

A low-angle photograph of the Statue of Liberty against a clear blue sky. The statue is shown from the chest up, holding the torch aloft in her right hand. The crown with its seven spikes is prominent. The lighting is bright, casting shadows on the statue's face and clothing.

RENEWING U.S. COMMITMENT TO REFUGEE PROTECTION:

The 30th Anniversary
of the Refugee Act

Washington, D.C.
March 16, 2010

 human rights *first*

GEORGETOWN LAW

PROGRAM

AGENDA – A.M.

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Speakers

Robin West – Associate Dean for Research and Academic Programs, Georgetown University Law Center

Elisa Massimino – President and CEO, Human Rights First

Remarks will be followed by the screening of a new short film by Human Rights First on the history of the Refugee Act and the U.S. commitment to asylum and refugee protection.

9:15 – 10:00 Morning Keynote

Speaker

Eric Schwartz – Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State

10:00 – 10:20 Remarks on the Protection of Refugees as an Important Reflection of American Values by the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Refugee Caucus

Speakers

Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA/16th) – Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

Representative Christopher Smith (R-NJ/4th) – Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health

10:30 – 12:00 U.S. Asylum System: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

The Refugee Act of 1980 was intended to bring the United States into compliance with the country's commitments under the 1951 Refugee Convention and its Protocol. The Act incorporated the Convention's definition of a "refugee" and created an explicit asylum provision in U.S. immigration law for the first time. In the intervening years, new barriers have made it more difficult for legitimate refugees to receive asylum in this country, and significant disparities in asylum adjudications have been documented. The 30th anniversary of the Refugee Act presents an opportunity to discuss these and other challenges and the potential for improvements.

Panelists

Eleanor Acer – Director, Refugee Protection Program, Human Rights First

Ann Buwalda – U.S. Director, Jubilee Campaign; Founder, Just Law International

David Martin – Principal Deputy General Counsel, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Juan Osuna – Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Immigration Litigation, U.S. Department of Justice; former Chair, Board of Immigration Appeals

Philip Schrag – Delaney Family Professor of Public Interest Law, Georgetown University Law Center

Moderator

Kathleen Newland – Director, Migration Policy Institute

AGENDA – P.M.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch and Discussion – *Seeking Safety: Refugees and Asylees Speak*
(lunch will be provided)

Panelists

Deborah Amos – Foreign Correspondent, National Public Radio

Panelists from Burma, Sierra Leone, Iraq and Sudan

(Following lunch, Ms. Amos will sign copies of her new book *Eclipse of the Sunnis: Power, Exile, and Upheaval in the Middle East*, which will be available for purchase.)

1:45 – 3:15 U.S. Refugee Resettlement System: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

The Refugee Act of 1980 created a system for admitting refugees who are of special humanitarian concern to the United States, as well as programs to assist those refugees in their resettlement post-arrival. Thirty years later, hundreds of thousands of refugees have been resettled in this country. Many of them – and their children – are now U.S. citizens and thriving members of their U.S. communities. The 30th anniversary of the Refugee Act presents an opportunity to reflect on achievements but also to discuss challenges and the potential for improvements.

Panelists

Mark Hetfield – Senior Vice President of Policy and Programs, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

AnnaMarie Bena – Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

David Robinson – Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State

Amy Slaughter – Director of Operations, Mapendo International

Moderator

Andrew Schoenholtz – Deputy Director, Institute for the Study of International Migration;
Visiting Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center

3:30 – 4:30 Looking Forward: The Road Ahead

After thirty years of experience under the Refugee Act, how should U.S. refugee resettlement and asylum systems be implemented in the future? This final panel will incorporate the day's discussions and highlight challenges, positive developments, and recommendations for moving forward.

Panelists

Scott Busby [Invited] – Director for Human Rights, Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights,
National Security Council

Bob Carey – Vice President of Resettlement, International Rescue Committee; Chair, Refugee Council USA

Mary Meg McCarthy – Executive Director, National Immigrant Justice Center

Moderator

Doris Meissner – Senior Fellow, Migration Policy Institute; former Commissioner, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service

4:30 – 5:00 The Importance of U.S. Commitment and Leadership

Closing Keynote

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees **António Guterres**

5:30 – 8:00 Reception hosted by Jones Day

Please join us after the symposium for a reception hosted at Jones Day, 300 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, featuring remarks by High Commissioner Guterres and Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Alejandro Mayorkas, and traditional Ethiopian music.



