



February 2016

Dear Friend of the Ralph Bunche Institute of International Studies,

I write to bring you up to date on our activities in the coming semester. As ever, the world presents a complex and challenging context, and the Institute continues to engage in a range of research and public programming intended to inform those involved in and studying international affairs.

Please visit our newly updated website for more details on upcoming as well as past events: <http://ralphbuncheinstitute.org/calendar/>. We look forward to seeing you at one of our events very soon.

I might mention that I have a book coming out in June, *Transformations of Warfare in the Contemporary World*, that will appear with Temple University Press. Details are available here: https://www.temple.edu/tempress/titles/2385_reg.html. I hope you find the volume of interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Torpey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

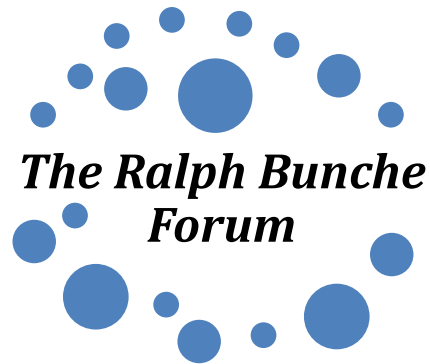
John C. Torpey
Professor of Sociology and History

The Ralph Bunche Forum

The first Forum event of the Spring took place on February 9th, when we hosted Sir Adam Roberts of Oxford University, speaking on “The UN as a System of Selective Security.”

The Forum has two other events planned thus far for the Spring. On March 7th, we will convene an international panel addressing “The Global Struggle for Women’s Rights,” featuring speakers from Asia, Africa and the Americas and co-sponsored with PassBlue, a project of the RBIIS. On March 22nd, we will host an event featuring Rama Mani of Oxford University and the World Future Council and our Director Emeritus, Thomas G. Weiss, on the topic of the past, present and future of global governance.

On February 25th, the Bunche Forum will also partner with the Ph.D./M.A. Program in Political Science at the Graduate Center for a seminar on “Crowdsourcing Forecasts and Reasoning,” featuring Steven Rieber of the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA).



If you would like to join the mailing list, please send an e-mail to RBInstitute@gc.cuny.edu. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

Special Events / Other Co-Sponsored Events

RBIIS is co-sponsoring two events with GC Public Programs this Spring. The first, on February 17th, features Leif Wenar (King’s College, London) speaking on his new book, *Blood Oil: Tyrants, Violence, and the Rules that Run the World*. The second, on March 2nd, features Sarah Chayes (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) in conversation with Graduate Center President and Distinguished Professor of History Chase Robinson on “The Roots of Global Extremism.”



This Spring, RBIIS also continues our partnership with the Center for International Human Rights (CIHR) at John Jay College, co-sponsoring an event on March 10th entitled, “The European Agenda on Migration after the Malta Conference,” and on April 14 entitled, “Revisiting Coercive Responses to Irregular Migration.”

European Union Studies Center (EUSC)

In Spring 2016, European Union Studies Center will host a series of stimulating events focusing on Europe, starting with a discussion of “America in the Nazi Mind: Consequences for the Colonization of the German East,” with distinguished historians Timothy Snyder (Yale), Robert Nelson (University of Windsor), and Matthew Specter (Central Connecticut State University), as well as an event with Austrian online privacy activist Max Schrems, who single-handedly took on Facebook in the now-famous case, *Europe v. Facebook*. A number of other talks will continue our focus on the European refugee crisis, including two events on the subject co-sponsored with the Center for International Human Rights at John Jay College. Finally, the EUSC will hold its annual Otto Walter Memorial Lecture on the occasion of Europe Day, this year to take place on Thursday evening, May 19.



Center for Global Ethics and Politics (CGEP)



This Spring, CGEP will be hosting three talks. On Thursday, February 25, Melissa Schwartzberg (Politics, NYU) will be speaking on civil juries and democratic legitimacy. Then, on Thursday, March 17, Jamie Mayerfeld (Political Science, University of Washington) will address how international human rights support rather than conflict with domestic constitutional orders. Finally, on April 14, Jennifer Rubenstein will explore some of the ethical questions facing humanitarian international NGOs on April 14. Details concerning the talks are available [on the CGEP website](#).

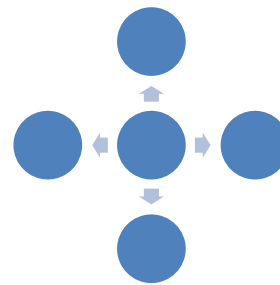
CGEP has also launched a [monthly podcast, New Books in Global Ethics and Politics](#), in partnership with the New Books Network. The podcast features interviews with scholars from several disciplines on their recently published books dealing with human rights, global justice, international political theory, and much more; recent interviews have

included Nancy Fraser on the transnational public sphere, Henry Shue on climate change, Azizah al-Hibri on Islamic law and philosophy, and more.

In Fall 2016, the colloquium series of the Center for Global Ethics and Politics included talks from three prominent scholars: Axel Honneth, Charles W. Mills, and Mathias Risse. Video from these events is available at the [CGEP YouTube channel \[youtube.com\]](#), and audio can be found at their [collection on iTunesU\[itunes.apple.com\]](#). You can stay connected with the Center for Global Ethics at their [website](#), by following them on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), by subscribing to [their podcast\[itunes.com\]](#), and by signing up for [their mailing list\[eeurl.com\]](#).

Visiting Scholars

We look forward to welcoming three visiting scholars in residence at the Ralph Bunche Institute during the first half of 2016.



Barbara Bravo De Moraes Mendes will be a Visiting Research Fellow at RBIIS from March 1 to June 20, 2016. Ms. Mendes is a

Ph. D. candidate in Anthropology and Sociology of Development at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. While in residence, Ms. Mendes will examine the genesis of the narrative of success attributed to the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in East Timor.

Catherine Jones will be a Visiting Research Fellow at RBIIS from March 22 to April 15, 2016. Dr. Jones is currently a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Warwick. She was awarded a PhD in Politics in 2013 from the University of Reading with a dissertation titled, “China and International Order: How is the Rise of China Challenging the Liberal International Order?” As a visiting scholar at RBIIS, Dr. Jones will undertake research on the role of small and medium powers in international institutions.

Adrian Gallagher, Associate Professor in International Security at the University of Leeds, will be a Visiting Scholar at RBIIS/Global Center for the Responsibility to Protect during June-July 2016. Professor Gallagher received his Ph. D. from the University of Sheffield with a dissertation concerning “Genocide and Its Threat to International Society.” While in residence at RBIIS, Dr. Gallagher’s research will focus on the implementation of, and expectations around, the doctrine of the responsibility to protect.