



REFUGEE
STUDIES
CENTRE

SHORT COURSE

Palestine Refugees and International Law

28–29 May 2021

University of Macedonia,
Thessaloniki, Greece

This two-day short course places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime. It examines, within a human rights framework, the policies and practices of Middle Eastern states as they impinge upon Palestinian refugees. Through a mix of online lectures, small, COVID-secure working group exercises and interactive sessions, participants engage actively and critically with the contemporary debates in international law and analyse the specific context of Palestinian refugees in the Middle East (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel).

The short course commences with the background of the Palestinian refugee crisis, with special attention to the socio-political historical context and legal status of Palestinian refugees in the region. This is followed by a careful examination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights including its philosophical underpinnings and ensuing human rights instruments in international law. The key themes, which have taken centre stage in the debate on the Palestinian refugee crisis, are statelessness, right of return, repatriation, self-determination, restitution compensation and protection. These themes are critically examined along with current discussions about the respective roles of UNRWA, UNHCR and the UNCCP in the Palestinian refugee case.

This course is suitable for: experienced practitioners; graduate researchers; parliamentarians and staff; members of the legal profession; government officials; and personnel of inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations.

Instructors

Professor Dawn Chatty is Emeritus Professor in Anthropology and Forced Migration and Former Director of The Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford, 2011-2014. She is a social anthropologist and has conducted extensive research among Palestinian and other forced migrants in the Middle East. Some of her recent works include *Children of Palestine: Experiencing Forced Migration in the Middle East* (ed. with Gillian Lewando-Hundt), Berghahn Press, 2005; *Dispossession and Displacement in the Modern Middle East*, Cambridge University Press, 2010, and *Syria: The Making and Unmaking of a Refugee State*, Hurst & Co Publishers Ltd, 2018.

Professor Susan M. Akram is Clinical Professor at Boston University School of Law, teaching immigration law, comparative refugee law, and international human rights law. She is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center, Washington DC (JD), and the Institut International des Droits de l'Homme, Strasbourg (Diploma in international human rights). She is a past Fulbright Senior Scholar in Palestine, teaching at Al-Quds University/Palestine School of Law in East Jerusalem.

Location

University of Macedonia, 156 Egnatia str., PC 54636, Thessaloniki, Greece

How to apply

Apply via the online application form at: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/palestine

For all enquiries please contact Annelies Lawson at rsc-outreach@qeh.ox.ac.uk

Fee: £450. Refundable deposit: £100

The fee includes tuition, lunch and all course materials. Participants will need to meet their own travel and accommodation costs and arrange any country entry requirements.

Please ensure that you are able to follow your local governmental guidance for travel during the COVID-19 pandemic and that you regularly check requirements for entry into Greece. Once in Greece, participants will need to adhere to local Greek COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines.

If the course is not able to go ahead as planned on 28 and 29 May, it will be postponed until late July. The decision to postpone or continue on 28 and 29 May will be taken on 29 March 2021. The venue will remain the same but the dates are yet to be confirmed. You will have the option to either have your £100 deposit refunded, or to use it to secure a place on the July course.

Maximum 27 spaces, with 3 partially funded places available for regional doctoral students or regional NGO staff.

Refugee Studies Centre

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