

SEPTEMBER 2016



NEWSLETTER



## IJRC Begins Board Expansion

As part of our efforts to grow and diversify our stellar Board of Directors, IJRC participated in Board Match earlier this month on the Google campus in Silicon Valley. The level of interest in our work was unexpected and welcome. As we meet with the wonderful Board candidates we met at Board Match, IJRC also welcomes expressions of interest from other individuals with expertise in the worlds of management, corporate law, technology, fundraising, marketing, or web development. Contact us at [ijrc@ijrcenter.org](mailto:ijrc@ijrcenter.org).

[Meet Our Board](#) |



## Migrants' Human Rights Training

[The Human Rights of Migrants: Challenges and Opportunities in California](#), held on September 23, was a wonderful success. With a packed agenda and more than 100 participants, the day featured discussions of the key pressing concerns around migrants' rights in California and whether, and how, human rights tools and strategies can be used to complement ongoing litigation and advocacy.

We were thrilled to hear that many participants are interested in continuing Friday's conversations on using human rights tools to benefit migrants in California. IJRC will be coordinating to help move this initiative forward.

The background materials can be viewed online: <http://bit.ly/migrantsrightsCA>. We expect to upload individual videos of each session in early October, and they will be available via IJRC's [trainings webpage](#).

[See the Materials](#)



## New Resources

Recent additions and updates to IJRC's Online Resource Hub include additional information on the international criminal tribunals, a new guide on Migrants' Human Rights, revisions to our guide on Asylum & the Rights of Refugees, and a range of articles on human rights developments.

[Visit the Online Resource Hub](#)



## Human Rights News

At the United Nations, the High Commissioner for Human Rights used his address to the Human Rights Council to condemn States for their [failure to cooperate](#) with UN monitoring.

Meanwhile, however, the UN Secretary General reported that the UN [human rights treaty bodies](#) have become more effective and efficient.

The first-ever [UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants](#), held earlier this month, drew mixed reviews in its attempt to spur greater State responsiveness to those fleeing crises and conflicts.

The [International Organization for Migration](#) and UN have entered into an agreement for IOM to become part of the UN system.

The independent UN investigation into the crisis in [Burundi](#) concluded that government forces may be committing crimes against humanity and urged an expanded international response.

In [Afghanistan](#), the UN has reported an increase in civilian deaths and rights abuses.

The European Court of Human Rights held that one London bombing suspect's [right to counsel](#) had been violated during his questioning.



## New Attorneys Join IJRC

This month, we were thrilled to welcome Jessica Temple, Citlalli Ochoa, and Helen Halldorsson to the IJRC team.

Jessica is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, which awarded her funding to work with IJRC. She focused on human rights during law school, including through participating in the International Justice Clinic and the Jean-Pictet Competition and in internships with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the law firm Schonbrun DeSimone Seplow Harris & Hoffman.

Citlalli holds a J.D. from the University of California, Irvine School of Law, which awarded her funding to work with IJRC. As a student, Citlalli worked with the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression, David Kaye, interned with the Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and participated in the International Justice Clinic and International Human Rights Clinic.

Helen is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law, where she was Executive Editor of the *Texas International Law Journal*. Helen participated in the Human Rights Clinic, working on behalf of Texas prisoners through local, regional, and international advocacy. Among other positions, Helen interned with the Chief Counsel's Office of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[Meet the Team](#) |

The [ASEAN](#) Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights has, for the first time, published its annual report.

The [Inter-American Commission](#) on Human Rights elected a new Executive Secretary, Brazilian law professor Paulo Abrão.

The [Extraordinary African Chambers](#), having convicted former Chadian dictator Hissène Habré of crimes against humanity, ordered monetary compensation for thousands of his victims.

See our posts on activities in [August](#) and [September](#) for an overview of sessions and hearings held by regional and UN human rights bodies.

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