Human Rights First will be tweeting live from the event.
Follow the conversation at <http://twitter.com/humanrights1st>

PRESENTER BIOS

Eleanor Acer

Director, Refugee Protection Program, Human Rights First

As the director of Human Rights First's Refugee Protection Program, Eleanor Acer oversees the organization's advocacy on behalf of refugees and displaced people as well as its pro bono legal representation program for asylum seekers in the United States. Ms. Acer has authored numerous reports and articles on issues relating to refugee protection, human rights and legal representation. She speaks regularly on issues relating to refugee and migrant rights. Ms. Acer served as the vice-chair of Refugee Council USA from 2006 to 2008. Before coming to Human Rights First, she was an associate handling federal litigation at Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP and before that at Lord Day & Lord, Barrett Smith.

Deborah Amos

Foreign Correspondent, National Public Radio

Deborah Amos covers Iraq for NPR News. Her reports can be heard on NPR's award-winning *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Weekend Edition*. Ms. Amos started with NPR in 1977, during which she was the London Bureau Chief and a foreign correspondent in Amman, Jordan. Ms. Amos left NPR for a decade to work in television news, including ABC's *Nightline* and *World News Tonight* and the PBS programs *NOW with Bill Moyers* and *Frontline*. She has won several awards for her journalism, including an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, a Breakthru Award, a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award, the Prix Italia, and the Ohio State Award. Ms. Amos also was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University. Her new book, *Eclipse of the Sunnis: Power, Exile, and Upheaval in the Middle East* (PublicAffairs, 2010) was released on March 9, 2010.

AnnaMarie Bena

Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

AnnaMarie Bena is Assistant General Counsel in the Children, Families and Aging Division of the Office of the General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She is currently serving on a detail as the Senior Advisor to the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, providing policy and programmatic advice on all programs within the Office. As Assistant General Counsel, she normally advises the Office of Refugee Resettlement on the Unaccompanied Alien Children, Anti-Trafficking in Persons, and Refugee programs. Previously, Ms. Bena served as a Protection Officer in Zambia and as a Legal Counselor in Washington, D.C. for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. She also has worked as an advocate for the Catholic Legal Immigration Network. Prior to her current position in the Health and Human Services Office of the General Counsel, she was the Immigration Specialist in the Office of Refugee Resettlement.

Ann Buwalda

Founder and Owner, Just Law International; USA Director, Jubilee Campaign USA

Ann Buwalda became Director for Jubilee Campaign USA in 1991 when she launched the organization in the Washington, DC area. In March 1996 she founded the law firm, Just Law International, PC, which focuses on immigration law practice and particularly asylum and refugee cases. Since 1990, Ms. Buwalda has participated almost annually at the United Nations Human Rights Commission and, now, the Human Rights Council in Geneva. In October 2000, she served as one of the “public members” on the United States Delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Human Rights Dimension Implementation Review Meeting held in Warsaw. She prepared and delivered the Statement for the United States delegation on the topic, Freedom of Thought, Conscience, Religion or Belief. On several occasions Ms. Buwalda has testified before sub-committees of the United States Congress and the Congressional Human Rights Caucus concerning human rights, religious freedom and the plight of refugees in various countries. Ms. Buwalda served as adjunct professor teaching Immigration Law at Regent University in 1996 and since 2002 teaches International Asylum/Refugee and Human Rights Law each year as an adjunct professor at Handong International Law School in Pohang, Korea.

Bob Carey

Vice President of Resettlement and Migration Policy, International Rescue Committee

Bob Carey is the Vice President of Resettlement and Migration Policy at the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Chair of Refugee Council USA, a coalition of U.S. non-governmental organizations focused on refugee protection. He represents the IRC in its dealings with government and multinational agencies, including the Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration at the U.S. Department of State; the UN High Commissioner for Refugees; and various other U.S. agencies. Mr. Carey has traveled to the Balkans, Southeast Asia, West Africa, Europe and all 23 national IRC resettlement offices to advocate on behalf of refugees. Before joining the IRC, Mr. Carey worked as the Director of Immigration for the Tolstoy Foundation.

