

Human Rights, Migration, and Global Governance

Thursday to Saturday,
July 12–14, 2018

LUISS University, | Rome, Italy

As part of its 2018 Annual Meeting, ACUNS is pleased to announce a special Call for Papers for students of the MIPP and MAGG Programs. Interested students should read the Call for Papers section on page two of this document.

For Secretary-General António Guterres, who was the High Commissioner for Refugees for a decade (2005–2015) before being elected to lead the UN, one of the most pressing issues currently facing the world body is the large-scale voluntary and involuntary (forced) movement of people across borders. While 2018 marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, political, economic, and environmental dysfunction and collapse in their own countries has driven a record high number of people to seek a safer or better life elsewhere. Equally present especially in the West, have been counter-reactions to immigration based on political, social, economic, and security concerns. One reason the United Kingdom is leaving the European Union, with Prime Minister Theresa May triggering “Brexit”, is because of voters’ concerns over the perceived threat of uncontrollable migration. President Trump likewise won office in the US election in part by appealing to many American voters’ fears of immigrants—whether from Mexico (the ‘wall’) or from conflict zones such as Syria.

The global governance and human rights issues in this contemporary era are manifest and complex. The Sustainable Development Goals will be impossible to achieve in the context of state failure, political conflicts, major climate disruptions, and mass population displacements. The rights of citizens also must be balanced against the rights of those fleeing persecution and desperation; more often, the latter are disregarded as populist movements refocus national discourses away from cosmopolitan ideals. These complex ‘wicked problems’ present severe contemporary challenges for the institutions, as well as the idea (and ideals), of global governance.

We welcome proposals for individual workshop papers and full workshop panels addressing the following themes related to these dynamics, as well as other proposals related to topics of the United Nations, global governance and human rights:

- > Is support for global governance institutions, and for global human rights norms, declining as a result of resurgent populist movements?
- > Has support for the international refugee regime declined?
- > What global governance and human rights challenges arise from the increasing mobility of people?
- > What are the links between development, migration and human rights, and how do these relate to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals?
- > How can global/regional governance institutions help to address these issues, and what challenges do such institutions face?
- > What innovative approaches might be taken—and by whom—to address the linkages between borders, migration, and human rights?

CALL FOR PAPERS - WORKSHOP PANELS

The Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS) now is accepting Workshop paper and panel proposals for presentation at its twenty-eighth **Annual Meeting**, to be held **July 12–14, 2018** at **LUISS University in Rome, Italy**, in cooperation with the Human Rights partner bodies noted below. Proposals addressing the Annual Meeting theme, and issues raised in the introductory note, in addition to other topics relating to the UN system and the broader mandate of the Academic Council, will be considered.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Deadline:** The deadline for submitting your proposals is **Monday, February 5, 2018**.
- Submissions:** Please drop off printed submissions to Brenda Burns in Room 208 of the BSIA or in her mailbox on the first floor. A complete proposal submission includes: full contact information, a paper title, a maximum 200 word abstract, CV, a scholarly writing sample of no more than 1,000 words, and a 200 word statement about why the applicant wants to participate in the AM18. You should identify yourself clearly in your submission as a MIPP or MAGG student.
- Proposals:** All proposals will be reviewed by the ACUNS Selection Committee. A maximum of four student proposals, two MIPP and two MAGG, will be accepted.
- Registration:** Event registration fee will be waived by ACUNS.
- Funding:** Successful BSIA students will receive travel support from the Balsillie School of International Affairs, to a maximum of **\$2,000 per student** to help offset the costs of travel. Students will also be encouraged to apply to their universities for additional funding.
- Event location:** LUISS University, Rome, Italy <http://e.sookmyung.ac.kr/>
- Questions:** Contact Brenda Burns at bburns@wlu.ca

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