RELIGIOUS RIGHTS IN A PLURALISTIC WORLD

OCTOBER 2–4, 2016
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<td>8:30–9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>RECEPTION <em>(Fritz B. Burns Memorial Lounge, JRCB second floor)</em></td>
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### DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

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<td>10:30–10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td><em>(Ernest L. Wilkinson Student Center, Room 3220)</em></td>
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<td>2:00–3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>SECOND PLenary SESSION: MINORITIES, MAJORITIES, AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45–4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<td>• Canada and New Zealand <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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<td>• Religion in the Middle East and Conflict Situations <em>(JCRB 208)</em></td>
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### DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

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<td>THIRD PLenary SESSION: INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS RIGHTS <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<tr>
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<td>• China <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Pacific Islands <em>(JCRB 208)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00–11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<td>• Brazil <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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<td>• Religious Freedom Initiatives in the British Commonwealth <em>(JCRB 314)</em></td>
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<td>• Korea and Japan <em>(JCRB 206)</em></td>
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<td>• Nigeria <em>(JCRB 208)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15–2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>LUNCH FOR CONFERENCE DELEGATES AND INVITED GUESTS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(Ernest L. Wilkinson Student Center, Room 3220)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00–3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Latin America: Religious Affairs Officials <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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<td>• Interreligious Cooperation, Religious Rights, and Pluralism 2 <em>(JCRB 314)</em></td>
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<td>• Young Scholars Session <em>(JCRB 208)</em></td>
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<td>3:00–3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>FOURTH PLenary SESSION: CONFERENCE SUMMATION AND CONCLUDING REFLECTIONS ON CONFERENCE THEMES <em>(JCRB 303)</em></td>
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### SPECIAL THANKS

**J. REUBEN CLARK LAW BUILDING MAPS.**

**DELEGATE BIOGRAPHIES.**

CONFEREECE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

7:00–8:30 p.m. OPENING SESSION
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building
Welcome:
D. Gordon Smith, Dean, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University
Kevin J Worthen, President, Brigham Young University
Moderator:
Brett G. Scharffs, Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies; Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University
Introduction and Award:
W. Cole Durham Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University
Speaker:
A Surprisingly Provocative Human Right: Freedom of Religion or Belief
Heiner Bielefeldt, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Professor of Human Rights and Human Rights Policy, University of Erlangen Nurnberg, Germany

8:30–9:30 p.m. RECEPTION
Fritz B. Burns Memorial Lounge, Second Floor
J. Reuben Clark Law Building

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

8:30–10:30 a.m. FIRST PLENARY SESSION: RELIGIOUS RIGHTS AND CULTURE
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building
Moderator:
Elizabeth A. Clark, Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University
Speakers:
The Cultural Rights of the Dead
Alison Dundes Renteln, Professor of Political Science and Anthropology, Law, and Public Policy, Department of Political Science, University of Southern California, USA
Religious Rights and Public Culture in a Secular State
Rajeev Bhargava, Senior Fellow and Former Director, Institute of Indian Thought, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, India
American Muslims at the Intersection of Religious Freedom and Racial Justice
Sahar F. Aziz, Professor of Law, Texas A&M School of Law, USA and Nonresident Fellow, Brookings Doha Center, Qatar

10:30–10:45 a.m. BREAK
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

INTERRELIGIOUS COOPERATION, RELIGIOUS RIGHTS, AND PLURALISM 1
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building
Moderator:
James E. Faulconer, Professor, Department of Philosophy and Richard L. Evans Chair of Religious Understanding

Speakers:
Javier Augusto Del Río, Archbishop of Arequipa, Catholic Church, Peru
Hameem Mohamed Saleem, Vice President-I, Janmiyah Singapore
Simon Gerard McCrossan, Barrister and Head of Public Policy, Evangelical Alliance, United Kingdom
Hélio Carnassale, Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, South American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

RELIGIOUS RIGHTS IN EUROPE
Room 314, J. Reuben Clark Law Building
Moderator:
Justin Collings, Associate Professor, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Jaime Rossell Granados, Deputy Director General for Religious Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Spain
Paulo Jorge Soares Mendes Pinto, Coordinator, Religious Studies Department, Professor, Lusofona University, Portugal
Andrey Lymar, Vice Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences in Gdansk, Higher School of Safety, Poznan, Poland
Tore Lindholm, Professor Emeritus, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, Norway

LATIN AMERICA: GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
Room 205, J. Reuben Clark Law Building
Moderator:
Gary B. Doxey, Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Luis Federico Franco Gómez, President of Paraguay, 2012–2013
Juan Alfonso Fuentes Soria, Former Vice President, Guatemala; Secretary General, Central American University High Council
Emilia Patricia Alfaro de Franco, Senator, National Congress, Paraguay
Oscar Eduardo Ramírez Aguilar, President, Board of Directors, Congress of the State of Chiapas
Jorge Ramiro Tapia Sainz, Diplomat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia

MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA
Room 206, J. Reuben Clark Law Building
Moderator:
Brett G. Scharffs, Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Mohamed Azam Mohamed Adil, Associate Professor, International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies, Malaysia
Sidik Sunaryo, Lecturer and Former Dean, University of Muhammadiyah Malang, Indonesia
Tongat, Faculty of Law, Muhammadiyah University Malang, Indonesia
Mokhammad Najih Bin Hanafi, Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University Muhammadiyah Malang, Indonesia
Khozin, Lecturer, University of Muhammadiyah Malang, Indonesia
10:45 a.m.–Noon  BURUNDI AND ETHIOPIA  
Room 208, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:  
Chantal Thompson, Teaching Professor of French, Brigham Young University  
Speakers:  
Solomon Fikre Lemma, Dean, College of Law and Governance Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia  
Herméneügilde Ndoricimpa, Chancellor, University of Great Lakes, Burundi  
Zenebe Beyene, Director, Office of External Relations, Partnerships and Communications, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia  

Noon–2:00 p.m.  LUNCH FOR CONFERENCE DELEGATES AND INVITED GUESTS  
Ernest L. Wilkinson Student Center, Room 3220  

2:00–3:45 p.m.  SECOND PLENARY SESSION: MINORITIES, MAJORITIES, AND RELIGIOUS RIGHTS  
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:  
Gary B. Doxey, Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University  
Speakers:  
The Interplay of Majority and Minority Rights and the Role of Judiciary  
Tassaduq Hussain Jillani, Former Chief Justice of Pakistan, Supreme Court of Pakistan  
Latin America: The Challenge to Collaborate in a Christian Scenario  
Ana María Celis Brunet, Professor of Law, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile; President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies  
The Practice of Applying Religious Freedom in Modern Day Multicultural Societies  
Archimandrite Aimilianos Bogiannou, Director, Liaison Office of the Orthodox Church to the European Union, Ecumenical Patriarchate  

3:45–4:00 p.m.  BREAK  

4:00–5:00 p.m.  BREAKOUT SESSIONS  
CANADA AND NEW ZEALAND  
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:  
David H. Moore, Associate Dean of Research and Academic Affairs, Wayne M. and Connie C. Hancock Professor of Law, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University  
Speakers:  
Chester James Borrows, Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, New Zealand Parliament  
John Joseph Borrows, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law, University of Victoria Law School, Canada  

GEORGIA AND ARMENIA  
Room 314, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:  
Elizabeth A. Clark, Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University  
Speakers:  
Natia Khantadze, Founding Dean, School of Law, Free University of Tbilisi, Georgia  
Davit Mikhaelyan, Chief Specialist, Division of National Minorities and Religious Affairs, Government Staff of the Republic of Armenia  
Davit Zedelashvili, Assistant Professor, Free University of Tbilisi; Head Researcher, National Institute for Human Rights, Free University of Tbilisi, Georgia
4:00–5:00 p.m.  CAMBODIA AND SRI LANKA  
Room 206, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:
J. Clifford Wallace, Chief Judge Emeritus, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit  
Speakers:
Ing Kantha Phavi, Minister of Women’s Affairs, Cambodia  
Nihal Ranasinghe, Controller General of Immigration and Emigration, Department of Immigration and Emigration, Sri Lanka  
Thai Sieng Trac, Vice Governor of Phnom Penh, Cambodia

MEXICO  
Room 205, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:
Leobardo Tenorio-Malof, Attorney, Professional Legal Alliance, Mexico  
Speakers:
Carlos Arturo Penagos Vargas, Member of Congress of the State of Chiapas, Mexico  
Julio César González Castillo, Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa  
Sergio Cuevas Urrea, Vice President, Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa

RELIGION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CONFLICT SITUATIONS  
Room 208, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:
David M. Kirkham, Academic Director, Brigham Young University London Centre; Senior Fellow for Comparative Law and International Policy, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University  
Speakers:
Khalid Jamal Alber Talya, Director General of Christian Affairs, Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, Iraq  
Wissam Raji, Associate Professor and Chair, American University of Beirut, Lebanon  
Vladimir D. Vardanyan, Head of Legal Advisory Service, Constitutional Court of Armenia

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:30–9:45 a.m.  THIRD PLENARY SESSION: INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS RIGHTS  
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building  
Moderator:
W. Cole Durham Jr., Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies; Susa Young Gates Professor of Law, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University  
Speakers:
Religious Freedom and Century of Genocides  
Ján Figel’, Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief Outside the European Union  
The Importance of Religious Freedom and Religious Responsibility Today  
Archbishop Bernardito Auza, Permanent Representative to the Holy See at the United Nations  
Comment:  
Heiner Bielefeldt, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Professor of Human Rights and Human Rights Policy, University of Erlangen Nurnberg, Germany  
Sandra Jolley, Commissioner, United States Commission on International Religious Freedom
9:45–10:00 a.m.  BREAK

10:00–11:00 a.m.  BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CHINA
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
Eric Hyer, Associate Professor of Political Science and Coordinator for Asian Studies, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Xu Yihua, Professor and Director, Department of International Politics, Fudan University, Shanghai
Chen Jianming, Professor, Institute of Religious Studies, Sichuan University
Li Songfeng, Junior Professor of Law, University of Politics and Law in Beijing

BELARUS AND RUSSIA
Room 314, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
N. Anthony Brown, Professor of Russian, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Mariya Milashevskaya, Teacher, International University MITSO, Belarus
Yuri Kozhokin, Attorney at law, Russia

LATIN AMERICA—SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVES
Room 205, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
Scott E. Isaacson, Regional Adviser for Latin America, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Marco Gallo, Professor, Catholic University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
Juan José Bernal Guillén, Professor, Catholic University, “Nuestra Señora de la Asunción,” Paraguay
Moisés Arata Solís, Professor of Law, University of Lima, Peru

VIETNAM
Room 206, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
Richard Page, International Fellow, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Le Ba Trinh, Vice President, The Central Committee of Vietnam Fatherland Front
Tran Thanh Huyen, Deputy Director, Saigon Centre for International Studies (SCIS), University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University of HCM City
Thi Phuong Thao Phung, Representative for the Institute of Public Policy and Law, Vietnam

PACIFIC ISLANDS
Room 208, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
J. Clifford Wallace, Chief Judge Emeritus, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Speakers:
Gibuma Gibbs Salika, Deputy Chief Justice, National Court and Supreme Court, Papua New Guinea
Theresa Soliaiofo Potoi, Executive Director, Samoa Law Reform Commission
Francis Xavier Hezel, Jesuit Priest, Santa Barbara Parish, Guam
11:00–11:15 a.m.  BREAK

