

Gonzaga University School of Law

Freedom of Expression

As a Human Right

June 2-3, 2019—Firenze, Italia

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Italia



Freedom of Expression as a Human Right



Introduction

Gonzaga University School of Law's 2019 Human Rights Conference in Florence, Italy will explore the history, values, tensions, and future of free expression. Hosted at Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Italia, Gonzaga's annual conference will unpack these questions across three panels and two keynote speeches addressing academic freedom, religious and cultural expression, technology and democracy, and hate speech and harmful expression. The presenters include jurists, academics, and other human rights experts from the United States, Italy, Spain, Croatia, South Africa, Australia, the Philippines, and Chile. Through these lenses into human rights, Gonzaga expects this program to sharpen the focus on how freedom of expression best can serve as a foundation for human rights around the world.

Approved for 7.75 CLE credits in Washington State

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW:

June 2, 2019

Center for Civil and Human Rights at Gonzaga Law Keynote:

Dr. Teresa Sullivan
President *Emerita*, University of Virginia (2010-2018):
Academic Freedom

June 3, 2019

Gonzaga Law in Florence Keynote:

Honorable Raul Cano Pangalangan
Judge of the International Criminal Court
Non-Traditional Demands on International Criminal Courts

Panel 1: Religious and Cultural Expression

Religion and culture are intimately intertwined with human expression. Yet historically, the expressive components of religion and culture have been both over- and under-valued, reinforcing religious and cultural hegemonies. This panel will explore how societies should cultivate and protect religious and cultural expression without unfairly privileging or burdening specific religions or cultures. With experts from the United States, Croatia, Italy, and Chile, this panel will consider these questions in the context of an increasingly mobile and interconnected world.

Panel 2: Technology and Democracy

Free expression is foundational to a healthy democracy premised on the rule of law. This panel will examine the impact of fast-evolving expressive technologies on local and global democracy. Working from this theme, interdisciplinary experts from Italy, the United States, Spain, and Australia will interrogate subjects including libel, internet platforms, technological disruption, journalism, and corporate transparency.

Panel 3: Hate Speech and Harmful Expression

The law has always recognized outer boundaries to the protection of speech. Speech also has been deployed historically to undermine human rights. “Hate speech,” for example, has become a focal point in contemporary debates about harmful expression that may exceed the boundaries of speech that the law should protect. With panelists from South Africa, the United States, and Italy, this panel will consider whether and how the law should police boundary lines separating protected speech from harmful expression, all consistent with human rights.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

June 2, 2019

Opening Keynote Reception: 6:00-8:00pm

Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai, Firenze

Welcome and Introduction:

Jason Gillmer

Professor of Law and Hemmingson Chair in Civil Liberties
Director, Center for Civil and Human Rights at Gonzaga Law
Gonzaga University School of Law

Dr. Jacob H. Rooksby

Dean and Professor of Law
Gonzaga University School of Law

Keynote Presentation:



Dr. Teresa Sullivan

President *Emerita*, University of Virginia (2010-2018)
Academic Freedom

June 3, 2019

Full-Day Conference Program

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Italia, Firenze

Registration and Welcoming Remarks (8:30-9:30am):

- Brooks Holland, Professor of Law, Curran Chair in Legal Ethics and Professionalism, Director of Global Legal Education, Gonzaga University School of Law
- Dr. Jason Houston, Associate Professor of Italian, Director of Gonzaga in Florence, Gonzaga University
- Valentina Pagliai, Senior Human Rights Education Manager, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Italia

Panel 1 (9:30-11:30am): *Religious and Cultural Expression*

- Chair: Douglas Laycock, Robert E. Scott Professor of Law and Professor of Religious Studies, University of Virginia, and Alice McKean Young Regents Chair in Law *Emeritus*, University of Texas School of Law
- Dr. Maja Munivrana Vajda, Associate Professor of Law, University of Zagreb Faculty of Law: *The Right to Mock, Ridicule, and Criticize Religion: Exploring the Limits of Free Speech in a Democratic and Just Society*
- Dr. Roberto Sirvent, Professor of Political and Social Ethics, Hope International University: *Imagining New Worlds: Religion, Revolution, and Abolitionist Dreams*
- Dr. Rodrigo Cespedes, Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology: *Religious Speech, Academic Freedom, and Religious Institutions' Autonomy: European Case Law*
- Laura De Pasqual, Ph.D candidate, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano: *Freedom of Religion in Multicultural Europe: The Achbita and Bougnaoui Cases*

Keynote Luncheon: 11:45-1:15pm

Introduction:

Dr. Upendra Dev Acharya
Professor of Law and Roberts Family Scholar
Gonzaga University School of Law

Keynote Presentation:



Honorable Raul Cano Pangalangan
Judge of the International Criminal Court
Non-Traditional Demands on International Criminal Courts

Panel 2 (1:30-3:15pm): *Technology and Democracy*

- Chair: Dr. Zachariah Paulo Messitte, President and Professor of Politics and Government, Ripon College (Wisconsin); Associate Fellow, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)
- Dr. Albert Ruda, Dean, University of Girona School of Law: *Freedom of Expression Under Siege: A Human Rights Perspective on Spanish Libel Law*
- Olympia Duhart, Associate Dean for Faculty and Student Development and Professor of Law, Nova Southeastern Broad College of Law, and Dr. Steven Friedland, Professor of Law, Elon University School of Law: *Sword and Shield: The Disruptive Impact of Technology on Human Rights*
- Dr. Ilaria Forestieri, Adjunct Professor and Post-Doctoral Researcher, Università di Firenze School of Law: *Sustainability Reporting in SMEs as Instruments of Direct Democracy*
- Marta Achler, Ph.D. Researcher, Department of Law, European University Institute: *Regulation of Fundamental Rights on the Internet: Do We Know How To Do It?*

Panel 3 (3:30-5:30pm): *Hate Speech and Harmful Expression*

- Chair: Douglas Laycock, Robert E. Scott Professor of Law and Professor of Religious Studies, University of Virginia, and Alice McKean Young Regents Chair in Law *Emeritus*, University of Texas School of Law
- Dr. Avitus Agbor, Research Professor, School of Postgraduate Programmes, North-West University Faculty of Law: *Reflecting on the Liability of Negationists in South Africa*
- Sahar Aziz, Professor of Law and Chancellor's Social Justice Scholar, and Director, Center for Security, Race, and Rights, Rutgers University Law School: *The Marketplace of Hate: Protecting Muslims from Islamophobia*
- Dr. Federica Casarosa, Research Fellow—Center for Judicial Cooperation, European University Institute: *The European Regulatory Approach Toward Hate Speech Online: The Balance Between Efficient and Effective Protection*
- Dr. Stefano Maffei, Lecturer in Law, Università di Parma—Law Department: *Extradition for Offensive Speech against the Sovereign*

