



Fall 2017

International Justice Resource Center

Newsletter

## Panel: Police Brutality & Surveillance

IJRC organized a Human Rights Happy Hour on the topic of Police Brutality & Surveillance in the Online Era, on October 18. A full house came out to hear from the expert panel: Malkia Cyril, DeRay Mckesson, Kristian Lum, and Nicole Ozer. They shared insights, data, and strategies for combatting killings and violence by police.



Thank you to the Human Rights Data Analysis Group (HRDAG), Center for Media Justice, ACLU of Northern California, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International USA, Asylum Access, Center for Justice & Accountability, Human Rights Advocates, and the Human Rights Center at UC Berkeley School of Law for their co-sponsorship.

[Watch the video](#)

## IJRC Training in Banjul

On October 30, IJRC staff hosted a training in The Gambia for human rights advocates from across Africa. The panel, entitled "Researching International Human Rights Law: Current Challenges & Opportunities," took place on the margins of the NGO Forum and 61st Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).



IJRC partnered with the Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA) and Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA) in planning and hosting the training. More than 20 advocates participated.

While in Banjul, IJRC staff participated in activities commemorating the 30th anniversary of the ACHPR's work, and noted several areas where additional awareness-raising and capacity building could help the ACHPR more effectively carry out its mandate.

We also interviewed advocates for an ongoing project on civil society, connected with a wide range of stakeholders, and disseminated 150 USB drives with new IJRC informational materials of relevance to African human rights defenders.

## Leadership Council

We are thrilled to announce the members of our new Leadership Council. These advisors and donors volunteer to help further the International Justice Resource Center's mission by marshaling resources and expanding our network of potential supporters and allies.



Leadership Council members are invited to join in view of their significant professional achievement, diverse areas of knowledge, enthusiasm for utilizing their own time and networks to support IJRC, and their genuine interest in the protection of human rights.

Meet the members

## Torture in Costa Rica

IJRC submitted an *amicus curiae* ("friend of the court") brief to the Supreme Court of Costa Rica concerning a provision of the country's criminal code that allows the admission of statements obtained through torture in some circumstances.

Our brief reviewed some of the relevant human rights standards and case law that had not been discussed in the litigation, including a decision from the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia that dealt with the issue under consideration.

Read the brief



These new resources include [country factsheets](#), an updated manual and one-pagers on the [African](#) human rights bodies, [research guide](#), and explanation of the [exhaustion](#) of domestic remedies requirement.

Learn more

## New Board Members

We are thrilled to welcome new members to the IJRC Board of Directors. They strengthen our leadership with diverse viewpoints and skill sets, and bring our Board membership to 10 people.

We invite you to get to know them. In brief, our newest members are:

Sally Chung, Google

Sonia Gioseffi, K&L Gates LLP

Lorena Gonzalez Pinto, UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture

Genevieve Herreria, HomeBase

In October, the new members joined our longstanding directors for the annual meeting, together with our Advisory Board, where IJRC also elected a new Board Chair. Gabor Rona was selected to take the helm from Iain Byrne, who had served as Chair since our founding. We thank each of our directors and advisors for their commitment to IJRC and our mission.

Meet the Board

## "Muslim Ban" Advocacy

On November 15, IJRC submitted a letter regarding the ongoing effects of the "Muslim ban," to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The letter, which we submitted with the ACLU Human Rights Program and with the support of 21 other organizations, provides an update regarding the various iterations of the ban and the litigation seeking to prevent its implementation. It also asks the Commission to take specific steps to monitor and limit the human rights implications of the ban.



This letter follows our February 2017 request that that the Inter-American Commission hold a public hearing concerning the Trump administration's Executive Order suspending the admission of refugees and of migrants from a number of Muslim-majority countries. At that hearing, IJRC joined other groups to urge human rights oversight.

## Human Rights Night

Join us on the evening of Thursday, December 7 for the sixth annual San Francisco Human Rights Night.



We'll gather again to reflect on the highs and lows for human rights in 2017, raise a glass to the 69th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and catch up with friends and colleagues from around the Bay Area. Highlights will include a fantastic silent auction.

Please RSVP to attend.

RSVP

Learn more

## New Staff & Law Fellows

We are thrilled to welcome four new team members, who joined in September. Citlalli Ochoa, who had worked with IJRC as a law fellow since September 2016, will continue her contributions to our mission as a Staff Attorney.

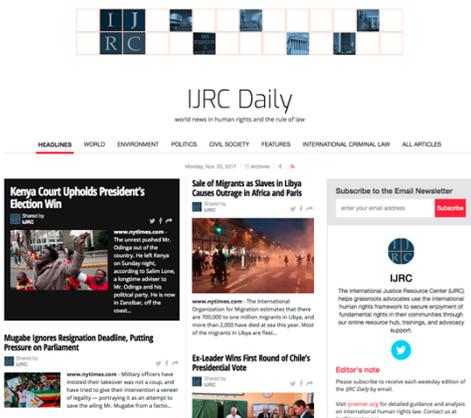


Three new lawyers joined IJRC as law fellows; they are each funded by their alma maters specifically to work with IJRC for a one-year period. They are:

Sarah Abraham, Harvard Law School

## IJRC Daily

Each weekday, IJRC publishes the *IJRC Daily*, a compilation of headlines in human rights and the rule of law from around the world.



Subscribe to get each edition in your inbox, or read today's headlines on our website.

IJRC Daily

Carolyn Cyrana, Columbia Law School

Adam Lhedmat, UC Irvine School of Law

Meet the team

The screenshot shows a calendar interface titled "HEARINGS & SESSIONS" for November 2017. It includes a search bar and a grid of dates with various events listed below, such as "Human Rights Council" and "Special Representative on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar".

## Human Rights Oversight Activities

Visit our Hearings & Sessions Calendar for a quick overview of all the upcoming activities of human rights commissions, courts, and monitoring bodies. See when a regional human rights court will be in session, or when a United Nations special rapporteur will carry out a country visit, for example.

See the calendar



Justice Is Borderless

## Can We Count on You?

You are part of the fight to ensure access to justice and accountability for human rights violations. By helping provide informational tools, technical support, and training, your support makes a difference to advocates and victims around the world - watch our [video](#) to see how.

Together, we are pursuing a vision of justice beyond borders. Thank you for being our partner.

Donate

Thank you for reading the IJRC Newsletter. Please contact us for more information on our work, or to request assistance or information related to human rights protections.

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