11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**BRAZIL**
*Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building*

*Moderator:*
Odacyr Prigol, Attorney at Law, Prigol Advogados Associados

*Speakers:*
Rodrigo Vitorino Souza Alves, Professor, Federal University of Uberlândia; Director, Brazilian Center for Studies on Law and Religion
Alexandre Brasil Carvalho Da Fonseca, Associate Professor of Sociology, Federal University of Rio De Janeiro
Marcus Barbosa Guimarães, Adviser, Commission para Ecumenismo, National Conference of Catholic Bishops of Brazil
Aroldo Barreto Cavalcante Filho, Attorney, Barreto Cavalcante Advogados

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM INITIATIVES IN THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH**
*Room 314, J. Reuben Clark Building*

*Moderator:*
Neville Grant Rochow, Barrister, Australia and European Union Government Relations Representative, European Union Office of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

*Speakers:*
Harriet Hoffler, Research Fellow, Commonwealth Initiative for Freedom of Religion and Belief, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
Tom Hamilton, Director of Research and Policy, Commonwealth Initiative for Freedom of Religion and Belief, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
Joshua Neoh, Lecturer, Australian National University College of Law

**CENTRAL AMERICA**
*Room 205, J. Reuben Clark Law Building*

*Moderator:*
Mark Wood, International Fellow, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

*Speakers:*
César Osmundo Vásquez Miranda, President, Evangelical Alliance of Guatemala
Ivan Hilbert Williams, Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Labour and Local Government of Belize

**KOREA AND JAPAN**
*Room 206, J. Reuben Clark Law Building*

*Moderator:*
Victor A. Taylor, International Fellow, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

*Speakers:*
Aki Kitazawa, Professor of Private International Law, Keio University, Japan
Doo Ah Lee, Attorney at Law, Vision International Law Firm, South Korea
11:15 a.m.– 12:15 p.m. **NIGERIA**
Room 208, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

**Moderator:**
A. Christine Hurt, Associate Dean, and Rex J. & Maureen E. Rawlinson Professor of Law, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

**Speakers:**
Sulyman Kawu, Chief Judge, Kwara State Judiciary
Ayodele Victoria Atsenuwa, Professor, Department of Public Law, University of Lagos
Akinola Ibidapo-Obe, Professor and Former Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos

12:15–2:00 p.m. **LUNCH FOR CONFERENCE DELEGATES AND INVITED GUESTS**
Ernest L. Wilkinson Student Center, Room 3220

2:00–3:00 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**LATIN AMERICA: RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS OFFICIALS**
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

**Moderator:**
Brent Gardner, International Fellow, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

**Speakers:**
Alfredo Miguel Abriani, National Undersecretary for Worship, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina
Beatriz Lorena Ríos Cuellar, Religious Affairs Adviser, Ministry of Interior, Colombia
Gregorio Treviño Lozano, Director of Religious Affairs of the State of Nuevo León, Mexico

**INTERRELIGIOUS COOPERATION, RELIGIOUS RIGHTS, AND PLURALISM 2**
Room 314, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

**Moderator:**
J.B. Haws, Assistant Professor, Religious Education, Brigham Young University

**Speakers:**
Carlos V. Reyes, Executive Secretary, Episcopal Commission on Interreligious Dialogue, Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines
Gerald Filson, Director of Public Affairs, Bahá’í Community of Canada
Jeremy Raymond Stuparich, Public Policy Director, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Kieran Anthony Walton, Private Secretary to the Archbishop of Sydney, Australia

**CARIBBEAN**
Room 205, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

**Moderator:**
Greg Clark, International Fellow, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

**Speakers:**
Euri Cabral, Comentarista, El Sol de la Mañana, Dominican Republic
Jean Marie Christian de Lespinasse, Lawyer, Cabinet de Lespinasse, Haiti
Rafael B. Paz, Senior Pastor, Iglesia Cristiana Palabras de Vida, Dominican Republic
2:00–3:00 p.m.  MYANMAR
Room 206, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
Brett G. Scharffs, Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Mahn Palmerston, Reverend, Myanmar Council of Churches
Ashin Thondara, Protector, Sitagu International Buddhist Academy
Ashin Visuta, Lecturer in Charge of Foreign Affairs, Sitagu International Buddhist Academy

YOUNG SCHOLARS SESSION
Room 208, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Moderator:
David M. Kirkham, Academic Director, Brigham Young University London Centre; Senior Fellow for Comparative Law and International Policy, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Speakers:
Cheng Hongmeng, Postdoctoral Fellow, Fudan University, China
Elena Ervas, PhD Student, Universita Ca' Foscari, Italy
Duong Nguyen, PhD Candidate, Vietnam National University, School of Law
Khac Duc Nguyen, PhD, Institute for Religious and Belief Studies, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics
James Heilpern, Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

3:00–3:15 p.m.  BREAK

3:15–5:00 p.m.  FOURTH PLENARY SESSION: CONFERENCE SUMMATION AND CONCLUDING REFLECTIONS ON CONFERENCE THEMES
Room 303, J. Reuben Clark Law Building

Speaker:
Why Religious Freedom? Why the Religiously Committed and the Religiously Indifferent Should Care
Brett G. Scharffs, Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Concluding Remarks:
W. Cole Durham Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

END OF SCHEDULE
SPECIAL THANKS

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the many individuals, families, and private foundations whose generosity helps make this symposium possible by supporting the work of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies, including:

The Members of the Center’s International Advisory Council

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Blake and Leslie Walker
Mark and Laura Willes
Mark and Carol Wolfert
Ken and Athelia Woolley

and

Many more supporters too numerous to mention
DELEGATE BIOGRAPHIES

Alfredo Miguel Abriani—Argentina
National Undersecretary for Worship, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina

Alfredo Abriani earned a bachelor’s degree in human sciences from St. Thomas Aquinas College (part of the Catholic University of Argentina) and a law degree at the faculty of law and social sciences of the University of Buenos Aires. In 2000 he graduated from the program of governance and political management at the University of San Andrés, CAF, and The George Washington University. That same year he joined the program leaders on the study of the United States and bilateral relations organized by the Center for American Studies. In 2014 he participated in the XIII Ibero Visitor Program held in Madrid, Spain, by the Foundation for Analysis and Social Studies. In 2007 he served as legal adviser at the General Secretariat of the Government of the city of Buenos Aires. He later was appointed general coordinator of the Directorate General for Religious Affairs of the Government of the city of Buenos Aires and in 2011 served in the position of director general of Religious Affairs of the Government of the city of Buenos Aires. Since December 2015 Abriani has served as national undersecretary for worship in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina. Before serving in the government, he worked as a lawyer.

Marco Gallo—Argentina
Professor, Catholic University of Buenos Aires

Marco Gallo graduated from the faculty of philosophy and letters at the University of Rome La Sapienza. For more than two decades he has been living and working in Buenos Aires, where he is director of the pontifical chair (John Paul II, Benedict XVI, Francis) at the Catholic University of Buenos Aires. He has written articles and essays on interreligious dialogue, with a particular focus on Islamic–Christian relations. He wrote a book about the political and social vision of Pope Francis as well as many studies and essays on Pope John Paul II and Pope Francis. Gallo is also a member of Sant’Egidio Community in Buenos Aires.

Davit Mikaelyan—Armenia
Chief Specialist, Division of National Minorities and Religious Affairs, Government Staff of the Republic of Armenia

Davit Mikayelyan works at the Division of National Minorities and Religious Affairs of the Government Staff of the Republic of Armenia, where he deals with practical problems connected with the integration of different religious groups in modern developing society. He studied at Yerevan State University at the faculty of theology and earned a PhD in history. He specializes in religious studies: history of religion, philosophy of religion, and history of the early church. He has been a lecturer at Yerevan State Pedagogical University, Yerevan State University, and Theological Academy of Armenia. During recent years Mikayelyan has been interested in issues dealing with freedom of belief or religion, interreligious dialogue, and religious transformations in modern industrial society.

Vladimir D. Vardanyan—Armenia
Head of Legal Advisory Service, Constitutional Court of the Republic of Armenia

Vladimir D. Vardanyan is the head of Legal Advisory Service of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Armenia. He has written and lectured on legal topics relating to international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and international criminal law. He is a member of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, the International Society for Military Law and the Law of War, and the International and Comparative Law Center of Armenia. Vardanyan earned
his PhD in public international law in 2005 and his master’s and bachelor’s degrees in law in 2002 and 2000, respectively, from Yerevan State University.

**Neville Grant Rochow—Australia**

**Government Relations Representative, EU Office of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Barrister; Professor, University of Notre Dame Law School, Sydney**

Neville Rochow is a government relations representative of the EU Office of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was an international fellow of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies at Brigham Young University and is a member of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society, the Wilberforce Foundation, and the RUSSLR at the University of Adelaide Law School. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Notre Dame Law School, Sydney. Rochow has practiced as a barrister since 1988 with an emphasis in competition law. He took silk in 2008. Prior to his appointment as an adjunct professor, he had provided submissions to all of the federal and state parliamentary committees that had been held on the law related to same-sex marriage. Since his retirement from full-time practice in 2013, he has taught part-time in law schools and provided professional and pro-bono advice in matters of competition law and religious freedom. Rochow works with the Australian Economics of Religion Study Group, a multi-faith poly-expert panel, to measure and econometrically value religious performance in Australia. He speaks, writes, and publishes regularly in the areas of interfaith dialogue, philosophical analysis of law and religion, and matters that impact freedom of conscience, religion, and association.

**Jeremy Raymond Stuparich—Australia**

**Public Policy Director, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference**

Jeremy Stuparich has been public policy director at the Australian Catholic Bishops’ Conference since 2011. Previously he was assistant director of the government’s Department of Education, Employment, and Workplace Relations. He has served as an adviser to senators Steve Fielding and Brian Harradine. Stuparich holds a diploma of project management from Canberra Institute of Technology, a master of public administration from the University of Canberra, and a bachelor of arts in political science and government from the Australian National University. He speaks Italian.

**Kieran Anthony Walton—Australia**

**Private Secretary to the Archbishop of Sydney**

Kieran Walton currently serves as the private secretary to the Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, Catholic Archbishop of Sydney. Before joining the staff of the archbishop, he worked as a speech writer to Australian Prime Minister, the Hon. Tony Abbott MP. Kieran also served as a researcher and adviser to former Australian prime minister the Hon. John Howard OM AC. He holds degrees in history, politics and management from the University of Sydney.

**Mariya Milashevskaya—Belarus**

**Teacher, International University MITSO**

Mariya Milashevskaya is an international lawyer and economist. Currently she is employed as a teacher in the international law department of the International University MITSO in Minsk, Belarus. Milashevskaya is the winner of the Martens Moot Court Competition on International Humanitarian Law and has competed in Jessup, Pictet, and CEEMC international law competitions. The topic of her master’s thesis is “Migration Issues of Foreign and Security Policy in the EU.”
V. Rev. Archimandrite Father Aimilianos Bogiannou—Belgium
Director, Liaison Office of the Orthodox Church to the European Union, Ecumenical Patriarchate

The Very Reverend Archimandrite Father Aimilianos (Triantafyllos) Bogiannou was born in Germany and studied in Germany, Greece, and the United States. He was ordained a deacon in 2004 in the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and was sent to work for the Liaison Office of the Orthodox Church to the EU in Brussels as the assistant to the director for 10 years. In December 2014 the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople made him the new director of the Liaison Office. Bogiannou has represented the Ecumenical Patriarchate on various occasions and in conferences worldwide. In November 2009 he was ordained a priest. He has his parish in Lille, France, and lives in Brussels, where he also teaches orthodox religion in the European Schools. He speaks Greek, German, English, and French fluently.

