

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW, RUTGERS CENTER FOR TRANSNATIONAL LAW  
& RUTGERS INSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PRESENT

# GLOBAL DEMOCRATIC DECAY & THE RULE OF LAW

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM



FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024



# GLOBAL DEMOCRATIC DECAY & THE RULE OF LAW

## SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024

**8:30 AM | WELCOME, CHECK-IN, BREAKFAST**

**9:00 AM | OPENING REMARKS**

Sandra Halbing, Editor-in-Chief, *Rutgers University Law Review*  
Johanna Bond, Dean of Rutgers Law School

**9:30 AM | EAST ASIA PANEL**

Benjamin Qui, Moderator  
Alvin Cheung, Panelist  
Michael C. Davis, Panelist  
Lobsang Sangay, Panelist

**11:00 AM | BREAK (15 MINUTES)**

**11:15 AM | RUSSIA-UKRAINE PANEL**

Jean-Marc Coicaud, Moderator  
Michael Bazylar, Panelist  
Michael Kelly, Panelist  
Morgan Sielski, Panelist

**12:45 PM | LUNCH, FEATURED ADDRESS**

Opening Remarks: Prof. Kelly Deere  
Featured Address: Dennis Kwok

**2:00 PM | INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE PANEL**

Beth Stephens, Moderator  
Jorge Contesse, Panelist  
Mark Ellis, Panelist  
Margaret Satterthwaite, Panelist

**3:15 PM | CLOSING REMARKS**

Sandra Halbing, Editor-in-Chief, *Rutgers University Law Review*



# DENNIS KWOK

## Featured Speaker



Internationally acclaimed and award-winning lawyer Dennis Kwok is recognized for his contribution to the rule of law. He was a pro-democratic lawmaker in Hong Kong for eight years and has practiced law with a focus in the Asia Pacific Region for over twenty years. His extensive experience in frontline politics and various public offices offers a deep understanding of the domestic and geopolitical issues in the China region. He currently co-heads Elliot Kwok Levine & Jaroslaw LLP's International Disputes and China Corporate Advisory Practice.



# EAST ASIA PANEL

## **BENJAMIN QUI** Moderator

Benjamin Qiu has nearly two decades of experience working in China and was previously based in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. He is currently a partner at Elliott Kwok Levine & Jaroslaw LLP, where he specializes in cross-border disputes and transactions. He counsels entrepreneurs, corporate boards, investors, and multinational companies on securities, intellectual property, employment, digital privacy, human rights issues, and China-related legal and political risks. Before joining EKLJ, Benjamin was a partner of Loeb & Loeb LLP based in Beijing and Hong Kong, and prior to that he helped establish the Shanghai office of Cooley LLP. He also founded the in-house legal team and formed a number of onshore and offshore investment funds of Innovation Works, an incubator and private equity investor based in Beijing, before serving as its Senior Counsel.



## **ALVIN CHEUNG** Panelist

Alvin Cheung is an Assistant Professor at Queen's University Faculty of Law and a Non-Resident Affiliated Scholar at NYU's U.S.-Asia Law Institute. He holds degrees from NYU (J.S.D. 2020; LL.M. in International Legal Studies, 2014) and Cambridge (M.A. 2011), and has worked in Hong Kong as a barrister and as a lecturer in Law & Public Affairs at Hong Kong Baptist University. Dr. Cheung's research focuses on the relationship between law and authoritarianism. He has written and presented extensively about legal developments in Hong Kong for academic, specialist, and lay audiences.





# EAST ASIA PANEL

## MICHAEL C. DAVIS Panelist

Michael C. Davis is the Professor of Law and International Affairs at O. P. Jindal Global University, a Global Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC, and a Senior Research Scholar at both the Weatherhead East Asia Institute at Columbia University and the US Asia Law Institute at NYU. He was the 2018–2019 Residential Fellow at the Wilson Center and the 2016-2017 Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellow at the US National Endowment for Democracy. He was a Professor of Law at the University of Hong Kong for many years until late 2016. He has held a number of distinguished visiting appointments, and has published and spoken extensively on human rights and the rule of law. His latest book, *Freedom Undone: The Assault on Liberal Values and Institutions in Hong Kong* (<https://cup.columbia.edu/book/freedom-undone/9781952636448>) was just published in February 2024.



