided by national and international experts taking place at the Fondation’s premises.

The 7 and 8 of August 2017, the clinicians had the opportunity to present a report at a workshop on prison overcrowding held in Geneva on the margins of the 61st session of the UN Committee against Torture.
I developed a passion for human rights during my licence degree’s courses and I decided to focus my studies on this matter. During the summer break between the first and the second year of my master courses, I went to Togo to promote human rights with a local NGO specialized in prison environment. When I passed my Master in law, I wanted to deepen my knowledge in the field of human rights so I came to Strasbourg to take part to the Human Rights Clinic and to begin my doctoral studies. The first year of the diploma proposed courses at the Faculty of Law of the University of Strasbourg and seminars on various themes provided by professional and specialized speakers.

The theoretical training of this first year was completed by our participation to the annual study session of the Fondation René Cassin. The theme of this 48th annual study session was “Health and International Human Rights Law”. This event was an opportunity to deepen my knowledge in the field of human rights so I came in Strasbourg to take part to the Human Rights Clinic and to begin my doctoral studies. The first year of the diploma proposed courses at the Faculty of Law of the University of Strasbourg and seminars on various themes provided by professional and specialized speakers.

The first year was conductive to reflection on different projects. For example, I participate to a project on legal monitoring with the ECPAT association. My current second year is dedicated to a practical approach. Taking part to the Human Rights Clinic is not only a personal experience, our class aims to develop some partnerships which can continue in the future for the next classes of the Human Rights Clinic, that I recommend.

I was very interested by this project thanks to my experience in Togo, my researches of Master (“The right to access to administrative justice for French inmates”) and my volunteering to the CIMAPE at the prison of Strasbourg. I am seriously involved in prison environment issues. On 7 and 8 August 2017, I had the great chance to go to Geneva with some other students of the Human Rights Clinic to assist and participate to discussions relating to prison overcrowding and to present our report during the CAT’s session.

This first year was conductive to reflection on different projects. For example, I participate to a project on legal monitoring with the ECPAT association. My current second year is dedicated to a practical approach. Taking part to the Human Rights Clinic is not only a personal experience, our class aims to develop some partnerships which can continue in the future for the next classes of the Human Rights Clinic, that I recommend.
TRAINING SESSIONS ABROAD

The Fondation René Cassin organizes, throughout the year, training sessions in various countries whose aim is to promote training, mainly in international human rights law, and to contribute to the capacity-building of the actors involved in this area. These sessions, put in place through many partnerships, respond to a high demand for training from professionals. They are organized as a priority in regions of the world where the lack of training is detrimental to the establishment of an effective system of protection and promotion of human rights.

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVE

The 4th delocalized Session of the Fondation René Cassin held in Bamako from 6 to 11 February 2017 was organized in partnership with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (hereinafter FNF) and the Human Rights Division of the integrated multi-dimensional UN mission for stabilisation in Mali (DDH-MINUSMA). It was initiated and set up in 2014 in response to the crisis in the country due to the political and security instability that followed the military coup of 2012.

This training session in international criminal law, international humanitarian law and refugee law aims to equip the actors concerned for a good management of the post-conflict period with better support for freedoms and fundamental rights of citizens and for strengthening the Rule of law and democratic culture in Mali. The purpose was to create a framework for exchange, dialogue and reflection for the emergence of a new citizenship that is based on equality in law and duty, but firstly a functional rule of law.

The purpose of the Bamako session was to provide an access to a high-level training in the field of international criminal law and human rights law to a francophone public, from Sahelo-Saharan zone, and from the judicial family, human rights organizations and law enforcement agencies and government officials. The purpose was also to contribute to the promotion of these fields within the framework of the national institutions and especially the judicial ones. This training aims to reinforce among the participants a common understanding of the new challenges that affect the international protection of human rights and the actions that enable the strengthening of the mechanisms of protection and the rule of law in Africa. Indeed, the strengthening of legal reflexes and the knowledges of international legal instruments provide a better knowledge and a better appropriation of human rights by the target groups, a precondition for the full enjoyment of these rights by all.

BAMAKO, MALI

THE CHALLENGES FACED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Training Sessions Abroad of the Fondation in 2017:
Bamako, Mali
Lima, Peru
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Yaoundé, Cameroon
Beirut, Lebanon
Tbilisi, Georgia
Dakar, Senegal
Pretoria, South Africa
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
## Program