Ivan Hilbert Williams—Belize
Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Labour and Local Government of Belize

Ivan Williams graduated as an attorney and presently works for the government of Belize as labour commissioner in the Ministry of Labour and Local Government.

Jorge Ramiro Tapia Sainz—Bolivia
Diplomat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Jorge Ramiro Tapia Sainz is a medical surgeon with a degree from Universidad Mayor de San Andreas (UMSA), specializing in pediatrics, neonatology, and child psychology. He also holds a master’s in public management. He served as deputy minister of higher education in 2007, and from 2008 to 2009 he served as minister of health and sports. At UMSA he served as vice dean of the faculty of medicine, head of student welfare, professor of embryology and genetics, professor of pediatric medical residence, professor of medical care, and visiting professor in the chair of pediatrics and genetics. As a university student he was a member of the grassroots committee for the hunger strike for the declaration of university autonomy in 1982. He was the executive of the Federación Universitaria Local from 1987 to 1988 and participated in UMSA’s first congress, representing UMSA in a series of national and international events. As a professional he was recognized for his active participation in unions. He served as secretary general of Colegio Medico Departamental de La Paz and as a member of the medical faculty council of Colegio Medico and a series of schools. He has been distinguished with many awards and recognitions in the fields of health and education. Currently he represents the nation of Bolivia as consul general in Argentina.

Rodrigo Vitorino Souza Alves—Brazil
Professor, Law Faculty, Federal University of Uberlândia; Director, Brazilian Center of Studies in Law and Religion

Rodrigo Vitorino Souza Alves is a member of the academic staff of the Federal University of Uberlândia in Brazil. He was an academic visitor at the University of Oxford (2014–2015) and is director of the Brazilian Center of Studies in Law and Religion. He has published academic works and has spoken at the National Congress of Brazil and the United Nations Office at Geneva, where he served as guest speaker at the sixth session of the forum on minority issues on the topic “Beyond Freedom of Religion or Belief: Guaranteeing the Rights of Religious Minorities.” He was a member of the expert advisory group for the International Development Law
Organization study on freedom of religion or belief. He is a guest academic at the Sacred and Secular Project at the Open University and also the Brazilian national reporter for the Constitute Project. In 2015 and 2016 he coordinated the project “Religion and Human Rights: Promoting the Respect for Religious Diversity,” which received the support of the Ministry of Education of Brazil.

Daniela Araujo Espurio—Brazil

MS, Cerqueira Leite Advogados Associados

Daniela Araujo Espurio has been a coordinator (senior lawyer) in the real estate and litigation department at Cerqueira Leite Advogados Associados since 2005. She specializes in civil, arbitration, contracts, and real estate. She received a postgraduate degree in real estate business from Fundação Getúlio Vargas. She has a specialization in real estate law from the Getulio Vargas Foundation. She also has a postgraduate degree in public law from the Catholic University of Minas Gerais. She obtained her bachelor in law from Universidade São Francisco. Since 1996, she has been a member of the Order of Lawyers of Brazil.

Marcus Barbosa Guimarães—Brazil

Adviser, Comissão para Ecumenismo, National Conference of Catholic Bishops of Brazil

Marcus Barbosa Guimarães has been a priest in the Catholic Church for 30 years. He has both a PhD from Pontifícia Universidade Católica in Rio de Janeiro and a master’s degree in systematic theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He lectured at the Paulo VI Philosophical and Theological Institute in Nova Iguacu and still serves as an academic director and teacher on their pastoral theology course. In the Diocese of Nova Iguacu, as well as being a parish priest, he holds the office of vicar general. In 2014 he was invited by the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil to take up the post of adviser to the Group for Reflection on Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue of the Episcopal Pastoral Commission for Ecumenism. He is currently the president of the Ecumenical Coordination of Service.

Hélio Carnassale—Brazil

Director, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, South American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Hélio Carnassale has served the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a pastor since 1981. He has exercised several ministerial duties and has acted in activities with administrative responsibilities in Adventist institutions. His recent responsibility was as the principal of the Adventist University of São Paulo, São Paulo City campus, until July 2015. Since August 2015 he has been the director of public affairs and religious liberty for the South American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, headquartered in Brasília, Brazil, and serves eight countries of South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay). He has a bachelor’s in theology and a master’s in religion sciences.

Aroldo Barreto Cavalcante Filho—Brazil

Attorney at Law, Barreto Cavalcante Advogados; Area Director for South America, J. Reuben Clark Law Society

Aroldo Cavalcante is a member of the Law and Religious Freedom Committee of the Brazilian Bar Association. He is affiliated with the Bar Association of Pernambuco and Ceará in Brazil. Cavalcante is a managing partner of Barreto Cavalcante Advogados and a former city attorney. He holds an LLM in administrative law and a bachelor’s degree from UFC Law School. He is the J. Reuben Clark Law Society area director for South America.
Alexandre Brasil Carvalho Da Fonseca—Brazil
Associate Professor of Sociology, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Alexandre Brasil Fonseca, a Presbyterian layman, holds a doctorate in sociology from the University of São Paulo (2002) and a postdoctorate from the University of Barcelona (2009). He is an associate professor at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Since 2012 he has been working in the federal government on issues of human rights and religious diversity, currently as the national committee coordinator of Respect for Religious Diversity Rights in the Federal Ministry of Women, Racial Equality, Youth, and Human Rights. His latest book is Religion and Privileges: State, Secularization, and Religious Diversity in Brazil (2011, in Portuguese).

Odacyr Prigol—Brazil
Attorney at Law, Prigol Advogados Associados

Odacyr Prigol is chair of the Curitiba chapter of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society. He is an attorney at law and a managing partner of Prigol Advogados Associados. He is a member of the Religious Freedom Commission of the Brazil Bar Association in his state. He is also a founding member and director of the Brazilian affiliate of the Religious Freedom and Business Foundation, which actively promotes religious freedom in Brazil. Prigol graduated from Faculdade de Direito de Curitaba and earned an LLM from Academia Paranaense de Estudos Juridicos.

Herménégilde Ndoricimpa—Burundi
Chancellor, University of Great Lakes

Chancellor Herménégilde Ndoricimpa was ordained a Catholic priest on July 9, 1989. Between 1989 and 1990 he served as vicar in the southwestern province of Rumonge, Burundi, before he simultaneously served as pastoral office director and diocesan supervisor of the schools under convention of the Bururi Diocese. He has a bachelor’s degree in philosophy and a bachelor’s degree in theology. At Saint Paul University of Ottawa University in Canada, he earned a master’s degree in ethics in 1994. From 1994 to 1998 he pursued doctoral studies while he was moral existence lecturer at Saint Paul University. In 1995 he received a canonical license in moral theology, followed by a PhD in ethics and a DTh (doctor of theology) in 1998. From 1998 to 2010 he played many pivotal roles as parish priest, vicar general in the Bururi Diocese, and professor at the Grand Seminary of the central province of Gitega, Burundi. He is a member of the board of council of Great Lakes University as well as the Council for Education and Development, a Burundi Catholic charity organization. From 2011 to the present, Ndoricimpa has been rector and professor at Great Lakes University in Burundi.

Ing Kantha Phavi—Cambodia
Minister of Women’s Affairs, Cambodia

Kantha Phavi Ing was reappointed minister of Women’s Affairs and chair of the Cambodian National Council for Women in 2013. She is an active architect in levying the women’s agenda in the nation’s development and in ongoing state reforms by developing effective mechanisms for gender mainstreaming and by ensuring women economic, legal, and social empowerment to increase their voices and representation in public decision making. In 2012 Ing became a cofounder of the Nokor Tep Foundation, which is currently building Cambodia’s first hospital dedicated to better healthcare for women. She received her MD and a brevet in public administration from Ecole Nationale d’Administration in Paris. She participated in the Leaders in Development executive program at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 2004.
Thai Sieng Trac—Cambodia
Vice Governor, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

His Excellency Thai Sieng Trac currently holds the position of vice governor of Phnom Penh in Cambodia. He manages a wide-ranging portfolio of public works, tourism, international relations, and investment. He is an active contributor to improve the living environment for Phnom Penh people and is instrumental to the creation of public-private partnerships to accelerate the city’s development. Previously Trac was a consultant for global corporate companies on communication and media strategies. In 2012 he became a cofounder of the Nokor Tep Foundation, which is currently building Cambodia’s first hospital dedicated to better healthcare for women. Trac has graduated with two master’s degrees in management, including an MBA from the ESSEC Graduate Business School in Paris.

John Joseph Borrows—Canada
Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law, University of Victoria Law School

John Borrows received a BA, MA, JD, LLM (from the University of Toronto), PhD (from Osgoode Hall Law School), LLD (with honors from Dalhousie University), and FRSC. His publications include Recovering Canada: The Resurgence of Indigenous Law (Donald Smiley Award for the best book in Canadian Political Science 2002), Canada’s Indigenous Constitution (Canadian Law and Society Best Book Award 2011), Drawing Out Law: A Spirit’s Guide (2010), and Freedom and Indigenous Constitutionalism (2015)—all from the University of Toronto Press. Borrows has received an Aboriginal Achievement Award in Law and Justice and is a fellow of the Trudeau Foundation and of the Academy of Arts, Humanities, and Sciences of Canada, Canada’s highest academic honor. Borrows is Anishinaabe/Ojibwe and a member of the Chippewa of the Nawash First Nation in Ontario, Canada.

Gerald Filson—Canada
Director of Public Affairs, Bahá’í Community of Canada

Educated in mathematics, education, and philosophy, Gerald Filson is director of public affairs of the Bahá’í community and a member of the national executive community of Canada since 1993. He is currently a member of the National Spiritual Assembly, the national governing council of the Baha’is of Canada. Engaged in civil society, Filson served as chair of the Canadian Network on International Human Rights from 1998 to 2002 and the Mosaic Management Group of VisionTV in the 1990s, and he served two terms on the Board of the Couchiching Institute on Public Affairs. He was the chair of the Canadian Interfaith Conversation from 2012 to 2016. Raised in Saskatchewan and an educator in Quebec for many years, he has traveled widely on international projects.

Ana María Celis Brunet—Chile
Professor of Law, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile; President, International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies

Ana María Celis Brunet is professor in the Faculty of Law of the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (UC), where she teaches canon law and law and religion as well as postgraduate courses in different programs. She received her license and doctoral degree in canon law at the Pontificia Università Gregoriana (Rome, Italy) with her dissertation “La relevancia canónica del matrimonio civil a la luz de la Teoría general del Acto jurídico, contribución teórica a la experiencia jurídica chilena.” Celis is an ecclesiastical lawyer before the Ecclesiastical Court of Santiago. She is director of the Center for Law and Religion at UC, which began in 2005 as Centro de Libertad Religiosa, a center for studying church-state matters and promoting religious freedom. She was the secretary and then president (2013–2016) of the Consorcio Latinoamericano de Libertad Religiosa (Latin American Consortium for Religious Freedom). She was elected president of the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies in September 2016.
Chen Jianming—China
Professor, Institute of Religious Studies, Sichuan University

Benjamin (Jianming) Chen holds a doctorate in history and is a member of the Chinese Religious Studies Society. He is a researcher at the Institute of Religious Studies of Sichuan University (SCU), director of the Center for the Studies of Christianity at SCU, and standing deputy editor in chief of the journal Religious Studies. Chen’s research is mainly in the history of Christian missionaries and Christian publishing in China, and he recently turned his attention to the reality of Christianity in China today.