High Commissioner António Guterres UN High Commissioner for Refugees

António Guterres was elected as UN High Commissioner for Refugees in 2005. Before joining UNHCR, he spent more than 20 years in government and public service. High Commissioner Guterres served as Portuguese Prime Minister from 1996 to 2002, during which he was strongly involved in the international effort to resolve the crisis in East Timor. As president of the European Council in early 2000, he led the adoption of the so-called Lisbon Agenda and co-chaired the first European Union-Africa summit. He also founded the Portuguese Refugee Council in 1991, and was part of the Council of State of Portugal from 1991 to 2002. From 1981 to 1983, he was a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, as well as chairman of the Committee on Demography, Migration and Refugees. During his term at UNHCR, High Commissioner Guterres has provided dedicated leadership to efforts addressing the Iraqi refugee crisis.

Mark Hetfield Senior Vice President for Policy and Programs, Hebrew Immigration Aid Society

Mark Hetfield began his career serving as a Russian-speaking HIAS caseworker in Rome for Soviet Jewish applicants. He later rejoined the agency as its Washington Representative, and again as its Director of International Operations at HIAS Headquarters in New York. He is currently the Senior Vice President for Policy and Programs at HIAS. For three years prior to rejoining HIAS in April of 2006, Mr. Hetfield was on the staff of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, where he was the Commission's senior advisor on refugee issues and directed a Congressionally authorized study on the treatment of asylum seekers in expedited removal proceedings, released in February 2005. Mr. Hetfield and his study team were awarded the Arthur C. Helton Award for the Advancement of Human Rights for the study by the American Immigration Lawyers Association. In addition, Mr. Hetfield served for five years in the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington and at the U.S. Embassy in Haiti. He also practiced immigration law while associated with the Washington D.C. office of the law firm of Fulbright and Jaworski.

Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren Representative of the Sixteenth District of California, U.S. House of Representatives

Zoe Lofgren represents the 16th District of California in the U.S. House of Representatives, an office she has held continually since being elected in 1994. Before that, she served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors for 13 years. Congresswoman Lofgren has extensive experience in immigration law, having worked as a partner in an immigration law firm in San Jose and taught immigration law at Santa Clara University. Congresswoman Lofgren is currently the chair of the 34-member California Democratic Congressional Delegation and serves on the Judiciary Committee, where she is the chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law and the co-chair of the House Refugee Caucus. As chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee with jurisdiction over asylum and refugee matters, Congresswoman Lofgren has led efforts to improve the quality of medical care in immigration detention, protect unaccompanied minors, supported efforts to protect vulnerable refugee populations overseas and, where appropriate, facilitate their resettlement to the United States.

David Martin Principal Deputy General Counsel, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

David Martin is the Principal Deputy General Counsel of the Department of Homeland Security and, prior to that appointment, was a member of President Obama's transition team. He previously served as General Counsel of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs at the Department of State, and as a consultant to the Departments of Justice and State, during which he advised them about reforms to the asylum and refugee resettlement systems. Mr. Martin is the Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of International Law at the University of Virginia, where he regularly teaches immigration law and a course in presidential powers. He is a leading academic expert on immigration and refugee law, and has written extensively on the subject, including *The United States Refugee Admissions Program: Reforms for a New Era of Refugee Resettlement* (Migration Policy Institute, 2005) and *Refining Immigration Law's Role in Counterterrorism* (The Brookings Institute, 2009).

Elisa Massimino

President and Chief Executive Officer, Human Rights First

Elisa Massimino was named President and Chief Executive Officer of Human Rights First in September 2008. She first joined Human Rights First as a staff attorney in 1991 to help establish the Washington office. From 1997 to 2008 she served as the organization's Washington Director. Previously, Ms. Massimino was a litigator in private practice at the Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson, where she was pro bono counsel in many human rights cases. Ms. Massimino also serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where she teaches human rights advocacy, and she has taught international human rights law at the University of Virginia and refugee law at the George Washington University School. As a national authority on human rights law and policy, Ms. Massimino has testified before Congress dozens of times and writes frequently for mainstream publications and specialized journals. In May 2008, the influential Washington newspaper *The Hill* named her one of the top 20 public advocates in the country.