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Inge HERBERT, West Africa Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF)  
Elsa ZIMMER, Program Officer, Fondation René Cassin  
Youssouf CISSE, Representative of West Africa, OIDEC  
Francoise GIANVITI, Head of cooperation and cultural action, Representative of Her Excellency the Ambassador of France to Mali  
Alexander PLAPPERT, Counsellor at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Mali  
Mamadou ISMAILA KONATE, Minister of Justice, Human Rights, Keeper of The Seals, Representative of the Prime Minister of Mali  
Moussa TEMBINE, First Vice-President of the National Assembly, Representative of Mr. the President of the National Assembly |
| Inaugural conference - The stakes of criminal prosecution of crimes of international law | Damien VANDERMEERSCH, Professor, Catholic University of Louvain |
| International Criminal Law – Criminal offenses and the general criminal law rules applicable | Damien VANDERMEERSCH, Professor, Catholic University of Louvain |
| International Human Rights Law | Mamadou HEBIE, Assistant Professor, Grotius Centre of the University of Leiden, Professor at the University of Lille |
| International Criminal Law - The procedure before the ICC | Damien VANDERMEERSCH, Professor, Catholic University of Louvain |
| International Humanitarian law | Marco SASSOLI, Professor, University of Geneva |
| International Criminal Law – Modes of responsibility and challenges associated to the representation of victims before the ICC | Vaios KOUTROULIS, Professor, Université Libre of Bruxelles, Lecturer, University of Lille |
| Refugee law - refugees’ statuts: Exclusion and cessation | Nicolas HAUPAIS, Professor, University of Orléans |
| International Criminal law – Immunity and challenges related to cooperation with the ICC. The prosecution of national courts, an alternative in the fight against impunity? | Vaios KOUTROULIS, Professor, Université Libre of Bruxelles, Lecturer, University of Lille |
| Refugee law - The principle of non-refoulement | Nicolas HAUPAIS, Professor, University of Orléans |
| International Criminal Law – Internationalized specialized courts and the ICC, complementarity or competition? | Vaios KOUTROULIS, Professor, Université Libre of Bruxelles, Lecturer, University of Lille |
| Closing Conference | Manassa DANIOKO, President of the Constitutional Court of Mali |
| Special conference «Terrorism and human rights» | Fonyuy KIVEN, OHCHR Central Africa Regional Office |
| Closing ceremony | Guillaume NGÉFA, Director of the Human Rights Division, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – Mali  
Inge HERBERT, West Africa Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF)  
Elsa ZIMMER, Program Officer, Fondation René Cassin  
Youssouf CISSE, Representative of West Africa, OIDEC  
Mamadou ISMAILA KONATE, Minister of Justice, Human Rights, Keeper of the Seals, Representative of Mr. Prime Minister of Mali  
Manassa DANIOKO, President of the Constitutional Court of Mali |
BALANCE

The originality of this session, specializing in international criminal law, attracted a wide range of highly qualified participants to exchange on this specific subject. In the end, 83 participants – of whom 32% were women – were present. They were mainly legal professionals: magistrates, lawyers, national and international officials and members of organizations from civilian society in the sub-region.

The theme «The challenges faced by the International Criminal Court» was the guiding thread of this thematic training session. It was a first, which was intended to renew the offer and to develop the specificity of this training in order to distinguish it more from the other delocalized sessions of the region. This choice was a success, largely raising the interest of the participants in a context in which several African States declared that they withdrew from the International Criminal Court or, for some, called for a group withdrawal.

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

The training session in international human rights law in Lima was the first session organized by the Fondation René Cassin in Latin America. It took place from 20 to 23 February 2017 at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.

The idea of organizing a training session in International Human Rights Law in Peru arose from an increasing need to satisfy a local demand, and also because of the interest that practitioners in the field are constantly demonstrating and the difficulties they meet to make the trip to Strasbourg in order to take part to the annual study session.

The Fondation René Cassin is associated to the 5th International Specialized Course organized by the Democracy and Human Rights Institute of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which took place from 8th to 24 February 2017 at the University’s premises. The Fondation René Cassin organized the last week of this course (from 20 to 23 February) by sending teachers.

This interest is explained on the one hand by the fact that Latin America is one of the areas of the planet that has experienced the most serious human rights violations in a relatively recent period. On the other hand, Latin America is experiencing an increasing development of human rights through the consequent activity of human rights protection bodies established by the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

The purpose of the Lima session is to provide to a Spanish-speaking and francophone audience, from the judicial family, human rights and law enforcement organizations, as well as government officials, an access to a teaching of excellence in the field of International Human Rights Law and to contribute to the promotion of the latter within the framework of the national institutions of the States and their jurisdictions.

The Lima session was followed by an international symposium on Human Rights on the theme «The prohibition of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment in international human rights law» held in Cusco on 25 February 2017.
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<td>Pedro SALAZAR, Director, Institute for Legal Research, UNAM</td>
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<td>Eduardo FERRER MC-GREGOR, Vice-President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights</td>
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<td>Recent and new advances in the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights</td>
<td>Eduardo FERRER MC-GREGOR, Vice-President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights</td>
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<td>European Human Rights law</td>
<td>Laurence BURGORGUE-LARSEN, Professor of public law, University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne</td>
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<td>Sébastien TOUZE, Professor of public law, University of Paris I Panthéon-Assas (Paris II)</td>
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<td>The prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatments in international human rights law</td>
<td>Claude HELLER, Member of the UN Committee against Torture</td>
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### BALANCE

This first association between the Fondation René Cassin and the Institute for Democracy and Human Rights of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru was a major success, as illustrated by the continuation of this project for 2018. The consolidation of this partnership opened the door to a redefinition of the targeted public of the Specialized International Course which will include professionals, lawyers and other human rights defenders. This audience will be closer to the targeted public of our training sessions abroad. This training session welcomed 52 participants who were Peruvians. 86% of participants achieved the final test and obtained the certificate of success. 50 participants were law students, 1 was sociologist and 1 was a psychologist.
PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

The idea of organizing a training session in Buenos Aires was born in 2016 on the basis of the observation that Latin America is a continent that has recently suffered serious human rights violations. Despite the work of the organs of the Organization of American States and the States themselves, the protection of human rights is not fully ensured on this continent. Thus, capacity-building in the field of human rights must be through the training of the people concerned in order to ensure the effectiveness of these rights.

With regard to the specific issues of Latin America, the choice was made to include in this training session other branches of international law, such as international criminal law and international humanitarian law.

This session was organized by the Fondation René Cassin in partnership with the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires, the French Regional Cooperation for South America and the Regional Cooperation Delegation for the Southern Cone and Brazil of the French Republic. It was held from 7 to 17 March 2017 at the Faculty of Law of Buenos Aires.

This training session was supplemented by a public conference on “The absolute nature of the prohibition of Torture” organized in the Alliance Française of Buenos Aires. In addition, the Fondation René CASSIN has partnered with the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires by supporting the organization of the exhibition «Carl Lutz y la Casa de Cristal» which was held from 15 to 29 March 2017 in the hall of the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires.