Li Songfeng—China
Junior Professor of Law, University of Politics and Law, Beijing

Li Songfeng attended Brigham Young University Center’s China Certificate Training Program and was later a visiting fellow at BYU. He has recently finished his PhD from Tsinghua, China’s no. 2 university.

Yihua Xu—China
Professor and Director, Department of International Politics, Fudan University, Shanghai

Xu Yihua is a member of the People’s Political Consultative Conference of Shanghai Municipality and a member of the reviewing board of China’s National Endowment for Social Sciences and Humanity Studies. His recent publications include Studies on Relation and China’s National Security (2016), Religion and U.S. Politics and Diplomacy in the Post—Cold War Period (2014) and Religion and Contemporary International Relations (2012, 2015). He received his master’s degree in history from Wuhan University and his doctorate in religion from Princeton University.

Beatriz Lorena Ríos Cuellar—Colombia
Religious Affairs Adviser, Ministry of Interior

Beatriz Lorena Ríos Cuellar graduated from Rosario University with an emphasis in environmental law and earned a master in administrative law at the same university. Since 2000 she has been conducting studies and research on religious freedom in Colombia and the need for the creation and implementation of public policies on the matter. She has served as an adviser to different churches, faith denominations, confessions, federations, confederations, and religious organizations in Colombia. For 13 years she was a legal adviser to the Environment Department of the Bogotá Mayoral Office.

Euri Cabral—Dominican Republic
Comentarista, El Sol de la Mañana

Euri Cabral is a communicator with extensive experience in various forms of media. He is currently the host of the radio program El Sol de la Mañana (The Morning Sun), which is transmitted daily on the station Zol FM 106.5. Every week he publishes an article in the newspaper El Caribe. Cabral owns the company Producciones Ella y El and the TV channel Senales TV, which is intended to promote values. He has published several books, including Matrimonios Sanos y Felices (Healthy and Happy Marriages) (2016), Amor de Mariposas y otros relatos 2da Edicion (Butterfly Love and Other Stories), and Duarte un hombre de fe y de accion (Duarte a Man of Faith and Action). He is currently part of the leadership of the Iglesia Cristiana Palabra de Vida (Word of Life Christian Church).
Rafael B. Paz—Dominican Republic
Senior Pastor, Iglesia Cristiana Palabras de Vida

Pastor Raffy Paz directs the Words of Life Christian Church and is president of the Evangelical Fellowship Dominican, the oldest institution of grouping and representation of evangelical churches in the Dominican Republic. For several years he cohosted the TV show *Teleanálisis with Jesus*. He was part of the radio programs *Roses for the Soul* and *En Familia*. He studied business administration at INTEC and has a specialty in family therapy in the Christian Family Counseling Center. For four years he worked with the Department of Foreign Languages at the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra. Through the consulting and training firm TRAINS SA, he worked with clients such as the Oakland Athletics and Toronto Blue Jays, the U.S. Armed Forces, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the National Council of Private Enterprise, among others. For three years he was executive director of the Distribuidora Vida, a distributor of Christian books in the Caribbean. Paz is one of the leading figures in the evangelical leadership in the Dominican nation and one of the leaders of the Bureau of Evangelical Dialogue, helping to coordinate the actions of Dominican evangelicals. He played a major role in getting Congress and the Dominican Electoral Tribunal to approve the right of realization of legally binding non-Catholic marriages.

Zenebe Beyene—Ethiopia
Director, Office of External Relations, Partnerships, and Communications, Addis Ababa University

Zenebe Beyene (PhD) is a NAFSA Global Dialogue fellow. He has taught courses in journalism and political communication as well as peace and security in Ethiopia, Rwanda, and the USA. His publications include *Media Use and Abuse in Ethiopia, The Role of ICT in Peace Building, State Building, and Governance in Africa* (with Abdissa Zerai), and *Satellite, Plasmas, and Law* (with Iginio Gagliardone and Abdissa Zerai).

Solomon Fikre Lemma—Ethiopia
Dean, College of Law and Governance Studies, Addis Ababa University

Dr. Solomon Fikre Lemma received his PhD from the University of Warwick, an LLM from Erasmus University (the Netherlands), and an LLB with distinction from Addis Ababa University. He is currently serving as assistant professor and dean of the College of Law and Governance Studies of Addis Ababa University. Previously he was an instructor, researcher, and practitioner of law at Hawassa University, Ethiopia. Solomon has also served as deputy chair of the Lawyers Association of the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS) in Ethiopia, where he led, directed, and managed the association in that position between 2007 and 2009. Solomon has served as a legal adviser, human rights activist, and educator and trainer of law at various international and local NGOs and federal and state agencies. He has been a self-employed consultant and attorney at law since October 2002. In these capacities, Solomon has performed social works and provided legal advice, human rights advocacy, education, and training for the benefit of vulnerable groups and other members of the community. His research interests include law and development, particularly the role and potential of land, business, and trade laws in tackling poverty and fostering economic development in developing countries like Ethiopia. As a volunteer, Solomon had served as a UNHCR volunteer at Bonga and Fugnido camps for Sudanese refugees in western Ethiopia, contributing to his research interest in the protection and treatment accorded to vulnerable groups, such as women, children, and refugees, under international and Ethiopian laws.
Natia Khantadze—Georgia

Founding Dean, School of Law, Free University of Tbilisi

Under Natia Khantadze’s leadership, the Centre on Commercial Law and Institute for Human Rights was established. She is a member of the supervisory boards of both institutions. Before her tenure as a dean, she held advisory and managerial positions at governmental and international agencies. She served as legal adviser to the Minister on Coordination of Reforms and as a legal adviser for the CoE’s anti-corruption project in Georgia. Khantadze holds a bachelor’s degree in business law from the Georgian Technical University and a master’s degree in public law from the German University of Administrative Sciences, Speyer.

Davit Zedelashvili—Georgia

Assistant Professor, Free University of Tbilisi; Head Researcher, National Institute for Human Rights, Free University of Tbilisi

Davit Zedelashvili teaches courses in constitutional law, jurisprudence, and political philosophy at the Free University of Tbilisi. He has published both in English and Georgian languages. Recently he edited an interdisciplinary volume dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the Georgian Constitution. Davit is a graduate of Tbilisi State University (LLB, 2007) and Central European University (LLM in human rights, with distinction, 2008). He is completing an SJD dissertation in comparative constitutional law at Central European University. Prior to joining legal academia, Zedelashvili served as legal adviser at the Office of the Prosecutor General of Georgia. He regularly provides expert advice on constitutional matters to various nongovernmental and international organization projects.

Heiner Bielefeldt—Germany

UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief; Professor of Human Rights and Human Rights Policy, University of Erlangen Nurnberg

Heiner Bielefeldt was appointed as United Nations Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Religion or Belief on June 18, 2010. He holds both a PhD in philosophy from the University of Tübingen and a postdoctoral habilitation degree in philosophy from the University of Bremen, following upon undergraduate studies in philosophy and Catholic theology at both institutions. Bielefeldt teaches in the areas of political science, philosophy, law, and history, and has taught at the universities of Tübingen, Mannheim, Heidelberg, Toronto, and Bielefeld. From 2003 to 2009 he served as director of the German Institute for Human Rights, and during 2008–2009 he was chair of the Subcommittee on Accreditation of National Human Rights Institutions, International Coordinating Committee, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In 2009 he was appointed professor in the newly created Chair of Human Rights and Human Rights Policy at the University of Erlangen, which position he held at the time of his appointment as special rapporteur.

Father Francis Xavier Hezel—Guam

Jesuit Priest, Santa Barbara Parish

Francis X. Hezel is a Jesuit priest who has worked in Micronesia for nearly 50 years. He spent part of this time as a teacher, principal, and director at Xavier High School, Chuuk. He also served as regional superior of the Jesuits in Micronesia. For 39 years he served as the director of the Micronesian Seminar (MicSem), a Jesuit-sponsored research-pastoral institute engaged in extensive community education work in the Pacific. In this capacity he has organized several conferences on current issues and has written and spoken widely about social change and its impact on island societies. He has also published nearly a hundred articles and 11 books on Micronesian history and culture, including The First Taint of Civilization and Strangers in Their Own Land.
He produced more than 70 video documentaries for local broadcast, including a seven-hour series on the history of Micronesia, and introduced a popular website that offers Micronesians the opportunity to access MicSem products and to discuss contemporary issues with one another.

Juan Alfonso Fuentes Soria—Guatemala

Former Vice President of Guatemala, 2015—2016; Secretary General, Central American University High Council;

Juan Alfonso Fuentes Soria is secretary general of the Central American University High Council. Fuentes Soria earned a master’s degree in educational measurement, evaluation, and research from the Universidad del Valle in Guatemala. He is a dentist surgeon and has been a professor at the Faculty of Dentistry USAC for 25 years, where he served as dean from 1980 to 1984. He has acted as an international senior consultant for the Pan American Health Organization and the United Nations Development Program, among others. He has lectured at more than 150 academic and research events in over 27 countries and has authored or coauthored more than 75 papers on education and human rights. From 2001 to 2004 he was chair of the Presidential Commission on Human Rights and coordinator of the Presidential Unit for Conflict Resolution. He served as technical secretary of the Department of Peace of Guatemala and executive secretary of the Committee Accompanying the Peace Accords from 2000 to 2001 and as president of the University of San Carlos of Guatemala from 1990 to 1994. In 2014 he received a Distinguished Professional Gold Medal from the Assembly of Presidents of Professional Associations.

César Osmundo Vásquez Miranda—Guatemala

President, Evangelical Alliance of Guatemala

Cesar Vásquez Miranda graduated as an auditor and certified public accountant and is an ordained minister of the Central American Church in Guatemala. He has also served as president of the General National Evangelical Council and as treasurer of the Evangelical Alliance of Guatemala. His current duties include representing the Evangelical Church when meeting with state authorities and civil society leaders, organizing Evangelical denominations in Guatemala, ensuring the establishment of principles and values of national life in the country, and being an intermediary between Evangelicals and civil and military authorities.

Christian de Lespinasse—Haiti

Lawyer, Cabinet de Lespinasse

Christian de Lespinasse is a fourth-generation attorney with expertise in IP rights and insurance matters and handles general legal matters on a case-by-case basis. He holds a bachelor of science in business management from Babson College, Wellesley, Massachusetts, USA, and a license in law from Faculté de Droit et des Sciences Économiques at Universite d’État d’Haiti, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He also holds the insurance designations of certified insurance counselor and certified risk manager. He is the owner-manager of Cabinet de Lespinasse, a boutique law firm established in 1877. With more than 30 years’ experience in both legal and insurance matters, he is a member of the International Trademark Association, where he is also a member of the Latin America Trademark Office Relations Subcommittee; of the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property, where he is a founding member of the Regional Group for Central America and the Caribbean; the Asociación Interamericana de la Propiedad Intellectual, where he is a member of the Administrative Council as the former Haiti delegate and current alternate delegate; and the Intellectual Property Caribbean Association (IPCA), where he is a member and co-chair of the IPCA Legislation and Registry Liaison Committee.
Rajeev Bhargava—India
Senior Fellow and Former Director, Institute of Indian Thought, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies

Rajeev Bhargava is senior fellow and former director of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. He is also the founding director of the Institute of Indian Thought, Delhi; a professorial fellow at the Institute of Social Justice, ACU, Sydney; and an honorary fellow, Balliol College, Oxford. He received his BA in economics from the University of Delhi and his MPhil and DPhil from Oxford. He has been a fellow at the Centre for Ethics and the Professions at Harvard; Wissenschaftskolleg, Berlin; the Institute of Advanced Study, Hebrew University, Jerusalem; and the Institute of Human Sciences, Vienna. His published works include Individualism in Social Science (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1992), Secularism and Its Critics (OUP, Delhi, 1998), What Is Political Theory and Why Do We Need It? (OUP, Delhi, 2010) and The Promise of India’s Secular Democracy (OUP, Delhi, 2010).

