



International and
interdisciplinary symposium
Brussels, 22-23 March 2018

THE USE OF LAW BY SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

LA MOBILISATION DU DROIT PAR LES MOUVEMENTS SOCIAUX ET LA SOCIÉTÉ CIVILE

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE: Marie-Laurence Hébert-Dolbec (ULB) – Julien Pieret (ULB) –
Geoffrey Pleyers (UCL) – Julie Ringelheim (UCL) – Annemie Schaus (ULB) –
Barbara Truffin (ULB) – Laura Van den Eynde (ULB) – Agatha Verdebout (ULB)

Venue:

**Sleep Well Hostel
Rooms Schuman and Monnet
35 Rue du Damier
1000 Brussels**

Registration (free): colloque.22-23.mars.2018@ulb.ac.be



THE USE OF LAW BY SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY

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Thursday 22 March 2018

8h45-9h: Welcome

9h-9h15: Introduction, *Geoffrey Pleyers (FNRS/UCL, President of RC 47 of the International Sociology Association), Agatha Verdebout (ULB, member of the ARC « Strategic Litigation »)*

9h15-9h45: The Use of Law by Social Movements and Civil Society. A Brief History of the Field, *Michael McCann, University of Washington*

1. Political protests in legal arenas (10h-12h)*

Moderator: Julien Pieret (ULB)

- Kangaroo Court: The Black Power Movement and the Courtroom as a Site of Resistance, *Joyce Bell, University of Minnesota*
- Le procès de la violence policière en Russie: outil stratégique expert ou vecteur de mobilisation ?, *Anne Le Huérou, Université Paris X Nanterre*
- « Justice pour Norbert Zongo » : une mobilisation conjointe du droit et de la rue, *Habibou Fofana, University Ouaga 2*
- Calling the State to Account: How Human Rights (Non)-Activists Learn to Use Law Against the State in 'Enforced Disappearances' Cases in Pakistan, *Salman Hussain, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology*

2. New sites and new modes of mobilization (10h-12h)

Moderator: Julie Ringelheim (FNRS/UCL)

- Constitutional Mobilization in the Transnational Sphere, *Paul Blokker, Charles University in Prague*
- Social Rural Movements, Popular Advocacy and Legal Training. The Experience of Law Bachelor Courses of La Via Campesina in Brazil, *Aline Borghoff Maia & Leonilde Servolo de Medeiros, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro*
- Burning the Paper Tiger: The Dwindling of Civil Society Bodies Within Trading Regimes, *Sabaa Ahmad Khan, University of Eastern Finland*
- « As an Activist, You Use What You Have »: Brazil's Public Defender and the Belo Monte Dam, *Peter Taylor Klein, Bard College*

12h-13h: Lunch

13h-13h30 : Professionnels du droit et mouvements sociaux. Des relations complexes, *Liora Israël, EHESS*

3. The role of legal professionals (13h45-15h45)

Moderator: Aude Lejeune (CNRS/Lille University)

- On Transgressive Lawyers and Judicial Case Reviews in the US, Germany and Hong Kong, *Helena Flam, University of Leipzig*
- The Use of Pro-Bono Work by NGOs and Organisations : Legal Activism or Minimising the Cause ?, *Charles Bosvieux-Onyekwelu, EHESS*
- Is the Litigation Before the European Court of Human Rights Under the Influence of American Private Foundations ?, *Gaëtan Cliquennois, University of Strasbourg*
- The Subjectivity in the Legal Strategies of Social Movements. Resiliency and Melancholy in the Mobilization of those Affected by Resource-Extractive Industry in Brazil, *Cristiana Losekann, University Federal do Espírito Santo, Brazil*

4. The repression of mobilizations (13h45-15h45)

Moderator: Geoffrey Pleyers (FNRS/UCL)

- No Truths Left to Report : Cause Lawyers, Trolls, and the Freedom of Information in Russia's Surveillance State, *Freek van der Vet, University of Helsinki*
- Studying Two Faces of Law in Contemporary Democracies : State Repression of Protest and Human Rights Mobilization, *Débora Alves Maciel & Marta Rodriguez Machado, Federal University of São Paulo*
- The Use of Human Rights Law to Repress Social Movements: the Case of BDS in France, *Marco Perolini, Goldsmith College*
- Law as Disobedience Tactic of Occupation Brazil, *Carolina Amadeo, Birbeck School of Law*

15h45-16h: Coffee break

5. Mobilizing social rights (16h-18h)*

Moderator: Elise Dermine (ULB)

- Construire sa propre défaite ? Les affaires Viking et Laval : un échec judiciaire pour le syndicalisme européen, *Julien Louis, University of Strasbourg*
- Discussing the Ambivalent Role of Law in Mobilisations of Social Movement in Light of Austerity : the Cases of Portugal and France, *Carolina Alves Vestena, University of Kassel*
- Le droit de grève et la législation d'exception au Québec. Perspective historique (1964-2017), *Martin Petitclerc, UQAM*
- Bringing Lawyers and Social Movements Together in Ireland to Promote the Human Rights of People in Mortgage Distress, *Marguerite Angelari, Open Society Justice Initiative*