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW, INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

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<td>Pierre-Henri GUIGNARD, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of France to the Argentine Republic</td>
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<td>Agathe PETIT, Research Assistant, Fondation René Cassin</td>
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<td>Fabian SALVIOLI, Professor, National University of La Plata, Former President of the UN Human Rights Committee</td>
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<td>The United Nations and Human Rights</td>
<td>Yann KERBRAT, Professor, University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne</td>
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<td>The international protection of women’s rights</td>
<td>Susana SANZ CABALLERO, Professor, University CEU Cardenal Herrera Valencia</td>
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<td>The rights of indigenous peoples</td>
<td>Eduardo RAUL HUALPA, Lawyer and Lecturer, National University of Patagonia</td>
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<td>The international protection of social rights</td>
<td>Soledad GARCIA MUÑOZ, Legal Officer and International Expert, South American Representative of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Humanitarian Law</td>
<td>Elizabeth SALMON GARATE, Professor, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru</td>
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<td>International Criminal Law</td>
<td>Muriel UBEDA SAILLARD, Professor, University of Lille 2</td>
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<td>The Inter-American Human Rights Protection System</td>
<td>Santiago CANTÓN, Secretary of Human Rights of the Province of Buenos Aires</td>
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<td>The European Human Rights Protection System</td>
<td>Sébastien TOUZE, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Professor, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Member of the UN Committee against Torture</td>
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<td>Claude HELLER, Member of the UN Committee against Torture</td>
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<td>Sébastien TOUZE, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Professor, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Member of the UN Committee against Torture</td>
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<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
<td>Sébastien TOUZE, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Professor, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Member of the UN Committee against Torture</td>
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This first edition of the training session of Buenos Aires was a major success and has led to continue the partnership with the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires. A second edition of this training session is scheduled for June 2018. The training session in Buenos Aires hosted 54 participants from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador. The participants were mainly students, law professors and national or international officials.

This training session in Buenos Aires was appreciated by the participants who highlighted the quality of the courses provided by the speakers and the links made with the local problems. The simultaneous interpretation of French courses to Spanish allowed speakers and participants to be able to exchange effectively. The level of participants was particularly high with a success rate of over 98% on the final test.

On the other hand, the variety of courses that we have been able to follow has allowed us to deal with specific themes in international human rights law, international humanitarian law and criminal international law with a high level of intellectual requirement. The subjects were exposed by the teachers of the session on the basis of concrete files relating to each issue. Finally, it should be noted that this session took place without a hitch and that the people responsible for coordinating this course were always at our disposal.

Pursuing these training sessions in international law is an extraordinary contribution to the pursuit of the values that inspired the editors of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Memories of the first training session in international human rights law, international humanitarian law and the international criminal law of Buenos Aires.

The first training session of the Fondation René Cassin in Buenos Aires in March 2017 was, for many reasons, very rewarding. Personally, this session allowed me to meet men and women who work in the field of human rights according to different perspectives: academics, researchers, officials, students and more. I was able to have enriching exchanges with them about their points of view during the courses and during the pause times. These relations were also developed with the professors involved during this session, their human qualities and their academic levels allowed to create these exchange opportunities during the courses. All these opportunities have allowed us to deepen our knowledge in international law.

The second training session in international human rights law was held on the theme: «The justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights», from 10 to 15 April 2017, at the premises of the International Relations Institute of Cameroon (IRIC), Yaoundé, Cameroon.

This second session was organized by the Fondation René Cassin in partnership with the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon) and the International Observatory on Democracy and Management Crises and Conflicts – OIDEC (Dakar, Senegal). With the support of the Ecole Citoyenne et Politique de Yaoundé (ECPY), the IRIC, the Maison Hermès, la Caisse d’Epargne d’Alsace and la Banque Populaire Alsace Lorraine Champagne.

Following the organization of training sessions in Abidjan (Côte d’Ivoire), Bamako (Mali) and Dakar (Senegal), the idea of organizing a training session in international human rights law in Cameroon arose from a growing need to satisfy the local demand. The Yaoundé session is intended to be a thematic session of international human rights law called to perpetuate and to address from one year to the next a theme chosen in response to the regional context of human rights.
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<td>Mabassa FALL, Permanent Representative of the FIDH to the African Union</td>
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<td>Aurélie TARDIEU, Lecturer, University of Caen</td>
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<td>Sophie GROSBON, Lecturer, University of Paris Nanterre</td>
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<td>Luc MUBIALA MUTOY, Human Rights Officer Africa Section II</td>
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<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
<td>Ahowanou AGBESSI, Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Africa Elsa ZIMMER, Program Officer, Fondation René Cassin Mohamadou Lamine CISSE, Representative of the OIDECE Vincent de Paul EMAH EOUNDI, Director of l’Ecole Citoyenne et Politique de Yaoundé</td>
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**TESTIMONY**

Nicole DEMGUIA

I had the privilege of taking part in the session of Yaoundé from 10 to 15 April 2017 on the theme «The justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights» and it was a great experience for me. It was the first time that I took part in a teaching session of the Fondation René Cassin and my expectations were by far fulfilled.

The expertise of the speakers, the quality of the debates and the relevance of the issues raised have helped to deepen my knowledge of economic, social and cultural rights in general and in the field of the right to education in particular. It was a great framework for sharing experience and forming academic and professional relations.

This is how I was able to get in touch with experts to continue to discuss the issues that were developed during the session. Much more, this teaching session encouraged me to go in-depth by pursuing research in the field of International Human Rights Law.

I strongly recommend the teaching sessions of the René Cassin Fondation to young graduates and professionals working for the promotion and protection of human rights.