Mokhammad Najih Bin Hanafi—Indonesia
Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University Muhammadiyah Malang

Mokhammad Najih has lectured at the Faculty of Law at the University of Muhammadiyah Malang since 1990. He completed a PhD (2015) at the University Kebangsaan Malaysia. He studies criminal law policies, particularly the issue of combating corruption, and Islamic criminal law. He has been involved in three books: Introduction to the Law of Indonesia (2011), Indonesia Introduction to Criminal Law (2001), and Criminal Law Politics (2014).

Khozin—Indonesia
Lecturer, University Muhammadiyah Malang

Dr. Khozin, MSi, is a lecturer at the Department of Islamic Religious Education, Faculty of Islamic Studies, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang. His research interest is in the history of Islamic education and especially the development of the implementation of religious education in Indonesia.

Sidik Sunaryo—Indonesia
Lecturer and Former Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Muhammadiyah Malang

Dr. Sidik Sunaryo is a senior lecturer, lawyer, and former dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Muhammadiyah Malang (UMM), Indonesia, and chair of the Muhammadiyah Organization of East Java on field of settlement of legal disputes. He currently serves as the vice chancellor for Student Affairs at UMM. His areas of expertise include the criminal justice system and corruption in Indonesia, customary law, and sociology of law. He has done research in crime and settlement patterns in Indonesia and models of the criminal justice system in Indonesia. He is currently researching about the reconstruction of the terrorism justice system and prevention efforts in Indonesia.

Tongat—Indonesia
Faculty of Law, University of Muhammadiyah Malang

Dr. Tongat is a lecturer on the Faculty of Law of the University of Muhammadiyah Malang, specializing in criminal law. He studied law at the University of the General Soedirman, graduating in 1990. He received a master of laws degree in 2000 and earned a doctorate in 2013 from the University of Diponegoro in Semarang, Indonesia.

Khalid Jamal Alber Talya—Iraq
Director General of Christian Affairs, Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs

Khalid Jamal Alber Talya is Director General of Christian Affairs, Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs.
Elena Ervas—Italy
PhD Student, Università Ca’ Foscari

Elena Ervas is a PhD candidate in law, market, and person at the University Ca’ Foscari of Venice, working under the supervision of Professor Andrea Pin. Prior to beginning the PhD program, Ervas graduated in law from the University of Padua with a thesis in comparative public law. Her research interests are comparative public law and constitutional law, in particular, freedom of religion, religious discrimination, and the relationship between law and religion. In addition to pursuing her PhD, she collaborates with the Fondazione Studium Generale Marcianum of Venice.

Aki Kitazawa—Japan
Professor of Private International Law, Keio University

Aki Kitazawa is professor of private international law, international civil procedure, and international business law at Keio University and vice dean of the Faculty of Law at Keio University. A member of the Religious Juridical Persons Council of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, Kitazawa earned a master of law from Keio University.

Wissam Raji—Lebanon
Associate Professor and Chair, American University of Beirut

Wissam Raji earned his PhD in mathematics from Temple University, Philadelphia, USA. He held a postdoctorate lectureship at Temple for two years. He is currently an associate professor and the chair of the Department of Mathematics at the American University of Beirut. Dr. Raji is the president and the founder of the Center of Development, Democracy, and Governance, located in Beirut, Lebanon, whose main mission is sustainable development and best democratic practices. Raji has more than 20 published papers in mathematics and a book on number theory. He also conducted a demographic study about Lebanon that is being referenced by international organizations.

Mohamed Azam Mohamed Adil—Malaysia
Associate Professor, International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies

Mohamed Azam currently serves as deputy CEO of the International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS), Malaysia. He began his career as a lecturer at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia, in 1990 and held several administration posts there from 1994 until 2013 before joining IAIS. He was appointed as independent director of CIMB Islamic Bank Berhad on November 5, 2014, and is chair of the Group Shariah Committee. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in shar’ia and law from the University of Malaya and his master of laws (LLM) and PhD degrees from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Sergio Cuevas Urrea—Mexico
Vice President, Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa

Sergio Cuevas Urrea is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and has served in local and regional leadership positions within the Church. He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science, a master’s degree in human resources administration, and a master’s degree in education, and he has completed several courses on education. Currently he is the vice president for the NGO Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa, whose purpose is to defend and promote human rights for the family, children, and religious freedom.
Julio César González Castillo—Mexico
Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa
Julio César González Castillo works with Fundacion Conciencia Nacional por la Libertad Religiosa, a civil association nonprofit founded in Mexico City in 2015 in order to act in the promotion and defense of human rights related to the family, religious freedom, and conscientious objection. The organization goals include establishing a culture of respect and protection in government and society by the year 2030.

Carlos Arturo Penagos Vargas—Mexico
Member of Congress of the State of Chiapas, Mexico
Carlos Penagos is a member of Congress of the state of Chiapas. He has worked various jobs and is the owner of his own business. He currently serves as the secretary of youth, recreation, and sports.

Oscar Eduardo Ramírez Aguilar—Mexico
President, Board of Directors, Congress of the State of Chiapas
Oscar Eduardo Ramírez Aguilar is the president of the Board of the State Congress, Chiapas, Mexico. He holds a doctorate degree in political and social sciences. He has held multiple government commissions, including as president of the Border Affairs South-Southeast Commission from 2012 to 2013.

Leobardo Tenorio-Malof—Mexico
Attorney, Professional Legal Alliance
Leobardo Tenorio-Malof is a partner at TP Legal, SC dba Tenorio, Torres, Pedrin & Tortolero. From 1994 to 2010 he was a partner at Baker & McKenzie. He received an LLM from the University of California, Davis School of Law, and also earned a tax degree and a law degree from la Universidad Autonoma de Baja California.

Gregorio Treviño Lozano—Mexico
Director, Religious Affairs of the Government of the State of Nuevo León
Gregorio Treviño Lozano is the director of Religious Affairs of the State Government of Nuevo León. He graduated from la Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León with a diploma in political science and a second diploma in quality control and administration at ITESM. He began his career as director of costs and budgets in Monterrey Trailers SA from 1969 to 1970. From 1971 to 2010 he served as partner and CEO of Papeleria y Libreria del Maestro SA.

Mahn Palmerston—Myanmar (Burma)
Reverend, Myanmar Council of Churches
Mahn Palmerston earned a BSc in mathematics from Yangon University, a bachelor of religious education from Myanmar Institute of Theology in 2002, and a media production certification in Nairobi, Kenya, in 2003. His varied work experience includes working as a gardener and a gold mining worker and serving as youth minister at the Myanmar Council of Churches (MCC) for 15 years. He was also the principal of the Poe Karen Bible School for six years. Palmerston serves as general secretary of the MCC, elected at the council’s biennial meeting on May 12, 2016. As a religious leader, Palmerston has negotiated potentially dangerous situations between Christians and Buddhists in his state.
Ashin Thondara—Myanmar (Burma)
Prorector, Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (SIBA)

Ashin Thondara studied English in the United States while teaching at the Dhammarakkhta monastery in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He has a master of arts degree with a specialty in Buddhism and a doctorate of philosophy from the University of Pune in India. Thondara has been a visiting professor in Hyderabad, India, as well as a lecturer and administrator for SIBA.

Ashin Visuta—Myanmar (Burma)
Lecturer in Charge of Foreign Affairs, Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (SIBA)

Ashin Visuta earned an MA in philosophy from the Central University of Hyderabad, India, and an MA in Buddhism from Pathamakyaw Pali Buddhist University. He was a visiting scholar at the Institute for Human Right Studies at Columbia University. Visuta is chief coordinator and assistant to Chancellor Yangon of Myanmar, and in 2013 he coordinated a conference on security, citizenship, and peaceful coexistence with SIBA and the Institute for Global Engagement and another on preservation, promotion, and protection of Buddhist culture with Sitagu Buddhist Academy and the Indian Council Culture Relation. In addition he organized a Buddhist conference in 2014 on the preservation, promotion, and protection in Nepal. Visuta has translated two books into Burmese and has edited many books published by SIBA. He has taught Buddhist teaching for five years and wrote and translated into English a draft for the establishment of a university of religions in Myanmar.

Chester James Borrows—New Zealand
Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, New Zealand Parliament

Chester Borrows was an officer in the New Zealand Police for 24 years. As a detective he investigated serious crimes and in metro areas and smaller rural communities. In 1999 he left the police to stand for election. Between serving for the police and parliament, Chester obtained a law degree and practiced law, specializing in criminal defense work. He won the Whanganui seat in 2005. Since becoming a politician he has served in the portfolios areas of justice and welfare, including serving as minister for courts, associate minister of social development, and associate justice with an emphasis on youth justice policy and enforcement. Chester is an elder and lay preacher in the Presbyterian Church.

Ayodele Victoria Atsenuwa—Nigeria
Professor, Department of Public Law, University of Lagos

Ayodele Atsenuwa is a solicitor and advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. She holds an LLM in law and development from the University of Warwick and another LLM degree in criminology and criminal justice from the University of London. A professor of law at the University of Lagos, her research and teaching areas span human rights, criminal law and justice, and gender and the law.

Akinola Ibidapo-Obe—Nigeria
Professor and Former Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Lagos

Akinola Ibidapo-Obe, when dean of law, pioneered the introduction of law and religion studies as an approved course in the curriculum of the Faculty of Law of the University of Lagos for the 2016–2017 session. He is the former director of the Centre for Human Rights (CHR) in the Faculty of Law. Ibidapo-Obe’s involvement with the law and religion movement began when he attended the 21st International Law and Religion Symposium held in Provo in October 2014. His faculty
subsequently hosted an international conference, “Towards Law and Religious Freedom in Africa,” with support from Brigham Young University. Ibidapo-Obe, together with colleagues in several other Nigerian Universities and the Nigerian Bar Association branches in Lagos and Ikeja, have formed the Nigeria Association for Law and Religion Studies (NALARS) and the West African Regional Centre for Law and Religion Studies (WARCLARS) to promote teaching and research on law and religion in Nigeria and the West Africa subregion. NALARS, WARCLARS, ACLARS, the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies, and the National Judicial Institute of Nigeria also collaborated to organize the first National Judicial Roundtable on “The Intersection Between Law and Religion: World Perspectives” in the Nigerian capital, Abuja, on June 20, 2016. Ibidapo-Obe is currently a visiting scholar at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Sulyman Kawu—Nigeria

Chief Judge, Kwara State Judiciary

Sulyman Kawu graduated from the University of Ife, Osun State, Nigeria, with an LLB (honors) in 1982 and was called to the Nigerian bar in 1983. From 1983 to 1984 he served as state counsel in the Ministry of Justice, Minna, Niger State, Nigeria. He was appointed magistrate in the Kwara State Judicial in 1984 and a judge of the High Court, Kwara State, in December 1994. From January 2010 to February 2012 he was acting chief judge, Kwara State. On December 16, 2014, he was appointed substantive chief judge, Kwara State, a position he still holds today. Kawu has served in several election tribunals from 1998 to 2007; has attended several workshops, seminars, and conferences; and has written several papers on law and law-related issues.

