Protection in Law and Practice with a Focus on Central and North America

The number of displaced persons worldwide has reached record highs, and practitioners and policymakers working in situations of humanitarian crisis are confronted with increasingly complex legal, policy, and practical challenges related to displacement. In particular, migration flows are more than ever characterized by overlaps between contexts and categories of persons with heightened vulnerabilities and protection issues. The patterns of displacement from the Northern Triangle of Central America (NTCA) into Mexico are a case in point, where people are forced to leave due to a combination of factors, including gang-related violence, leading to confusion as to their status and protection needs as refugees and/or migrants. The additional abuses they face while on the move further worsen the situation of these persons and raise additional legal, policy, and practical considerations.

This three-day course will provide an analysis of relevant international legal frameworks applicable to migration and displacement, including international refugee law, international human rights law, and international standards on IDPs, as well as the significance of the recently adopted Global Compact on Refugees and Global Compact for Migration. It will also look at the application of these international norms to the specific patterns of displacement in Central and North America and how regional frameworks, notably the Cartagena Declaration and the 2014 Brazil Declaration, contribute to the protection of displaced persons. Furthermore, it will deal with specific challenges, from the status of persons fleeing violence by non-State actors to the protection of displaced persons in Mexico as a transit country, as well as offering a comparative review of domestic asylum systems in the US and in Canada. Finally, it is meant to provide strategies and tools for participants to better use international and regional standards in addressing protection issues for migrants and refugees in the region.

Taking place in Mexico City, the course is designed for policymakers and practitioners, from government, NGOs, and intergovernmental organizations. In addition to a thorough briefing on displacement and migration law, the course will provide a valuable opportunity to share experiences between various stakeholders.

The course will be conducted in Spanish and English, with simultaneous interpretation to allow for sharing of perspectives with a diverse participant group.

Read more and apply at: https://phap.org/DML-MEX2019SC
Agenda overview

This overview provides an indication the scope of the program – the details of the program are subject to change. For the latest information, please see the event page at https://phap.org

Monday, 9 December
- Basic Concepts and Terminology on Migration and Displacement
- Introduction to Public International Law (PIL) and Relationships with Domestic Legal Systems
- Overview of Relevant Legal Frameworks, Institutions, and Mechanisms
- Cross-Border Displacement: Access to Territory

Tuesday, 10 December
- Qualification and Eligibility of Refugees: Definitions; Grounds for Exclusion and Loss of Protection; National Law Standards
- The “Firm Resettlement” and “Safe Third Country” Principles
- Specific Substantive Rights of Refugees in the Host Country
- Mixed Migration and the Inter-American Human Rights System: Protections for All Irrespective of Status

Wednesday, 11 December
- Special Protection Concerns within Mixed Migration Flows: Child Migrants and Refugees Organizations
- Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling
- The Protection of Internally Displaced Persons
- Solutions to Displacement
- Global Compact on Refugees and Global Compact for Migration

Highlighted speakers

John Cerone
Visiting Professor of International Law & Senior Fellow (IHS), The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University

Coria Márquez Elba
Directora, Clínica Jurídica ‘Álida Foppa’ para personas refugiadas

Kavita Kapur
Abogada - Programa de Movilidad Humana en Mesoamérica, Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL)

Álvaro Botero Navarro
Lawyer of the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants, OAS; Member and Rapporteur of the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW); Adjunct Professor, American University Washington College of Law

Practical information

Regular cost-recovery participation fees

Special course (3 days): EUR 270 / USD 300

The fee includes tuition, training materials, and meals provided during the training event. It does not include travel and accommodation.

Course venue
Instituto Matías Romero
República de El Salvador 43 y 47 Centro Histórico
06000 Ciudad de México

Applications

The Advanced Professional Training is open to professionals with a minimum of two years of relevant experience.
Applications can be submitted online via the PHAP website at phap.org/DML-MEX2019SC-register

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