**BALANCE**

The session welcomed 103 participants, with 43% of women, mainly from Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic and Senegal.

The theme of the session was focused on the justiciability of economic, social and cultural Rights and won the accession of the participants who came particularly numerous at this session.
PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

From 22 to 25 May 2017, the Fondation René Cassin organized jointly with the University Al-Jinan of Tripoli the 5th international «Mona Haddad» teaching session in international human rights law in Beirut.

The purpose of this session is to offer to a diverse public, both by its nationalities and its specialties, a teaching of excellence in the field of human rights, so as to enable them to contribute directly to the promotion and protection of the latter in the course of their professional life.

The public is diversified, on the one hand, by its activities. It is composed of law students from the Al-Jinan University of Tripoli, but also many professionals already in office from international organizations, national institutions, the judiciary family, public administration, and, more broadly, civil society.

The public is also diversified, on the other hand, by its international vision. Participants come from the whole Middle East to attend this training.

The training program aims to present in a synthetic but comprehensive way the various systems of protection of human rights put in place at the international level and on regional plans, as well as to present the principles of refugee law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law.

The objective of this training session is to allowed participants to strengthen their legal knowledge in these matters, but also to gain an overall understanding of the functioning of the mechanisms for the protection of human rights and humanitarian law, as well as interactions between these different areas of international law.

The courses are particularly oriented to the regional stakes prevailing in the Arab world. The 5th session focused on the Arab Human Rights Protection System and on the periodic review of Lebanon before the UN Committee against Torture, which took place at the beginning of 2017.

More broadly, the training program also tends to provide an overview of the new challenges that affect international protection of human rights, persistent shortcomings in this area and opportunities for action to strengthen existing protection mechanisms.

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<td>The European Human Rights Protection System</td>
<td>Mustapha AFROUKH, University of Montpellier</td>
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<td>The Arab Human Rights Protection System</td>
<td>Tarek MAJZOUB, State Councilor, Professor, Université la Sagesse</td>
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<td>Tarek MAJZOUB, State Councilor, Professor, Université la Sagesse&lt;br&gt;Manar ZAITER, Lebanese Lawyer, Representative of the Geneva Institute of Human Rights in Lebanon&lt;br&gt;Mohammed Amin AL-MIDANI, Visiting Professor, University of Al-Jinan, Secretary General of the Association of Friends of the Fondation René Cassin</td>
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<td>International Criminal Law</td>
<td>François ROUX, Head of Defence Office, Special Tribunal for Lebanon</td>
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<td>International Humanitarian Law</td>
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THEME SPEAKER
Applications of International Humanitarian Law
Mohammed Said MAJZOUB, Dean of the Institute of Political Science and head of Human Rights Department at the University Al-Jinan
Basma TABAGA, Red Cross, Beirut Office
Ahmad ISHRAKIEH, Professor, Lebanese University

Closing conference: Human Rights Teaching in Arab universities; The University Al-Jinan Example
Mohammed Said MAJZOUB, Dean of the Institute of Political Science and head of Human Rights Department at the University Al-Jinan

Closing Ceremony
Mohammed Said MAJZOUB, Dean of the Institute of Political Science and head of Human Rights Department at the University Al-Jinan
Sébastien TOUZÉ, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Professor, University Paris II Pantheon Assas, Member of the UN Committee against Torture

BALANCE
25 participants attended the training session, 11 women and 14 men. Five nationalities were represented with a majority of Lebanese participants. Syrian, Sudanese, Yemeni and Tunisian participants were also present. The success rate for the final examination of this session amounts to 88%. This session benefits from simultaneous translation of courses in French and Arabic, which allows everyone to exchange in the best conditions. The quality of the interventions was emphasized by the participants who did not hesitate to intervene in a critical and constructive way during the course.

DAKAR, SENEGAL
MIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES
The Fondation René Cassin organized in partnership with the West Africa Regional Office of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom the 8th training session at Dakar from 18 to 29 September 2017. The session was also organized with the support of the Cultural Cooperation and Action Service (SCAC) of the French Embassy in Senegal, the Regional Office for West Africa of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (BRAO) and the Senegalese Human Rights Committee (CSDH).

Following the success of the first thematic training session in 2016, we decided to continue in this path by dedicating this 2017 training session to the theme "Migration and International Human Rights Law".

The organization of this training session meets the requirement of involved actors to be well prepared to tackle their obligation to defend and promote freedoms and fundamental rights of citizens and the reinforcement of the rule of law and democratic culture in Africa. Organizers would like to contribute to the reinforcement of national structures to help them to manage with better tools the human rights protection.

This session aims to focus on this specific issue of definite interest to all human rights professionals who work in this region, but also to develop the attractiveness of this training session to this public and to renew the training offer, taking into account the seniority of this session.

The purpose of our training session in Dakar is to focus on a francophone public, coming from Africa and Europe and representing the judicial family, human rights organizations and security forces but also the officials and to allowed them to take part to a high-level training in the field of International Human Rights Law and International Migration Law. This training session also aims at contributing to the achievement of these two areas of law to national institutions and jurisdictions.
THE RENÉ CASSIN FOUNDATION – INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS - ANNUAL REPORT  2017

PROGRAMME

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Diatourou NDIAYE, Head of Office, Prime Minister of Senegal
Christophe BIGOT, French Ambassador in Senegal
Francesco VERNIER, Italian Ambassador in Senegal
Andrea ORI, Representative of the West Africa Regional Office of the UN High-Commissioner for Human Rights
Sébastien TOUZE, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Professor, University Paris II Pantheon-Assas, Member of the UN Committee against Torture
Inge HERBERT, Director, FNF

Inaugural Lecture
Emmanuel DECAUX, Emeritus Professor, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Member and Former President of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances

The European Human Rights Protection System
Sébastien TOUZE, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Professor, University Paris II Pantheon-Assas, Member of the UN Committee against Torture

The Universal Human Rights Protection System
Emmanuel DECAUX, Emeritus Professor, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Member and Former President of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances

The African Human Rights Protection System
Mabassa FALL, Permanent Representative of the FIDH before the African Union

Seminars
Aurélien GODEFROY, Ph.D. Candidate, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas
David APPANAH, Ph.D. Candidate, University Paris II Panthéon-Assas

Refugee Law
Pauline HILMY, Regional Office of the UNHCR

Special Conference: UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families: What is the scope in Africa?
Amadou TALL, Magistrate, Member of the UN Committee for the Protection of All Migrants Workers

THEME SPEAKER
The UNHCR’s Action faced with migration crisis
Delphine LENEUTRE, Associated Legal Officer, Representation of the UNHCR before the European institutions

Mixed Migration: notion, trends and challenges in West Africa
Mariano GOMES NETO, Member of the Regional Working Group on mixed migration

The Paris Principles establishing the national institutions of human rights protection
Pape SENE, President of the Senegalese Committee on Human Rights (CSDH)
Abdoulaye MAR, Member of the CSDH

International Criminal Law
Rafaëlle MAISON, Professor, University Paris Sud

International Humanitarian Law
Philippe LAGRANGE, Professor, Dean of the Law, Sciences Po UFR, University of Poitiers

Speech of the Italian cooperation

The Action of the African Commission on Human Rights and People’s Rights
Maya SAHILI FADEL, Commissioner at the African Commission on Human Rights and People’s Rights, Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons

Closing ceremony
Pape SENE, Director of the Senegalese Committee on Human Rights
Elsa ZIMMER, Program Officer, Fondation René Cassin
Daouda SECK, Program Officer, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

BALANCE

The theme of this training session raised considerable interest because of its topicality in the sub-region and, broadly its relevance for the African continent. The rich program of side-events has contributed to enhance this training session.

130 auditors participated to the training session. Among the participants, 55 women were present, which represent a proportion of 42%. The participants represented 16 nationalities: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Italy, Morocco, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Togo. The participants were mainly magistrates, lawyers, bailiffs, members of security forces, members of NGO’s and Ph.D. Candidates.

The Fondation René Cassin and the FNF have issued a certificate of success to 80% of participants who passed the final test. The 26 other participants received a certificate of presence.
PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

The Fondation René Cassin organized its first training session in Tbilisi (Georgia) from 16 to 20 October 2017. This project is the result of a partnership with the European University of Tbilisi, with the support of the French Embassy in Georgia.

Firstly, organizers decided to plan this training session in June 2017. Some difficulties have led to reschedule this session to October 2017. Thanks to the support of the Institut Français, a broader communication about this event was set up. Courses were provided in English.

The purpose of this training session in Tbilisi was to offer participants access to a high-level training in the field of International Human Rights Law. The targeted group of this training session was high-level students in legal sciences, political studies, human sciences and social sciences, magistrates and lawyers, members of International Governmental Organizations and NGOs, but also to all member of civil society involved in the promotion and protection of human rights.

TBILISI, GEORGIA

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

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<th>THEME</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Human Rights Protection System</td>
<td>Rick LAWSON, Professor, Leiden University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Human Rights Protection System</td>
<td>Antoine MADELIN, International Advocacy Director, International Federation for Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Humanitarian Law</td>
<td>Antoine KABORE, Post-Doctorate Fellow, University of Manchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Law</td>
<td>Zuzana KOVALOVA, Associate Field Officer, Protection Unit, UNHCR Regional Office in the South Caucasus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Criminal Law</td>
<td>Antoine KABORE, Post-Doctorate Fellow, University of Manchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing conference</td>
<td>Natia KATSITADZE, First assistant of Ombudsman, Office of the Ombudsman of Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing ceremony</td>
<td>Lasha KANDELAKISHVILI, Rector of the European University, ioseb KELENJERIDZE, Dean of the Law Department of the European University, Elsa ZIMMER, Program Officer, Fondation René Cassin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BALANCE

The program of this training session was developed to implement a general training session which integrates a balanced presentation of universal and European human rights protection systems and international humanitarian law, international criminal law and refugee law. During this 5 days training, participants were trained by high-level anglophone speakers coming from the University of Leiden, the University of Manchester, the Paris Office of the FIDH and the UNHCR local representation. 38 participants took part to this training session - of whom 27 were women.

Participants represented a variety of professional profiles: 8 members of the ombudsman Office of Georgia, 5 magistrates, 4 lawyers, 3 members of NGO, 13 students of the European University and 5 students of others universities. They came from Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Ukraine and Turkey.

25 participants have successfully completed the final test and obtained the certificate of success, representing a success rate of 65%. The 13 participants who failed to this final test obtained a certificate of presence.

Participants highlighted the quality of trainings, the possibility to discuss at the end of the courses with speakers and their availability.

The high-level of participants must be noted. Even though they followed courses in a foreign language, they do not hesitate to participate and to speak during classes and debates. The small number of participants – around 40 – facilitated the communication and networking between students and professionals in an atmosphere of mutual support and conviviality.

SOUTH AFRICA, PRETORIA

AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION SYSTEM: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

The Fondation René Cassin held its first delocalized training session in Pretoria from 23 to 27 October 2017 by joining the program of advanced courses on human rights of the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria.

Established in 2000, the Advanced Human Rights Courses (AHRC) was formerly known as the Good Governance Program. The program consists of advanced annual courses and short term courses on issues related to human rights, development and good governance in Africa.