Tore Lindholm—Norway

Professor Emeritus, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights; Faculty of Law, University of Oslo

Tore Lindholm is an emeritus professor of philosophy at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, and board member of the Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief and of the Human Rights Committee of the Church of Norway. His research interests focus on the grounds for embracing universal human rights, in particular the right to freedom of religion or nonreligious basic conviction, and the ongoing two-way traffic between human rights and religions/basic convictions, in particular with respect to Islam and Muslims. He coedited Facilitating Freedom of Religion or Belief, now published in Indonesian and Russian; edited Islamic Law Reform and Human Rights: Challenges and Rejoinders; and made a study of Muslim immigrants to Oslo, Religious Commitment and Social Integration: Are There Significant Links? Other writings include “The Cross-Cultural Legitimacy of Universal Human Rights: Plural Justification Across Normative Divides,” in Francioni and Scheinin, eds., Cultural Human Rights, and “Magna Carta and Religious Freedom,” in Magraw and Martinez, eds., Magna Carta and the Rule of Law.

Tassaduq Hussain Jillani—Pakistan

Former Chief Justice of Pakistan, Supreme Court of Pakistan

Justice Tassaduq Hussain Jillani began practicing at the District Courts in Multan in 1974 and later became the advocate general of Punjab. In 1994 he took oath as judge of the High Court and ten years later was elevated to the Supreme Court of Pakistan. When martial law was imposed in 2007, he was one of the judges who refused to take an oath of loyalty to General Musharraf. Because of that decision, in 2008 he was honored for upholding the rule of law by receiving an award on behalf of judges from the American Bar Association. After the restoration of democracy, he was reinstated as a judge of the Supreme Court and became chief justice of Pakistan in 2013. He was conferred the honorary chair by the World Justice Project, appointed
by the Hague Conference as the cochair of the Working Party on Mediation in Family International Law, and appointed as a member of the Hague International Judicial Network. "Justice for All" penned by Mr. Jillani, has been declared the judicial anthem of Pakistan by the Full Court. He authored the well-celebrated judgment on religious freedom and minority rights in 2014.

Gibuma Gibbs Salika—Papua New Guinea
Deputy Chief Justice, National Court and Supreme Court

Sir Gibuma Gibbs Salika attended the University of Papua New Guinea from 1975 to 1978, graduating with a bachelor of law degree. He was admitted to the bar in 1979 and went on to work with the Office of the Public Prosecutor. He was a state prosecutor for six and a half years. In 1988 he was appointed magistrate and in 1990 he was appointed judge of the National Court and the Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea. He has served as a judge for 26 years, eight of those as deputy justice.

Emilia Patricia Alfaro de Franco—Paraguay
Senator, National Congress

Emilia Patricia Alfaro de Franco is an entrepreneur, businesswoman, politician, passionate worker for social causes and is sensitive to urgent national problems. She is the creator of the nationally acclaimed Abue Club and president of the nonprofit association Tesape'a Paraguay. de Franco served as national deputy and first lady of the nation as wife of the former president of the Republic of Paraguay, Dr. Federico Franco, and was also vice president of the Association of American Women Politicians and the Latin American Parliament. She is currently a national senator, president of the commission on audit and control, vice president of the Commission on Equity and Gender, and parliamentary secretary, and she promotes the creation of the Parliamentary Front of Senior Adults in the High Chamber.

Juan José Bernal Guillén—Paraguay
Professor, Universidad Católica, Chancellor, Diocese of Ciudad del Este

Juan José Bernal Guillén is a lawyer, public notary, and higher education specialist at la Universidad Católica, “Nuestra Señora del Asunción,” in Alto Paraná, Paraguay. He is a professor of property law, communication, and legal language as well as Christian anthropology and is an assistant professor of canon law. A member of the Latin American Consortium for Religious Freedom (CLLR), he was also a professor of the social sciences at Colegio Santa Teresita del Niño Jesús in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. Currently he serves as chancellor of the Diocese of Ciudad del Este and academic coordinator of the Department of Theology at the Universidad Católica.

Luís Federico Franco Gómez—Paraguay
President of Paraguay, 2012–2013

Luis Frederico Franco Gómez is a surgeon, politician, and statesman and a member of the Partido Liberal Radical Auténtico (Liberal Radical Authentic Party), the second largest political party in Paraguay. He was president of the Republic of Paraguay from 2012 to 2013 and vice president from 2008 to 2012. He was also the governor of the Department of Central. Previously he served as the provincial mayor and provincial councilor in the city of Fernando de la Mora. Currently Gómez is president of the Fundación Centro Franco (Franco Foundation Center), which is dedicated to providing ongoing training to citizens who are committed to the development of the nation so that they can act responsibly and prospectively concerning the national condition and advise and collaborate with the three branches of government regarding the proper role of institutions and human rights.
Moisés Arata Solís—Peru
Professor of Law, University of Lima

Moisés Arata Solís earned his law degree from the National University of San Marcos and his master’s degree in civil and commercial law from San Martin de Porres University. He is a professor of property law at the Universities of Lima, San Martin de Porres, and the Pontificial Catholic University of Peru. He has developed specialized consultancies in property rights and public records for the Inter-American Development Bank. He has provided advice on matters in his areas of specialization to institutions of the Peruvian government, such as the Property Registry Authority, the Special Commission on Privatization, and the Government Property Authority. He has also counseled The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and other organizations. Arata Solís was a member of the commission charged with amending the regulations of the Law of Urban Development, representing the Property Registry Authority, and was also a member of the committee responsible for reviewing the draft of the property registration regulations, representing the Board of Deans of the Peruvian Bar of Lawyers. Additionally, he was a consultant in property registration issues for the public investment project “Registration with National Jurisdiction” of the Peruvian Property Registration Authority.

Javier Augusto Del Río—Peru
Archbishop of Arequipa, Catholic Church

Javier Augusto Del Río was ordained a priest in Callao, Peru, and appointed an auxiliary bishop of the same city. He now serves as archbishop of Arequipa, Peru, a position he has held since August 20, 2006. He studied law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and earned a degree in canon law from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Rome, 1997) and a doctorate in theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome, 2001). He was vice president of the Peruvian Episcopal Conference from 2006 to 2011 and was a member of the Permanent Council of the Peruvian Episcopal Conference from 2006 to 2014. He is currently a member of the Legal Committee of the Peruvian Episcopal Conference, the board of directors of the Populorum Progressio Foundation, and the International Council for Catechesis, and he is a full member of the Peruvian Academy of Ecclesiastical History. Del Río is an honorary member of the Law School of Arequipa and the Peruvian Association of Canonists and vice president of the Peruvian Mission Inc. (USA). The Pontifical Gregorian University awarded him the medal St. Robert Bellarmine. He has received many awards and recognitions, including medals of honor for juridical merit in the degrees of Jurist Arequipeño Toribio Pacheco and Jurist Arequipeño Francisco García Calderon and Landá from the Law School of Arequipa, the gold medal from the National University of Saint Augustine, the Medal of Citizenship Merit from the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Recognition of National Character “Strengthening the Constitutional Rule of Law and Access to Justice” from the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, and the Gold Medal of the City from the Provincial Municipality of Arequipa, and the gold medal Union for Peru.

Archbishop Bernardito Auza—Philippines
Permanent Representative to the Holy See at the United Nations

H.E. Archbishop Bernardito Auza was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Tagbilaran on June 29, 1985. Then in 1986 he was incardinated to the newly created Diocese of Talibon. He earned a doctorate in theology and entered the diplomatic service of the Holy See in 1990. He served at the Apostolic Nunciature in Madagascar, in Bulgaria, and in Albania. Then he served in the Secretariat of State in the Vatican and from there was appointed to the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations in New York. On the May 8, 2008, he was appointed apostolic nuncio to Haiti and was ordained titular archbishop of Suacia on July 3, 2008. He

Carlos V. Reyes—Philippines  
Executive Secretary, Episcopal Commission on Interreligious Dialogue, Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines

Rev. Fr. Carlos V. Reyes studied civil engineering at the University of the Philippines and worked as a civil engineer until 1992. He then studied philosophy at the University of Santo Tomas’ Ecclesiastical Faculties, transferring later to the Istituto Teologico Marchigiano in Fermo, Italy, where he studied philosophy and theology for three years. He returned to the University of Santo Tomas and earned his bachelor’s degree in sacred theology (magna cum laude) in 1999. Reyes then earned his licentiate in sacred theology in the field of patristic theology and history of theology (magna cum laude) at the Gregorian University in Rome in 2001. After his advanced studies he became a spiritual director of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Minor Seminary for eight years, concurrently working as minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs for the Archdiocese of Manila and executive secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines Commission for Interreligious Dialogue. After five months helping out in the parish of St. John Vianney in Los Angeles, Reyes returned to Manila and the role of minister and executive secretary, positions he still holds today. He was also assigned as executive vice president of the Domus Mariae Foundation, the housing arm of the Archdiocese of Manila, and as parish priest of the Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Mandaluyong City. He speaks Pilipino, English, Italian, and a little Spanish and earned his private pilot certificate in February 2016.

Andrey Lymar—Poland  
Vice Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Gdansk

Andrey Lymar is a graduate of Lomonosov Moscow State University, a philologist, a cultural specialist, and a sociologist. He earned a doctor of social sciences. Currently he serves as vice dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in Gdansk. Lymar has authored approximately 90 academic papers on cultural, educational, and youth policy topics. He served as the Russian national coordinator of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project (ASPnet) and has worked in state and social organizations. He is considered an expert in the field of social organization activities. He has lectured in higher education institutions in Moscow and Poland. In addition he is a graduate of the program Library of Congress “Open World” (Washington, DC, and San Diego). He is an expert researcher in the field of youth policy and youth education in Russia and Eastern Europe.

Paulo Jorge Soares Mendes Pinto—Portugal  
Coordinator of the Religious Studies Department; Professor, Department of Political Science, Universidade Lusófona, Lisbon

Paulo Jorge Soares Mendes Pinto is coordinator of the Religious Studies Department of the Universidade Lusófona and director of the bachelor’s and master’s programs and the Lusophone Journal of Science of Religions. He coordinates several projects in the field of interreligious dialogue—especially projects in the school universe, with focus on the development of a culture of respect—and in various religious communities, stimulating working groups and reflection. He has coordinated many academic events for the First Congress of Religions Science Lusophone (May 2015), the seminar “Republic and Religions” at the Portuguese Presidency (2005), and “Religions: History—Texts—Traditions” at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (2006).
Yuri Kozhokin—Russia
Attorney at Law

Yuri Kozhokin graduated from Moscow Trade Academy under Moscow government with a law degree. He is an attorney with Lev Simkin’s Attorney Office. Prior, he worked for Latham & Watkins LLP. Kozhokin has participated in several roundtables hosted by the Institute of Europe of the Russian Academy of Science and the Russian Public Chamber dedicated to religious freedom.