Alejandro Mayorkas*

Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Alejandro Mayorkas was sworn in as Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on August 12, 2009. He previously served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California from 1989 to 1998, during which time he founded a civil rights section focused specifically on hate crimes and discrimination and served as vice chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee on Civil Rights. Most recently, he worked as a litigation partner at O'Melveny & Myers LLP, where he did significant *pro bono* work. Mr. Mayorkas, an immigrant from Cuba, was named one of the National Law Journal's 50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America in 2008.

* Mr. Mayorkas will speak at the evening reception at Jones Day.

Mary Meg McCarthy

Director, National Immigration Justice Center

Mary Meg McCarthy has served as the director of the National Immigration Justice Center (NIJC) since 1998 and oversees all aspects of NIJC's legal services and advocacy on behalf of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Under her direction, NIJC has built a pro bono network of more than 700 attorneys in Chicago alone and has become the leading immigrant and human rights program in the Midwest. Prior to joining NIJC in 1998, Ms. McCarthy practiced civil litigation at the law firm of Horvath & Lieber and served as a pro bono attorney for NIJC's asylum project.

Doris Meissner

Senior Fellow, Migration Policy Institute

Doris Meissner is a Senior Fellow at the Migration Policy Institute where she directs MPI's work on U.S. immigration policy. From 1993 to 2000, she served in the Clinton administration as Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, then part of the U.S. Department of Justice. She first joined the Department of Justice in 1973 as a White House Fellow and Special Assistant to the Attorney General and subsequently served in various senior policy posts there. In 1986, Ms. Meissner joined the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace as a Senior Associate, and created the Endowment's Immigration Policy Project, which became MPI in 2001. She is Vice Chair of CARE-USA and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Inter-American Dialogue, and the Pacific Council on International Policy. She is also a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. Ms. Meissner's most recent awards are the Legacy of Leadership Award given by the White House Fellows Foundation and the UW Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Kathleen Newland

Director and Board Member, Migration Policy Institute

Kathleen Newland is co-founder of the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) and directs MPI's programs on migrants, migration, and development and comprehensive protection for refugees and internally displaced people. Previously, at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, she was a Senior Associate and then Co-director of the International Migration Policy Program. Ms. Newland has also worked as an independent consultant for such clients as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Bank, and the office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. She sits on the Board of the International Rescue Committee, and is a Chair Emerita of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. She is also on the Board of the Foundation for the Hague Process on Migrants and Refugees. Ms. Newland has served on the faculty of the London School of Economics, and has written six books and numerous articles and book chapters.

Juan Osuna

Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Immigration Litigation, U.S. Department of Justice

Juan Osuna is the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Immigration Litigation in the Department of Justice. Before this appointment, he served on the Board of Immigration Appeals, including as the Chairman of the Board from 2006 to 2009. Mr. Osuna also worked as senior principal attorney editor at the West Group and consultant for Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., in Washington, D.C., where he edited a number of publications. He has taught law at the Federal Judicial Center's Division of Court Education and at The American University, where he was an adjunct professor in the University's Washington Semester Program.

David Robinson

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees, U.S. Department of State

David Robinson is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees at the Department of State. Previously, as a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Mr. Robinson was the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, with responsibility for Central America, Cuba, and the Caribbean. He served as Ambassador to Guyana from 2006 to 2008, as Deputy Chief of Mission in La Paz, Bolivia from 2003 to 2006, and as Deputy Chief of Mission in Asuncion, Paraguay from 2000 to 2003. In addition to several assignments in Washington, including most recently as Special Coordinator for Venezuela, he also has been posted in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Iceland.