6. Globalization of struggles and circulation of legal practices (16h-18h)

Moderator: Matthias Sant'ana (ULB)

- Beyond the Courts : Repercussions of Legal Activism Around Seeds in Brazil and India, *Karine Peschard, IHEID*
- Mobilizing Intersectionality to Combat Discrimination in Europe: Circulations of a Social Critique, *Raphaële Xenidis, EUI*
- The Transnational Mobilisation and Legal Pluralism. Social Movements and Labour Rights in the Global Garment Industry, *Sabrina Zajak, Ruhr-University Bochum, Eva Kocher, University of Frankfurt & Nina Wienkoop, Leuphana University Lüneburg*

18h-20h: Cocktail

*means that there will be simultaneous interpretation for this presentation/panel from French to English.

Friday 23 March 2018

9h-9h15: Welcome

9h15-9h45: Nouveaux mouvements sociaux et nouvelles théories critiques : quelles convergences ?,

*Bruno Frère, Université de Liège**

7. The refusal to use law (10h-12h)*

Moderator: Vanessa De Greef (ULB)

- The Right to Die Movement in Italy : From Litigation to Actions of Civil Disobedience, *Cristina Poncibo, University of Turin*
- La culture juridique canadienne des droits de la personne : un obstacle à la mobilisation des droits sociaux par les organisations de la société civile ?, *Christine Vézina, University Laval*
- L'action de groupe en santé : la dimension collective d'un mode d'action judiciaire en question, *Hélène Michel, University of Strasbourg*
- Social Movements Skepticism and the Rise of Mass Protest as a Strategic Alternative to Legal Action in Nigeria, *Usman Adekunle Ojedokun, University of Ibadan*

8. The use of law by conservative movements (10h-12h)

Moderator: Agatha Verdebout (ULB)

- How and Why Interest Groups Combine Public Awareness Campaigns and Strategic Litigation, *Britta Rehder & Katherina van Elten, Ruhr-University Bochum*
- Law in a Service of Values : Enforcement of Values and Identity Through Legal Norms by the Croatian Conservative Movement, *Antonija Petrocusic, University of Zagreb*
- The Radiating Effect of the European Court of Human Rights on Social Movements : LGTB Rights, Strategic Litigation and Counter-Mobilizations in Greece, *Margarita Markoviti, ELIAMEP*
- International Human Rights Law as a Tool of Repression : International Evangelical Organisations, Development Funding and LGBT Rights, *Kevin Crow, University Halle-Wittenberg*

12h-13h: Lunch

13h-13h30: The impacts of strategic human rights litigation. A view from the field,

Jim Goldston, Executive Director of Open Society Justice Initiative

9. Reproductive rights and divorce (13h45-15h45)

Moderator: Barbara Truffin (ULB)

- The Role of International Human Rights Law in Abortion Law and Politics in Ireland, *Christine Ryan, Duke University*
- Women's Legal Mobilisation and Family Law in Colombia : the Quest for Divorce in the 20th Century, *Alma Beltran y Puga, University de Los Andes*
- Radical Aims Through Moderate Means : Legal Mobilizations and Framing Transformation in the Process of Abortion Legalization in Mexico City, *Alba Ruibal, National University of Córdoba*
- *Korolev v. Russia* on a Right of an Unborn Child to Life: A Case Study of Law and Lawyers as Agents of Social Change in an Autocratic Society, *Anton Burkov, University of Humanities (Yekaterinburg)*

10. Defending minorities through litigation (13h45-15h45)

Moderator: Marie-Laurence Hébert-Dolbec (ULB)

- « Be Cautious When You Mobilize the Law ». Labor Unions and the Promotion of Disabled Members' Rights in Belgium, *Aude Lejeune, University of Lille / UdeM*
- A Tale of Two Judgments : The Afterlives of a Defeat and a Victory for Queer Rights in India, *Danish Sheikh, Jindal Global Law School*
- Reactive or Proactive Courts? Two Case Studies on Legal Mobilisation for Migrants Rights : Italy and the UK, *Virginia Passalacqua, EUI*
- The Soros Network's Hegemonic Role in the Roma Rights Movement, *Lilla Farkas, EUI*

15h45-16h: Coffee break

16h-16h30: Law and Social Movements: A Post-Colonial Perspective,

Shalini Randeria, IWM

16h30-18h00: Conclusions / Round table

Moderators : Julie Ringelheim (UCL) & Laura Van den Eynde (ULB)

Michael McCann, Liora Israël, Bruno Frère, Shalini Randeria

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