Theresa Solialofi Potoi—Samoa
Executive Director, Samoa Law Reform Commission

Theresa Potoi is executive director of the Samoa Law Reform Commission. She is an admitted barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Samoa, the Australian Capital Territory, and the High Court of New Zealand. As a public sector solicitor in both Samoa and New Zealand, she has worked extensively on Legislative Reform and Development. She graduated with a bachelor of law degree from the University of Tasmania in 1997. That same year she obtained a graduate diploma in legal practice from the Australian National University. She started her professional career as a law clerk before becoming a state solicitor at the Attorney General’s Office in Apia, Samoa. She then headed the legal division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment as a principal legal officer. In 2004 Potoi obtained a scholarship from the World Bank/Joint Japan to undertake postgraduate studies in the United States of America. She graduated with a master of law, specializing in international environmental law at George Washington University in Washington, DC, in 2005. After moving to New Zealand, Potoi began working at the Ministry of Fisheries as an in-house solicitor and later as a senior solicitor. She was then seconded to the Ministry of Environment as senior solicitor. She later served as manager for the Legislation, Standards, and International Team at the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Hameem Mohamed Saleem—Singapore
Vice President-I, Jamiyah Singapore

H. Mohamed Saleem is currently vice president-I of Jamiyah Singapore, an NGO engaged in community service missions benefiting the needy and disadvantaged sections of society regardless of race, religion, or language. The mission provides educational and outreach services, including activities promoting interfaith harmony. He holds a master’s degree in social work from Madras University, India, and a PhD in women studies from Alagappa University, India. Saleem’s career background includes teaching and research and NGO Management in India and Singapore. He is currently chairman of the Management Committee of Jamiyah Nursing Home and chairman of Jamiyah’s Volunteer Management Committee. He is a lifetime member of the Interreligious Organization of Singapore. Saleem has presented at many international conferences, coedited two books of social work interest, and authored two books in the area of philosophy. He was the recipient of the Long Service Award from the Ministry of Community Development of Singapore, the Community Service Commendation Award presented by the Jamiyah Singapore 70th-Anniversary Celebration, a Certificate of Commendation for Control of Drug Menace from the Ministry of Home Affairs of Singapore, and the Appreciation Certification from New York University for formulating and implementing the Touch of Harmony program of Jamiyah Singapore.
Ján Figel’—Slovakia
Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief Outside the European Union, European Commission

In May 2016 Ján Figel’ was nominated by the European Commission as the first special envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief (FoRB) outside the European Union. His role is to work closely with other institutions within the EU (EEAS, Council, Parliament) and Member States. Figel’ is an experienced Slovak and European politician. The Former European Commissioner for Education, Training, and Culture, Figel’ has held other positions, such as state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and was chief negotiator for Slovakia’s accession into the EU. He started his career when he joined the Christian Democratic Movement party in 1990 and was elected two years later as an MP to the National Council of the Slovak Republic, serving on its Foreign Affairs Committee and becoming a member of Slovakia’s delegation to the Council of Europe. In 1998 he left his parliamentary seat and was appointed state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is at this post that he led Slovakia’s accession negotiations with the EU. As state secretary, Figel’ was also the representative of the Slovak government in the European Convention that drafted the European Constitution. From 2004 to 2009 he served with the European Commission as commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Multilingualism, with a brief stint as commissioner for Enterprise and Information Society. Figel’ stepped down from his commission post in 2009 following his election as the leader of the Christian Democratic Movement in Slovakia. He also held the post of deputy prime minister and minister for Transport, Construction, and Regional Development.

Doo Ah Lee—South Korea
Attorney at Law, Vision International Law Firm

Doo Ah Lee is a current member of the Seoul Bar Association. She passed the bar exam in 1993 and graduated from Seoul National University with a bachelor’s degree of law in 1994. She served as a member of the National Assembly from 2009 to 2012 and has served as an executive committee member of the International Conference on North Korean Human Rights since 2005.

Jaime Rossell Granados—Spain
Deputy Director General for Religious Affairs, Ministry of Justice

Jaime Rossell Granados received his PhD in law from the Complutense University of Madrid in 1995. Since 1999 he has been a professor of law in church and state legal affairs in the University of Extremadura. He was dean of the Faculty of Law from 2007 to 2015 and is currently the deputy director general of relations with the Religious Denominations in the Ministry of Justice. His research in the last years has focused on the study of the exercise and development of religious freedom, the phenomenon of religious migration in Spain, and the legal consequences of interculturality. He is author of several publications in collective volumes and specialized national and international journals, including “Promoting Religious Freedom Through Cooperation Between the State and Religious Denominations” (2015), “Governance, Non-Discrimination and Religious Minorities in Spain and the EU” (2013), “Non-Discrimination on Religious Grounds in Spain” (2008), “Religious Denominations and the Media” (2001), “The Agreements Between the State and the Churches in Germany” (1997), and “Religion and Criminal Jurisprudence” (1996).
Nihal Ranasinghe—Sri Lanka

Controller General of Immigration and Emigration, Department of Immigration and Emigration

Nihal Ranasinghe obtained a degree in business administration (special) from the University of Sri Jayawardenapura in 1986 and subsequently obtained a postgraduate diploma in provincial administration and a master’s degree in public administration with a merit pass from the Postgraduate Institute of Management of the University of Sri Jayawardenapura. He has been an officer of the Sri Lanka Administration Service (SLAS) since 1991 and has held several senior-level positions in public service at the divisional, district, provincial, and national levels for departments in the ministries. He is presently a special grade officer of the SLAS and holds the post of controller general of the Department of Immigration and Emigration of Sri Lanka. Mr. Ranasinghe has been instrumental in transforming the Department of Immigration and Emigration and has been a key member of the team that steered the automation process of the department. Ranasinghe has recently undertaken some key initiatives toward organizing the next globally accepted level, which includes the establishment of an integrated border management system, a gap-analysis exercise focused on upgrading the existing immigrant and emigrant laws, and related regulations with the objective of accommodating present and future needs emerging from economic and social expectations of the people.

Tom Hamilton—United Kingdom

Director of Research and Policy, Commonwealth Initiative for Freedom of Religion and Belief, University of Birmingham

Tom Hamilton has worked for several years in policy and politics, first for charities campaigning on disability and mental health and then in a number of different policy roles for the UK Labour Party as head of research and subsequently head of briefing. From 2010 until 2016 he prepared the Leader of the Opposition for Prime Minister’s Questions as well as briefed front-bench spokespeople in advance of media appearances and working on the 2015 TV election debates. He previously completed a PhD in theology at the University of Durham, with a focus on ethics and philosophy of religion.

Harriet Hoffler—United Kingdom

Research Fellow, Commonwealth Initiative for Freedom of Religion and Belief, University of Birmingham

Harriet Hoffler is a research fellow in the Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham, and a research fellow at the Commonwealth Initiative on the Freedom of Religion or Belief. She has an extensive background in multidisciplinary human rights research. Most recently she worked as lead research fellow at the University of Roehampton on the “Is Britain Fairer?” review and the Human Rights Measurement Framework for the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Previously she worked as a research consultant to the Overseas Development Institute, to the University of Roehampton, and to the Humanitarian Department at Oxfam GB. She was a researcher on the Eurasia Europe/South Asia FP7 project, with a particular emphasis on the application of international and regional human rights laws for religious minorities in South Asia and Europe. She held the positions of adjunct assistant professor in international law and politics at the Richmond American University in London and visiting lecturer in international human rights law at the University of Roehampton and Brunel University. She has lectured on international human rights in Nepal, Italy, and London. Hoffler has coauthored publications relating to human rights and indigenous and minority rights, with numerous credits in other books and articles in this field.
Simon Gerard McCrossan—United Kingdom
Barrister; Head of Public Policy, Evangelical Alliance

Simon McCrossan is the head of public policy at the Evangelical Alliance UK. Prior to joining the Alliance, he was in full-time practice as a barrister with specialisms in personal injury and discrimination law. A scholar of Gray’s Inn, he holds a specialist LLM in employment law (Distinction) and is focused upon issues of religious liberty. Before he was called to the bar, McCrossan worked as a teacher in secondary education (ages 11–18). Moreover, he is an experienced law lecturer having tutored both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Sahar F. Aziz—United States
Professor, Texas A&M University School of Law; Nonresident Fellow, Brookings Doha Center

Sahar F. Aziz is a professor of law at Texas A&M University School of Law, where she teaches courses on national security, civil rights, and Middle East law. She also serves as a nonresident fellow at Brookings Doha Center. Prior to joining Texas A&M, Aziz served as a senior policy adviser for the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, where she worked on law and policy at the intersection of national security and civil liberties. Her scholarship incorporates political science, sociology, and social psychology literature to examine how national security laws and policies adversely impact racial, ethnic, and religious minorities in the United States. She is also an expert on the Middle East, wherein she focuses on the relationship between authoritarianism and rule of law in Egypt, with a particular interest in the role of the courts. Her academic articles have been published in the Harvard National Security Journal, George Washington International Law Review, Penn State Law Review, and Texas Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Journal. In 2015 Aziz was named an emerging scholar by Diverse Issues in Higher Education and received the Derrick Bell Award from the American Association of Law Schools Minority Group Section. She has been featured on CNN, CSPAN, MSNBC, Fox News, and Al Jazeera America and has published commentaries with CNN.com, the New York Times, Sada Journal, World Politics Review, Houston Chronicle, The Guardian, and Christian Science Monitor.

Elizabeth A. Clark—United States
Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

As associate director of the International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Elizabeth Clark has co-organized and taken part in dozens of conferences and academic projects with other scholars and government leaders from around the world. She has from the beginning played a major role in organizing the annual International Law and Religion Symposium at Brigham Young University. She has taken part in drafting commentaries and legal analyses of pending legislation and developments affecting religious freedom and has assisted in drafting amicus briefs on international religious freedom issues for the U.S. Supreme Court. Before joining the Center, Clark was an associate in the Washington, DC, office of Mayer, Brown & Platt, where she was a member of the Appellate and Supreme Court Litigation Group. She also clerked for Judge J. Clifford Wallace on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She graduated summa cum laude from BYU’s J. Reuben Clark Law School, where she was editor in chief of the BYU Law Review. Drawing on her multilingual talents in Russian, Czech, German, and French, Clark has been active in writing and lecturing on church-state and comparative law topics. She has taught classes on comparative law, comparative constitutional law, international human rights, and European Union law at the J. Reuben Clark Law School. She has published numerous articles and chapters on church-state issues and has been an associate editor of three major books: Facilitating Freedom of Religion and Belief and two books on law and religion in post-Communist Europe. Clark has also testified before Congress on religious freedom issues.
Gary B. Doxey—United States
Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Gary B. Doxey joined the International Center for Law and Religion Studies in 2005 and serves as regional adviser for Latin America. He also heads the Center’s development effort. He has coauthored several commentaries on draft legislation and a number of amicus briefs in Latin America. He also teaches in the History Department at Brigham Young University. Doxey’s career has been divided between academia and public service. Prior to joining the Law School, he was chief of staff and general counsel to Utah governors Mike Leavitt and Olene Walker, and served as deputy commissioner of financial institutions and associate general counsel to the Utah Legislature. He has a PhD in history from Cambridge University and a JD from Brigham Young University. He speaks or reads several languages and has authored several scholarly publications.