The partnership between the Fondation and the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria focused on the organization of the advanced course on the African human rights system from a comparative perspective, and aimed at the implementation of a francophone course organized and coordinated by Fondation René Cassin, parallel to the anglophone course organized and coordinated by the Centre. For lack of francophone public, the course was held in English only with the participation of speaker representing of the Fondation.

Each one-week course is presented by local and international experts in the respective fields, with a careful balance between academics and practitioners. Professionals of human rights and development at all levels often face the multidisciplinary challenges posed by the enormous gap between human rights in practice and human rights in theory.
**PROGRAM**

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<th>THEME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 23 October</strong></td>
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</table>
| Opening ceremony | Dennis ANTWI, Manager, AHRC, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria  
Frans VILJOEN, Professor, Director, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria |
| Human Rights in Africa | Ben KIOKO, Judge of the African Court on Human and People’s Rights |
| The African Charter on Human and People’s Rights | Michelo HANSUNGULE, Professor of Human Rights Law, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria |
| The Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa | Ashwanee BUDOO, Program Manager, LLM Human Rights and Democratization in Africa, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria |
| The UN human rights system | Magnus KILLANDER, Associate Professor, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria |
| **Tuesday 24 October** | |
| The Inter-American human rights protection system | Clara BURBANO-HERRERA, University of Gent, Belgium |
| The work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights: some cases | Laurence BURGORGUE-LARSEN, Associate Professor of Public Law, University La Sorbonne - Paris I |
| Introduction to state reporting in the African human rights system | Ashwanee BUDOO, Program Manager, LLM Human Rights and Democratization in Africa, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria |
| **Wednesday 25 October** | |
| Welcome remarks | Géraldine REYMENANTS, General Representative of the Government of Flanders, Pretoria, South Africa |
| The European human rights system | Yves HAECK, Professor of Law, University of Gent, Belgium |
| The work of the European Court of Human Rights: some cases | Yves HAECK, Professor of Law, University of Gent, Belgium |

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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 26 October</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Democracy in Africa</td>
<td>Michelo HANSUNGULE, Professor of Human Rights Law, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 27 October</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to information in Africa</td>
<td>Lola SHYLLON, Doctor, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>The African Peer Review Mechanism</td>
<td>APRM, Representative of the Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>The work of the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights and the African Court on Human and People’s Rights</td>
<td>Frans VILJOEN, rofessor, Director, Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>State reporting exercise</td>
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<td>Certificates and closing remarks</td>
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**BALANCE**

This training session welcomed 42 participants – mainly legal and human rights professionals. They were judges, lawyers, national and international officials, human rights defenders and high-level students coming mainly from anglophone countries, but also Germany, Belgium and Brazil.

The balance of this first experience in South Africa is mixed. Despite the cancellation of the francophone section, the Fondation’s participation to the program was assured and discussions have been held to the continuation of this project. Partners decided to maintain the partnership between the Fondation Rene Cassin and the Centre for Human Rights in 2018 with the joint organization of the same training session in English. This training session will be organized from 22 to 26 October 2018.

In addition, contacts have been made with the SCAC of the French Embassy in South Africa and the Alliance Française to plan training projects in the context – but also in the margin – of the next training session of the Fondation in Pretoria. Thus, it is envisaged to organize a public conference in French with the simultaneous translation in English during the Advanced course and a training activity (to be determined) with and to the South-African civil society acting in the field on human rights.
PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAÏTI

HUMAN RIGHTS AND DETENTION

PRESENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

The Fondation René Cassin – International Institute of Human Rights organized a 6th training session in international human rights law in Port-au-Prince from 4 to 14 December 2017, on the theme “Human Rights and Detention”. This training session was organized thanks to the support of the Cooperation and Cultural Action Office of the French Embassy in Haiti, the European Union Delegation in Haiti, the School for Magistrates (EMA) and the Civil Society Initiative (ISC).

The goal of this training session is to offer to the participants an access to a high-level training in the field of international human rights. Courses are intended for students in legal, political, human and social sciences, magistrates and students at the School for Magistrates, members of International Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations, and all members of the civil society involved in the promotion and the protection of human rights.

This training session is usually reserved for Haitian participants who have some difficulties to come in Strasbourg to assist to the annual study session and to other specialized training sessions.

The theme of this 2017 training session was a topical subject. Firstly, the prison conditions are deplorable, in terms of access to food, hygiene and access to medical assistance because of a lack of sufficient means of prisons and prison overcrowding. Furthermore, a number of structural problems still remain in a legal perspective with a greater use of extended pre-trial detention without access to the judge and detention of minors.

**PROGRAM**

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<tr>
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</table>
| Opening speeches | Matt WOODS, Political Advisor, European Union Delegation in Haiti  
Thomas POIRIER, Cooperation Attaché, French Embassy in Haiti  
Kesner Michel THERMESI, Director of the Schools for Magistrates  
Rosny DESROCHES, Executive Director, Civil Society Initiative (ISC)  
Elsa ZIMMER, Programme Officer, Fondation René Cassin |
| Inaugural Conference | Florence ELIE, Former Ombudsman of Haiti |
| European Human Rights Protection System | Anca AILINCAI, Professor, University of Grenoble-Alpes |
| Universal Human Rights Protection System | Fabian SALVIOLI, Professor, Director of the Institute for Human Rights of the University of La Plata, Former President of the UN Human Rights Committee |
| The non-judicial protection against maltreatment in detention | Anca AILINCAI, Professor, University of Grenoble-Alpes |
| International Humanitarian Law | Philippe WECKEL, Professor, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis |
| Inter-American Human Rights Protection System | Fabian SALVIOLI, Professor, Director of the Institute for Human Rights of the University of La Plata, Former President of the UN Human Rights Committee |
| International Criminal Law | Philippe WECKEL, Professor, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis |
| Normative consideration of the prisoner by international (regional and local) human rights law | Nino KARAMAOUN, Senior Advisor, Democratic Governance of the OAS Office in Haiti |
| The prospects of the new Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code for the improvement of the human rights situation with regard to detention in Haiti | Jean Joseph EXUME, Lawyer, Former Minister of Justice in Haiti, Former Member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights |
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

DAY IN MEMORY OF RENÉ CASSIN
On 20 January 2017, the Fondation René Cassin, the European Court of Human Rights and the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (C.N.C.D.H.) organized, with the support of the French Republic, a day in memory of René Cassin. This event took place at the European Court of Human Rights.