Andrew Schoenholtz

Visiting Professor of Law, Deputy Director of the Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

In addition to his roles as Professor of Law and Deputy Director of the Institute for the Study of International Migration, Andrew Schoenholtz is the Co-Director of the Center for Applied Legal Studies, in which students represent refugees who are seeking asylum in the United States. Professor Schoenholtz co-directs the Certificate Program in Refugee and Humanitarian Emergencies, which is open to Law and Masters level students at the University, and serves as the Faculty Advisor to the Georgetown Immigration Law Journal. Before going to Georgetown, he served as Deputy Director of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform and practiced immigration, asylum and international law with Covington & Burling. Professor Schoenholtz has conducted fact-finding missions in Haiti, Cuba, Ecuador, Germany, Croatia, Bosnia, Malawi, and Zambia to study root causes of forced migration, refugee protection, long-term solutions to mass migration emergencies, and humanitarian relief operations. He has authored or co-authored several publications on refugees, including *Refugee Roulette: Disparities in Asylum Adjudication and Proposals for Reform* (N.Y.U. Press, 2009).

Philip Schrag

Delaney Family Professor of Public Interest Law, Georgetown University Law Center

In addition to being a Professor of Law, Philip Schrag is the Co-Director of the Center for Applied Legal Studies, in which students represent refugees who are seeking asylum in the United States. Before joining the Georgetown faculty in 1981, he was Assistant Counsel to the NAACP Legal Defense Educational Fund, Consumer Advocate of the City of New York, and Deputy General Counsel of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, from which he received a Meritorious Honor Award in 1981. Professor Schrag has written dozens of articles on consumer law, nuclear arms control, political asylum, and various other topics, and has authored or co-authored fourteen books, including three on asylum law and policy: *A Well-Founded Fear: The Congressional Battle to Save Political Asylum in America* (Routledge, 1999), *Asylum Denied* (University of California Press, 2008), and *Refugee Roulette: Disparities in Asylum Adjudication and Proposals for Reform* (N.Y.U. Press, 2009). He has been honored with the Association of American Law Schools' Deborah L. Rhode award for advancing public service opportunities in law schools through scholarship, service and leadership, Lexis/Nexis' Daniel Levy Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in Immigration Law, and the Outstanding Law School Faculty Award of Equal Justice Works for leadership in nurturing a spirit of public service in legal education and beyond.

Assistant Secretary Eric Schwartz

Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State

Eric Schwartz is the Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration. Prior to his appointment as Assistant Secretary, Schwartz held several positions within the United Nations system, including Deputy Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery under then-UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and second-ranking official at the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. He also served as a lead expert for the Congressionally-mandated Mitchell-Gingrich Task Force on United Nations Reform. Assistant Secretary Schwartz spent many years at the beginning of his career serving the National Security Council and the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee, focusing mainly on foreign policy in Asia. He has advocated and written extensively about peace operations, humanitarian issues, and refugee policy as Executive Director of the Connect U.S. Fund, the Washington Director of the human rights organization Asia Watch (now known as Human Rights Watch-Asia), and as a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center, the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Council on Foreign Relations.

Amy Slaughter

Director of Operations, Mapendo International

Amy Slaughter joined Mapendo International in June 2008 as the Director of Operations. She has worked in the field of refugee protection and assistance for 15 years for a variety of refugee NGOs and IOM, both in the United States and overseas. Before going to Mapendo, she worked with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society in Vienna as the Director of the U.S. refugee processing program. She has also served as a consultant for UNHCR's Resettlement Section in Geneva and FilmAid International.

Congressman Christopher Smith
Representative of the Fourth District of New Jersey, U.S. House of Representatives

Christopher Smith has represented the 4th District of New Jersey in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1981, when he was elected at age 27. During that time, Congressman Smith has been a leading voice in Congress on the promotion of human rights and the protection of refugees and vulnerable migrant populations, such as unaccompanied minors and victims of human trafficking. His many legislative achievements include the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Law of 2000, the nation's first law to prevent human trafficking, protect its victims, and prosecute its perpetrators. In January 2006, President Bush signed Congressman Smith's third trafficking law – the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2005. Congressman Smith is a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Ranking Republican of the Committee's Africa and Global Health Subcommittee. He is also co-chair of the House Refugee Caucus.