W. Cole Durham, Jr.—United States
Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies; Susa Young Gates Professor of Law, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Cole Durham is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, where he was a note editor of the Harvard Law Review and managing editor of the Harvard International Law Journal. He has been heavily involved in comparative law scholarship, with a special emphasis on comparative constitutional law. He is a founding editor in chief of the Oxford Journal of Law and Religion. He served as the secretary of the American Society of Comparative Law from 1989 to 1994. Durham is an associate member of the International Academy of Comparative Law in Paris—the premier academic organization at the global level in comparative law. He served as a general rapporteur for the topic “Religion and the Secular State” at the 18th Congress of the International Academy of Comparative Law held in July 2010. He served in earlier years as chair both of the Comparative Law Section and the Law and Religion Section of the American Association of Law Schools. Durham was president of the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies from 2011 to 2016.

James Heilpern—United States
Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

James Heilpern is currently serving as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Edith Clement on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. He recently completed a one-year clerkship with the Honorable Robert H. Cleland on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. In 2015 he graduated magna cum laude from BYU’s J. Reuben Clark Law School, where he served on the management board for the International Center for Law and Religion Studies for two years. He graduated with highest honors and with distinction with a degree in religious studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2012.

Scott E. Isaacson—United States
Regional Adviser for Latin America, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Scott E. Isaacson is senior fellow with the International Center for Law and Religion Studies and a member of the international section of the law firm Kirton McConkie. He advises domestic and foreign businesses and not-for-profit organizations regarding all aspects of international trade and business, with specific emphasis in Latin America. He previously served as international legal counsel for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, supervising all of the Church’s legal work in South America. As part of this position, he managed international real estate acquisitions and construction, complex litigation and international arbitration, international tax compliance for not-for-profit organizations, government relations, and legal
implementation of new programs. On a regular basis, he makes presentations at international seminars held in countries such as Chile, Argentina, and Mexico about legal matters related to nonprofit and religious organizations. Isaacson is recognized as one of Utah’s legal elite in international law.

Sandra Jolley—United States
Commissioner, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

Sandra Jolley was appointed on April 27, 2016, by Senator Harry Reid to serve on the United States Commission for International Religious Freedom. A leader in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Jolley has spent decades in Nevada advocating for women and families. She served as cochair of the Las Vegas Area Public Communications Committee of the Church and facilitated interfaith and community outreach. In addition she served five years as president of the Las Vegas South Stake Relief Society and two years as assistant director of Life Line, a women’s resource center serving southern Nevada. She also has worked with numerous campaigns and local charities. Jolley is a UNLV graduate with a degree in women’s studies with special emphasis on women’s religious history.

David Kirkham—United States
Director, BYU London Centre; Senior Fellow, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

A professor in the Brigham Young University Department of Political Science, David Kirkham is academic director of Brigham Young University Limited (London Centre) and Senior Fellow for Comparative Law and International Policy and Regional Advisor for Europe for the International Center for Law and Religion Studies. He came to the Center from the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, where he served as Associate Dean and Professor of International Politics and Democratic Studies. He was Associate Professor of History, Director of International History, and Director of International Plans and Programs at the US Air Force Academy. He conducted international negotiations and diplomatic activities for several years for the US Government and United Nations, including as Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva (with duties primarily in Africa). He has officially represented the US and the UN in more than 50 nations on six continents. He holds BA, MFA, and JD degrees from Brigham Young University and a PhD from George Washington University.

Joshua Neoh—United States
Lecturer, Australian National University College of Law

Joshua Neoh is a doctoral candidate at the University of Cambridge and a tenured member of faculty at the Australian National University. He is currently a visiting doctoral scholar at Harvard Law School and holds a bachelor of laws from the Australian National University and a master of laws from Yale Law School. He is on the management board of the Research Unit for the Study of Society, Law, and Religion at the University of Adelaide, Australia. He is the coauthor of Religion and Law in Australia (Kluwer Law International, 2015). His doctoral project examines the relationship between law and love in the Apostle Paul’s theology.

Alison Dundes Renteln—United States
Professor of Political Science and Anthropology, Law, and Public Policy, Department of Political Science, University of Southern California

Alison Dundes Renteln teaches law and public policy with an emphasis on comparative and international law. A graduate of Harvard in history and literature, she has a PhD in jurisprudence and social policy from the University of California, Berkeley, and a JD from the USC Gould School of Law. Her publications include The Cultural Defense (Oxford, 2004), Folk Law (University of Wisconsin, 1995).
Multicultural Jurisprudence (Hart, 2009), Cultural Law (Cambridge, 2010), and Global Bioethics and Human Rights (Rowman & Littlefield, 2014) as well as numerous articles. She has taught at meetings of the American Bar Association, National Association of Women Judges, North American South Asian Bar Association, and the American Society of Trial Consultants. Renteln has collaborated with the UN on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, lectured on comparative legal ethics in Bangkok and Manila at ABA-sponsored conferences, and served on civil rights commissions and a California committee of Human Rights Watch. In fall 2013 she was a fellow at Stanford’s Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, where she conducted research on incentives for civic engagement including the legal duty to rescue. In spring 2014 she was a human rights fellow at the School of Advanced Study at the University of London. Professor Renteln is working with colleagues to set up a USC Human Rights Center to sponsor collaborative research, bring speakers (human rights defenders, UN officials, and government officials) to campus, and give students internship experiences abroad.

Brett G. Scharffs—United States
Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies; Francis R. Kirkham Professor of Law, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Brett G. Scharffs received a BSBA in international business and an MA in philosophy at Georgetown University and, as a Rhodes scholar, earned a BPhil in philosophy at Oxford. He received his JD from Yale Law School, where he was senior editor of the Yale Law Journal. He is a recurring visiting professor at Central European University in Budapest and at the University of Adelaide Law School. He has for several years helped organize certificate training programs in religion and the rule of law in China and in Vietnam and has taught and helped organize programs at several Indonesian universities on shari’a and human rights. The author of more than 100 articles and book chapters, he has made more than 300 scholarly presentations in 30 countries. His casebook, Law and Religion: National, International, and Comparative Perspectives (with Cole Durham, 2nd English edition forthcoming 2017), has been translated into Chinese and Vietnamese, with Turkish, Burmese, and Arabic translations in process. He is coauthor with Elizabeth Clark of Religion and Law in the USA, a 2016 contribution to Wolters Kluwer’s International Encyclopaedia of Laws.

J. Clifford Wallace—United States
Chief Judge Emeritus, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Judge J. Clifford Wallace is a Navy veteran and a 1955 graduate of the University of California Boalt Hall School of Law. He has devoted more than 50 years to the law as partner in a San Diego law firm, as a United States district judge for the Southern District of California, and as member, chief judge, and senior judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Since assuming senior judge status in 1996, Wallace has spent much of his time traveling to every continent promoting the rule of law in developing countries. A prolific writer, lecturer, and teacher, he has taught courses in judicial administration in the United States and throughout the world and has consulted with more than 50 judiciaries worldwide. He developed the concept for the Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific and for the American Inns of Court. He has received many honors, recognitions, and awards, including the 2005 Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award, generally regarded as “the most prestigious honor conferred on a member of the federal judiciary,” and the 2009 Distinguished Service Award for Religious Freedom from the International Center for Law and Religion Studies.
Duong Nguyen—Vietnam
PhD Candidate, Vietnam National University, School of Law

Duong Nguyen graduated from the Master Program of Human Rights at the School of Law, Vietnam National University Hanoi (in cooperation with the Norwegian Center for Human Rights), in 2014. She works as a lecturer in the VNU School of Law teaching constitutional law and human rights. Duong has taken part in some research projects on human rights and is now working on her PhD thesis on human and citizen’s rights protecting mechanisms in Vietnamese Constitutions.

Khac Duc Nguyen—Vietnam
PhD, Institute for Religious and Belief Studies, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics

Khac Duc Nguyen began work for the Institute for Religious and Belief Studies after graduating with a PhD. He lectures on and researches religion topics.

Thao Phung thi Phuong—Vietnam
Representative, Institute of Public Policy and Law, Vietnam

Thao Phung thi Phuong graduated from the Academy of Journalism and Communication and has a bachelor’s degree in English translation. She is pursuing a master’s degree in social management. She has translated a book on the topic of direct democracy and voting from abroad. Currently she works at the Institute of Public Policy and Law, a Vietnamese NGO and think-tank. Its mission is to contribute to the improvement of the rule of law, good governance, and sustainable development in Vietnam. Her research is in the protection of religious freedom in Vietnam.

Thanh Huyen Tran—Vietnam
Deputy Director, Saigon Centre for International Studies (SCIS), University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University of HCM City

Thanh Huyen Tran has been deputy director of Saigon Centre for International Studies since 2015 and a lecturer of the Faculty of International Relations, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, in Ho Chi Minh City since September 2010. She teaches advanced English and ASEAN studies. Huyen earned her master of international relations from Griffith University, Queensland, Australia, in 2010. Currently she is a PhD Candidate in international relations at the Diplomacy Academy of Vietnam, and her research interest is religions and current issues in Southeast Asia.

Le Ba Trinh—Vietnam
Vice President, The Central Committee of Vietnam Fatherland Front

Trinh Le Ba graduated from teacher’s college and earned a master’s in mathematics at the University of Hue, Vietnam. He received a PhD in philosophy of religion at the Academy of Social Sciences of Vietnam. He has participated in thematic presentations on Vietnam Fatherland Front with the management of the state of religion in Vietnam in short-term training courses on religious affairs, jointly organized between Brigham Young University and the University of Science, Society, and Humanity of Vietnam National University.
ABOUT ICLRS

The International Center for Law and Religion Studies at BYU has a threefold mission: (1) to expand and disseminate knowledge and expertise regarding the interrelationship of law and religion; (2) to facilitate the growth of networks of scholars, experts, and policy makers involved in the field of religion and law; and (3) to contribute to law reform processes and broader implementation of principles of religious freedom worldwide.

Working to assist in building networks of scholars, experts, and policy makers, the Center has been hosting the annual International Law and Religion Symposium for 23 years. In that time more than 1,100 experts from 120 countries have come to BYU’s law school to discuss pressing issues of law and religion. The Center also helps sponsor 10–15 regional conferences each year throughout the world, and Center experts participate in 30–50 more conferences annually.

Active since the Center’s beginning in law reform efforts concerning religious liberty, Center faculty have participated in consultations on draft legislation in more than 50 countries, have given expert testimony before the U.S. Congress and the Indonesian Constitutional Court, and have authored or coauthored reviews of legislation, amicus briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court, and interventions before the European Court of Human Rights.

Academic engagement on law and religion issues is central to the Center’s mission. Center faculty have edited or written books and chapters in a number of volumes on law and religion issues published by Ashgate, Brill | Martinus Nijhoff, Carolina, Oxford, Routledge, Thomson West, Wolters Kluwer, and others. Center personnel edit an annually updated treatise on religious organizations and U.S. law, serve as editors and advisors for the Oxford Journal of Law and Religion and the Brill Encyclopedia of Law and Religion, and supervise the annual publication of a Law and Religion Symposium issue of the BYU Law Review.

In addition to its own website, the Center manages religlaw.org, a website for gathering legislation, court cases, news, and other relevant law and religion materials, along with the Strasbourg Consortium website and case table, dedicated to the freedom of religion or belief jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights. The Center also provides a law and religion headlines service, sending a near-daily email list of news on this topic from around the world. Find links to these services and to the Center’s Facebook page and YouTube channel on the Center’s website at iclrs.org. Follow Center activities on Twitter @iclrsorg.