Lunch and Symposium

Human Dignity in Concrete Terms: Measuring Impact and the Wellbeing of Human Trafficking Survivors

Thursday, December 8, 2016
12:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Philodemic Room 2nd Floor Healy Hall
Georgetown University

RSVP to ogdenc@georgetown.edu

The 2014 collaborative volume Human Dignity and the Future of Global Institutions proposes that human dignity guide the work of public, private, and multi-sector institutions in today's increasingly fractured, "neomedieval" world, with a host of on nonstate actors -- some very helpful, some pernicious -- impacting a host of transnational challenges. This symposium will explore whether human dignity and wellbeing are not only normative premises for human rights, development, and other policy interventions, but the basis for measuring impact. For instance, if human dignity is based on individuals' agency to thrive and social recognition to claim access to justice, can one measure those? This symposium will look at quantitative and qualitative approaches to measure the advancement of dignity -- including bottom-up, participatory metrics ranging from work by the UNESCO Chair on Gender, Wellbeing and a Culture of Peace at the University of Wisconsin to the indicators of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

This symposium will look concretely at the case of human trafficking, taking advantage of insights of multiple experts who have worked on combatting its effects and supporting its survivors domestically and globally. Can one measure whether trafficking survivors' lives are being tangibly being improved? Are trafficking survivors reclaiming their dignity? What cues do we see for better interventions by government, intergovernmental, NGO, and corporate institutions? And what broader lessons can be drawn for the value of human dignity and wellbeing to guide sustainability, development, and human rights work?

This symposium anticipates a full-day multistakeholder conference in Spring 2017 on advancing dignity in an increasingly complex, neomedieval world. Please come and actively participate in the dialogue at this half-day conference.
AGENDA

12:00-1:00 PM  Lunch

1:00 PM  Opening Remarks: "Dignity and Touchstone and Yardstick of Global Institutions' Work"

Anthony Clark Arend, Ph.D. Senior Associate Dean and Professor, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

Mark P. Lagon, Ph.D. Centennial Fellow and Distinguished Senior Scholar, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

(Editors, Human Dignity and the Future of Global Institutions)

1:15-2:30 PM  Panel 1: "Measuring Dignity and Wellbeing"

Jean M. Geran (Chair) Ph.D. Co-Director, UW-STREETS Initiative, School of Human Ecology and Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ryan Kaminski, Senior Program Manager: Human Rights and Special Initiatives at United Nations Foundation

Renos Vakis, World Bank Lead Economist, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, where he leads the Behavioral Initiatives for Poverty Reduction and Equity

2:30 PM  Break

2:45-4:15 PM  Panel 2: "Case Study: Dignity for Human Trafficking Survivors"

Nicole Bibbins Sedaca (Chair), Professor in the Practice of International Relations and Concentration Chair in Global Politics and Security, Master of Science in Foreign Service Program, Georgetown University

Jean M. Geran, Ph.D. Co-Director, UW-STREETS Initiative, School of Human Ecology and Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Victor Boutros, Co-Director and Co-Founder of the Human Trafficking Institute; formerly Trial Attorney, Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, U.S. Department of Justice; co-author of The Locust Effect

Accommodation requests related to disability should be made by Friday, December 2 to ogdenc@georgetown.edu and a good faith effort will be made to fulfill requests after Friday.