THEME

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<tr>
<td>Film on René Cassin</td>
<td>Institut Français en Haïti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Conference: Detention, a challenge for Haitian justice</td>
<td>Dilia LEMAIRE, Representative of the human rights sector, Superior Council of the Judiciary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing ceremony</td>
<td>Joan NADAL, First Counselor at the EU Delegation in Haiti Stéphane MAICON, First Counselor at the French Embassy in Haiti Kesner Michel THERMESI, Director of the Schools for Magistrates Rosny DESROCHES, Executive Director, Civil Society Initiative (ISC) Elsa ZIMMER, Programme Officer, Fondation René Cassin</td>
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BALANCE

During these 10 days of training, participants have benefited from the presence of high-level speakers, among Professors of Universities and former President of the UN Human Rights Committee - who came from France and Argentina – but also experts of the Organization of American States, the Superior Council of the Judiciary in Haiti and the Ombudsman. The quality and the dynamism of interactions between participants and speakers show the considerable interest for the courses. There was a good balance between foreign professors who came to share their solid experience and Haitian high-level speakers who shared their practical experience about the detention’s issues in Haiti.

Nearly 250 applicants were submitted, and 74 participants were selected – including 27 women (36% of the participants). 72 participants were present throughout the session. This session was reserved for Haitian citizens.
### ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE FONDATION

**INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS LAW AND BIOETHICS**

Held in Bordeaux on 1 and 2 June 2017, the annual symposium of the Fondation René Cassin focused on the theme “International and European Human Rights Law and Bioethics”. This theme was chosen to celebrate the twenty Years of the Oviedo Convention adopted on 4 April 1997 under the aegis of the Council of Europe. This event was organized in partnership with the University of Bordeaux, the European and international Research and Documentation Centre (C.R.D.E.I.) and the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region.

This symposium was an opportunity to look at a thematic as sensitive as it is evolving, due to the necessary, but difficult, reconciliation between the development of medical and scientific progress and the preservation of the fundamental rights of the human person. For three half-days, the increasing influence of international and European Human Rights law on bioethics issues was apprehended in a multi-disciplinary way («The diversity of approaches»), thematic («the wealth of the themes») then prospective («The complexity of the challenges»), with particular emphasis on the difficulties and limits of supranational control.
**THEME SPEAKER**

Introduction Report
Catherine GAUTHIER, Lecturer in Public Law, University of Bordeaux
David SZYMCZAK, Professor of Public Law, Sciences Po Bordeaux

**THE DIVERSITY OF APPROACHES**
Under the chairmanship of Sébastien TOUZÉ, Professor of Public Law, Université Panthéon Assas, Director of the Fondation René Cassin, Member of the UN Committee against Torture

- Human rights and bioethics: an approach through scientific practice
  Alexandra DURR, Professor of medicine, Medical Geneticist of la Pitié Salpêtrière

- Human Rights and bioethics: An approach by philosophy
  Marie GOMES DE CUNHA, Associate and PhD in philosophy, Lecturer, University of Bordeaux Montaigne

- Human rights and bioethics: A comparative approach France-USA
  Jennifer MERCHANT, Professor, University Pantheon Assas (Paris III, member of the IUF

- An approach by sources: International bioethics Law as a global normative system
  Christian BYK, Judge at the Court of Appeal of Paris, Secretary general of the International Association Law, Ethics and Science, Chairman of the Scientific Ethics Committee of the French Commission for UNESCO, Vice-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee

- An approach by the main principles: human rights and bioethics, between universality and pluralism
  Xavier BIOY, Professor of Public Law, University of Toulouse

**THE WEALTH OF THE THEMES**
Under the chairmanship of Joël ANDRIANTSIMBAZOVINA, Professor of Public Law, University of Toulouse

- International human rights law and status of the embryo
  Hélène HURPY, Lecturer in Public Law, University of Toulon

- International human rights law and surrogacy: surrogacy and international recognition of filiations
  Sandrine SANA-CHAILLÉ DE NÉRÉ, Professor of Private Law, University of Bordeaux

- International human rights law and end of life
  Marie LAMARCHE, Lecturer in Private Law, University of Bordeaux

- International human rights law and the right to biological identity
  Adeline GOUTTENOIRE, Professor of Private Law, University of Bordeaux

**PROGRAM**

**THEME SPEAKER**

**THE COMPLEXITY OF THE CHALLENGES**
Under the chairmanship of Jean-Paul COSTA, President of the Fondation René Cassin and former President of the European Court of Human Rights

- The judge facing bioethics
  Paulo PINTO DE ALBUQUERQUE, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights, Professor, Catholic University of Lisbon

- «Acceptability» of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights in the field of bioethics
  Frédéric SUDRE, Professor of Public Law, University of Montpellier

- Monitoring and implementation of international bioethical rules
  Laurence LWOFF, Head of the Bioethics division of the Council of Europe

- The challenge of experimentation
  Fabien MARCHADIER, Professor of Private Law, University of Poitiers

- Bioethics and Transnationality
  Sébastien PLATON, Professor of Public Law, University of Bordeaux

- General Conclusions
  Jean-Pierre MARQUENAUD, Professor of Private Law, University of Limoges
**THESIS PRIZE**

To develop and promote the publication of research on Human rights, the Fondation René Cassin awards annually a francophone Thesis Prize (since 2006) and an anglophone Thesis Prize (since 2012).