## LOBSANG SANGAY Panelist

Lobsang Sangay is a Senior Visiting Fellow at Harvard Law School’s East Asian Legal Studies Program. He was a democratically elected Sikyong (President) of the Central Tibetan Administration and served two terms (2011-21). Lobsang completed his BA and LLB from Delhi University. He received his LLM ’95 and SJD ’04 from Harvard Law School and received the Yong K. Kim’ 95 Memorial Prize for excellence in dissertation and contributions to the understanding of East Asia at the Harvard Law School. He has published extensively on Tibet and appeared at both international conferences and international television networks to offer his expertise.





# RUSSIA-UKRAINE PANEL

## JEAN-MARC COICAUD *Moderator*

Jean-Marc Coicaud is a Distinguished Professor of Law and Global Affairs at Rutgers School of Law. He has published 16 books (single-authored, co-authored and co-edited) and over 100 chapters and articles in the fields of legal and political theory, international law, international relations, and comparative politics. He has lectured extensively throughout the world and serves on the advisory board of *Global Policy Journal* (London). He is a member of the European Academy of Sciences, a Distinguished Chair Professor at Fudan Institute for Advanced Study in Social Sciences, Fudan University (Shanghai, China), and a Nonresident Senior Fellow with the Centro Internacional de Globalización y Desarrollo (CIGLOB) (Santiago, Chile). During the 2017–2018 academic year, while on sabbatical from Rutgers School of Law, Jean-Marc Coicaud was a Distinguished Fudan Scholar at Fudan Institute for Advanced Study in Social Sciences, Fudan University (Shanghai, China).



## MICHAEL BAZYLER *Panelist*

Michael Bazylar is professor of law and the 1939 Society Law Scholar in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies. He is holder of previous fellowships at Harvard Law School and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. He received his B.A. from UCLA and his JD from USC. Professor Bazylar is the author of seven books and more than two dozen law review articles, book chapters and essays on subjects covering Law and the Holocaust, restitution following genocide and other mass atrocities, public international law, international human rights law, and international trade law and comparative law. He is the founder of Ukrainian Mothers and Children Transport Initiative, a pro bono project helping Ukraine refugees find refuge in the U.S. This academic year he is teaching a Law Practicum on the Russo-Ukraine War and is the author of the forthcoming *UKRAINE WAR LAW HANDBOOK*, the first legal text on the War.



## MICHAEL KELLY *Panelist*

Professor Kelly coordinates the International and Comparative Law Program at Creighton University School of Law. He is past-president of the U.S. National Chapter and currently a member of the Board of Directors of L'Association International du Droit Pénal, a Paris-based society of international criminal law scholars, judges and attorneys founded in 1924 that enjoys consultative status with the United Nations. He co-Chairs the American Bar Association's Task Force on Internet Governance and is Corresponding Editor for the American Society of International Law's "International Legal Materials." He is the author and co-author of seven books and over forty articles; his widely-cited work is among the top 3% downloaded from the Social Science Research Network (SSRN).





# RUSSIA-UKRAINE PANEL

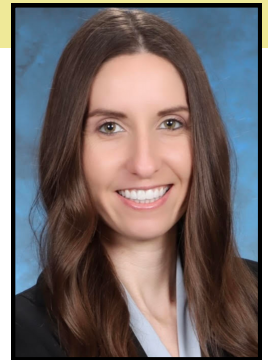
## BOJAN PEROVIC Panelist

Mr. Perovic has presented at conferences hosted by leading universities such as UCL, Lund, Columbia University, among others. Perovic has been recognized as the Jean Louis Joris International and Comparative Law Fellow by the University of Michigan Law School and served as a Research Fellow for the Centre for Studies and Research at The Hague Academy of International Law in the Netherlands. His collaborative efforts include working on a research project supported by the Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (Germany) related to deliberative democracy and transitional justice and co-authoring for Oxford Public International Law Debate Maps and Max Planck Encyclopedia of Comparative Constitutional Law (Oxford University Press). His articles have been accepted for publication or are forthcoming in venues including Peter Lang, Oxford University Press, the Mississippi Law Journal, the Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice, and the Hofstra Law Review.



