



# American Society of International Law

## Arthur C. Helton Fellowship 2014 Program Fellows



**Muna Baig** is an English-qualified international arbitration lawyer. She has clerked at the English Court of Appeal, where she was a judicial assistant to the Rt. Hon Lord Justices Mummery and Rix. She has worked with several international humanitarian organizations including the British Red Cross, Save the Children International, and the Oxford University Refugee Studies Centre. Most recently Baig engaged in critical humanitarian diplomacy work at the UN while working for the International Committee of the Red Cross in New York. She holds a Masters in International Law from Columbia University School of Law where she was a Fulbright Scholar and is also a graduate of the University of Oxford and Kinnaird College in Lahore. Baig will work with the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project in Amman, Jordan to document and refer to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees the most vulnerable Syrian refugees in need of third-country resettlement.

**James Balsler** is a J.D. student at Vanderbilt University Law School in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was raised. He received his BA in Philosophy and Political Science from Tulane University. Balsler studied abroad in Rabat, Morocco, where he also worked for the Moroccan branch of Transparency International, Transparency Maroc. Balsler will work with No Peace Without Justice (NPWJ), an international non-profit organization focused on the MENA region. He will be assigned to the NPWJ International Criminal Justice Program's Syrian Accountability Project, which is currently working to "reduce the expectation and rewards of impunity and build a culture of accountability" among the Syrian population. Balsler will assist with training and advocacy events in Gaziantep, Turkey.



**Catherine Baylin** is a J.D./Ph.D student at Stanford University. Before law school, she founded a non-profit that organized service-learning programs for American students in Egypt. She holds an M.A. in Middle East Studies from the American University in Cairo and a B.A. in Political Science from Stanford. Baylin will be researching social movements that coalesced around rights issues in Egypt, Morocco, and Kuwait during the "Arab Spring" movement. She will use archival research, press accounts, and interviews to explore how human rights movements appropriated, resisted, and shaped the discourse and practice of global human rights law, hopefully illuminating some of the dynamics that lead to the Arab Spring while contributing to the global effort to understand the development of modern human rights systems.

**B. Shaw Drake** is a J.D. student at the Georgetown University Law Center. He holds a double major BA in Latin American Studies and Romance Languages from the University of North Carolina. Prior to law school, Drake worked at the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture. He has interned at the Office of Public Counsel for Victims at the International Criminal Court, the Americas Division of Human Rights Watch, the Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees Immigration Legal Assistance Clinic, and the Hebrew immigrant Aid Society. Drake is a student researcher and author of a human rights report regarding the Dominican Republic to be published in April 2014 by Georgetown Law Human Rights Institute. He will be working with the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights to promote rule of law and judicial independence in Guatemala through examination of appeals court candidate records to ensure merit based appointments in accordance with international standards.



**Peter Grbac** is a J.D. student in the B.C.L./LL.B. program at McGill University. He holds a master's degree in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies from the University of Oxford and an AB in Social Studies from Harvard College. Grbac has volunteered for the Canadian Council for Refugees and works as a Research Consultant for the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University. Grbac will be working with the Calcutta Research Group (CRG) based in Calcutta, India. His primary responsibility will consist of assisting CRG with their ongoing research projects focused on the legal dimensions of immigration and refugee matters. Grbac also intends to carry out his own research project to examine the implications of India's ambivalent refugee law policy on the experiences of

refugees in Calcutta.

**Jessica Marsh** is a legal advocate with Asylum Access in Bangkok, Thailand, where she works with urban refugees and asylum seekers. She holds an LL.M. in Public and International Law from the University of Melbourne, Australia and received dual bachelor's degrees from the University of Melbourne in Law and Arts (Media & Communications). Marsh has previously interned at the Irregular Maritime Arrivals section of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Australia as a legal clinic officer and has worked as a project coordinator for the Mekong Migration Network in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Marsh will be working with Asylum Access Thailand as a legal advocate and will conduct research into protection gaps for urban refugees in Bangkok. In particular, she will be exploring what happens when durable solutions are not available and/or substantive, and where status recognition alone offers inadequate protection.





**Shayak Sarkar** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Economics at Harvard University. He received a J.D. from Yale Law School, where he was active in the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic, and holds masters' degrees in social work and development economics from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. Shayak graduated has an A.B. in Applied Mathematics and an A.M. in Statistics from Harvard College. Shayak will be working on research to improve financial regulation and governance in collaboration with the Centre for Microfinance and the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy in New Dehli, India.

**Mina Trudeau** currently works at the Impact Litigation Project. She earned her J.D. as a Public Interest / Public Service Scholar at American University Washington College of Law, where she was a legal researcher for the UN Committee against Torture Project and a pro bono attorney in the International Human Rights Law Clinic. She interned at the White House Executive Office of the President, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and for Judge Blackburne-Rigsby at the DC Court of Appeals. Trudeau is former Director of Programs at the Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program, Executive Director of AlFatiha Foundation, and consultant to international human rights, gender rights and environmental advocacy organizations. While based in Istanbul, she will research and analyze the impact of Turkey's implementation of refugee and asylum provisions in its recent comprehensive immigration legislation amidst ongoing humanitarian crises along its borders.