The application procedure for obtaining this thesis award is open to law doctors who have supported their thesis in one of the following areas: international human rights law, regional human rights law, comparative human rights law, and legal theory of human rights.

The award of this prize, at the opening ceremony of the annual teaching session, allows the publication of the book at Éditions Pedone in the collection «Publications de l’Institut International des Droits de l’Homme».

The francophone thesis prize award René 2017 was awarded to Mrs Améyo Délali KOUASSI for her thesis on «La Responsabilité Internationale pour violation des droits de l’homme», defended at the University of Poitiers under the direction of Mr Sébastien TOUZE, Professor at the University Panthéon-Assas (Paris II).

No special Mention was awarded for the francophone Thesis Prize 2017.

The anglophone thesis prize was awarded to Mr. Eduardo GILL-PEDRO, for his thesis on «EU Fundamental Rights and National Democracies: Complementary or Contradictory?», defended at the University of Lund, under the direction of Mr. Xavier GROUSSOT, Professor at the University of Lund and Mr. Henrik WENANDER, Associate Professor at the University of Lund.

A special mention was awarded to Mr. Zalalem Mogessie TEFERRA for his thesis on the subject «National Security in International Law: Meaning and Application in International Human Rights Law, International Refugee Law and International Humanitarian Law», defended at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, under the direction of Mr. Vincent CHETAIL, Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

**PUBLICATION**

Julien CAZALA, Yannick LECUYER et Bérangère TAXIL (dir.)

Ludovic PAILLER
Le respect de la Charte des droits fondamentaux de l’Union Européenne dans l’espace judiciaire européen en matière civile et commerciale, Paris Pedone, 2017

Walid BEN HAMIDA et Frédérique COULÉE

Pauline LESAFFRE
Le choix subjectif de mort dans le droit européen des droits de l’homme - Etude critique du contentieux strasbourgeois, Paris, Pedone, 2017
OTHER ACTIVITIES

THE RENÉ CASSIN PLEADING COMPETITION

The Fondation René Cassin and the Faculty of Law of the University of Strasbourg have organized the 32nd edition of the René Cassin Pleading Competition from 22 to 24 March 2017. This event was organized thanks to the support of Sciences Po Strasbourg, the University of Strasbourg, the Bar Association of Strasbourg, the Editions Lexis Nexis, l’Association MediaDroit, the European Court of Human Rights, the Council of Europe, la Région Grand Est, the City of Strasbourg, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development and the Ministry of Justice of the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

This pleading competition in European human rights law proposes, each year, to students of Master 1 or Master 2 of francophone universities, to treat a fictitious case. This year the topic was health. 30 teams, selected on the basis of a written submission, clashed for three days during the semi-finals at the Council of Europe and the final at the European Court of Human Rights. The jury members of the semi-finals were Professors, Lecturers, Lawyers and Officials of the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights.

The team of the College of Europe of Bruges (applicant) and the team of the University Aix Marseille (defendant) clashed during the final that took place in the large courtroom of the European Court of Human Rights in front of a prestigious grand jury composed of Professors, Judges of the European Court of Human Rights, Representative of the Council of State, former Jurisconsult of the European Court of Human Rights, Representatives of local authorities and Lawyers.

The College of Europe in Bruges won this final. The Fondation René Cassin presented the Prize for the Best Litigator of the final, consisting of taking charge of his participation at the 48th annual study session on the theme «Health and International Human Rights Law».

PLEADING COMPETITION IN BUDAPEST

The Fondation René Cassin supported the organization of the 2nd francophone Pleading Competition which took place on 24 November 2017 in Budapest (Hungary). The theme of this competition was “freedom of speech and press freedom”. This event was organized by the French Embassy in Hungary, the Institut Français of Budapest and the University Eötvös Loránd. Participants were francophone law students coming from Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Czech Republic. Two participants were awarded: Clélie EMILE (“students in France” category) and Olivia GHIORGHIU (“students in Central Europe” category).

CINÉMACTION

The CinémAction took place in Paris from 8 to 9 December 2017 on the theme ”Gender and Migration: What rights for migrant women?”. This event was organized by Terre des Hommes. This meeting allowed the participants to attend a conference, the projection of documentaries followed by a round table and debates, and to visit the exhibition «Weaving Between Two Banks».
OUR 2018 PROGRAM

From 5 to 10 February 2018: 5th training session in Bamako (Mali)

From 19 February to 9 March 2018: 2nd training session in Lima (Peru)

From 4 to 6 April 2018: René Cassin Pleading Competition

From 2 to 7 April 2018: 3rd training session in Yaoundé (Cameroon)

From 30 April to 5 May 2018: 1st training session in Tunis (Tunisia)

From 11 to 15 June 2018: 2nd training session in Tbilisi (Georgia)

From 18 to 29 June 2018: 2nd training session in Buenos Aires (Argentina)

From 18 to 29 June 2018: 21th Intensive Training on Refugee Law in Strasbourg (France)

From 2 to 20 July 2018: 49th Summer School on « Human Rights Defenders » in Strasbourg (France)

From 17 to 28 September 2018: 9th training session in Dakar (Senegal)

September: 6th training session « Mona Haddad des droits de l’homme » in Beirut (Lebanon)

From 22 to 26 October 2018: 2nd training session in Pretoria (South Africa)

From 3 to 13 December 2018: 7th training session in Port-au-Prince (Haiti)