## MORGAN SIELSKI Panelist

Morgan Sielski is a 3L at Chapman University Fowler School of Law in California. Her area of expertise is international law with a specific focus on the Russo-Ukraine War that began in 2014 with Russia's occupation of Crimea and the full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, the largest war in Europe since the Second World War. She is currently a student in the Ukraine War Law Practicum, the first course to be taught at any law school focusing on the war in Ukraine. She is also a researcher and contributing editor to the Ukraine War Law Handbook, the first legal text on the Ukraine War. She will be a double graduate of Chapman University upon completing her J.D. in May and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Law, Justice, and Social Control.





# INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE PANEL

## BETH STEPHENS *Moderator*

Professor Stephens has published a variety of articles on the relationship between international and domestic law, focusing on the enforcement of international human rights norms through domestic courts and the incorporation of international law into U.S. law. She co-authored a book analyzing U.S. enforcement of human rights norms, *International Human Rights Litigation in U.S. Courts* (Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2d ed. 2008). She has also written on the international law norms governing corporations. Professor Stephens was an Advisor to the American Law Institute's Restatement (Fourth) of the Foreign Relations Law of the United States and served as a legal consultant to a network of human rights groups formulating proposals for a new treaty on business and human rights. As a cooperating attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights, Professor Stephens continues to litigate pro bono human rights cases, including cases filed against U.S.-based corporations alleging responsibility for human rights violations committed in the course of their activities abroad.



## JORGE CONTESSE *Panelist*

Jorge Contesse is a scholar of international human rights and comparative constitutional law, focusing on the judicialization of international law and on the interaction between domestic constitutional actors and international human rights regimes, in particular, the inter-American human rights system. His work has appeared in the *American Journal of International Law*, the *Harvard International Law Journal*, the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*, and the *Yale Journal of International Law*, among others. He is the founding Director of the Rutgers Center for Transnational Law. In October, 2023, Professor Contesse was elected by the States parties to the Convention Against Torture to serve as a member of the United Nations Committee Against Torture for the term 2024–2027.







# INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE PANEL

## MARK ELLIS Panelist

As Executive Director of the International Bar Association (IBA), Dr. Ellis leads the foremost international organization of bar associations, law firms and individual lawyers in the world. The IBA comprises more than 190 national bar associations, major international law firms and 80,000 members worldwide. Prior to joining the IBA, he spent ten years as the first Executive Director of the Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (CEELI), a project of the American Bar Association (ABA). Providing technical legal assistance to twenty-eight countries in Central Europe and the former Soviet Union and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), CEELI remains the most extensive international pro bono legal assistance project ever undertaken by the US legal community. He acted as legal advisor to the International Commission on Kosovo and participated in the tribunals in Iraq, Kosovo, the ICTY and Cambodia. He is actively involved with Ukraine and the ICC. Mark is a frequent speaker and media commentator on international legal issues and has published extensively on international humanitarian law, war crimes tribunals, and the development of the rule of law. His op-eds have appeared in *The New York Times*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *Huffington Post* and the *London Times*.



## MARGARET SATTERTHWAITE Panelist

Margaret Satterthwaite is Professor of Clinical Law, Faculty Director of the Robert L. Bernstein Institute for Human Rights, Faculty Director of the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, and the Director of the Global Justice Clinic at NYU School of Law. Her research interests include legal empowerment, vicarious trauma and wellbeing among human rights workers, and interdisciplinary methods in human rights. Before joining the academy, she clerked for Judge Betty Fletcher of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the judges of the International Court of Justice, and worked for a number of human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, Human Rights First, and the Commission Nationale de Verité et de Justice in Haiti. She has authored or co-authored more than a dozen human rights reports and dozens of scholarly articles and book chapters. Satterthwaite has worked as a consultant to numerous UN agencies and special rapporteurs and has served on the boards of several human rights organizations. She received her JD magna cum laude from NYU School of Law, her MA from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and her BA from Eugene Lang College of the New School University.