Robin West
Associate Dean of Research and Academic Programs, Frederick J. Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy, Georgetown University Law Center

Professor Robin West is an Associate Dean and Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center. Previously, she taught at the University of Maryland Law School from 1986-1991 and Cleveland-Marshall College of Law at Cleveland State University from 1982-1985. She has also been a visiting professor at the University of Chicago and Stanford Law Schools. Professor West has written extensively on gender issues and feminist legal theory, constitutional law and theory, jurisprudence, legal philosophy, and law and literature.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

Human Rights First

Human Rights First (previously known as the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights) has worked since 1978 to protect and promote fundamental human rights. Human Rights First's Refugee Protection Program grounds its work in the standards set forth in the 1951 Refugee Convention, its 1967 Protocol, and other international human rights instruments, and advocates adherence to these standards in U.S. law and policy. The Refugee Protection Program also operates one of the largest pro bono asylum legal representation programs in the country, providing free legal representation to indigent refugees in partnership with volunteer attorneys at law firms. For more information about Human Rights first, see www.humanrightsfirst.org.

Georgetown Law

Georgetown University Law Center is one of the world's premier law schools. It has the largest full-time faculty in the nation and is pre-eminent in several areas, including constitutional, international, tax, and clinical law. Drawing on its Jesuit heritage, it has a strong tradition of public service and is dedicated to the principle that law is but a means, justice is the end. With this principle in mind, Georgetown Law has built an environment that cultivates an exchange of ideas and the pursuit of academic excellence. It brings together an extraordinarily varied group of teachers, scholars and practitioners, as well as an outstanding student body representing more than 60 countries. For more information about the Law Center, visit www.law.georgetown.edu.

Human Rights Institute

The Human Rights Institute serves as the focal point for human rights activities at Georgetown University Law Center, and, in so doing, promotes Georgetown Law's role as a key actor in the human rights community. The Institute pursues this goal by two primary means: by cultivating Georgetown Law as a leading forum for discussion, debate, and collaboration on human rights issues; and by developing the next generation of human rights lawyers through a robust human rights law curriculum, academic and professional advising, and the facilitation of student involvement in human rights work. The Human Rights Institute is delighted to be able to organize and host the annual Samuel Dash Conference on Human Rights. For more information on the Institute's work, see www.humanrightsinstitute.net.

THANK YOU

Human Rights First and Georgetown University Law Center would like to thank all of the panelists for sharing their time and insights. We would also like to thank Jones Day for generously hosting this evening's reception. Thank you to Deputy High Commissioner of UNHCR T. Alexander Aleinikoff for his support of this symposium during his tenure as Dean of the Law Center. Additional thanks to Georgetown Special Events Coordinator Erin Donovan and Georgetown students Raha Wala, Ian Kysel, and Dania Ayoubi for their assistance in planning the symposium. Finally, we would like to thank Sarah Graham, Human Rights First Art Director and Publications Manager, for designing this program; and Human Rights First additionally thanks her for designing its companion report, "Renewing U.S. Commitment to Refugee Protection: Recommendations for Reform on the 30th Anniversary of the Refugee Act."

FILM PRODUCTION

The film "Renewing U.S. Commitment: Celebrating the Refugee Act of 1980" was produced by Hannah Rosenzweig/Intention Media in collaboration with Human Rights First. Thanks to Jordan Bailey-Hoover, Stephen Brownell, Cynthia Burns, and Sarah Graham for their assistance. Special thanks to all those who were interviewed for the film, including Deborah Anker (Director, Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program), Zbigniew Brzezinski (Professor, John Hopkins University; former National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter), Aroun Rashid Deen, Dr. Richard Land (President, Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, Southern Baptist Convention; Commissioner, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom), Elisa Massimino (President and CEO, Human Rights First), Michael Myers (Director, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; former longtime aide to Senator Ted Kennedy), Phouthason Phantakou, Admir Serifovic, and James W. Ziglar (Senior Fellow, Migration Policy Institute; former Commissioner, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service).

For additional information about reforms to the U.S. refugee resettlement and asylum systems

Complimentary copies of reports by Human Rights First and the Human Rights Institute will be available at the event.

These reports are also available online at www.humanrightsfirst.org and www.humanrightsinstitute.net.



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