CRISIS of HUMANITARIANISM in CRISIS

April 25 – 26, 2014

A Conference Presented by the University of Chicago Human Rights Program

presenters:
Margaret Abruzzo, University of Alabama
Mona Atta, George Washington University
Michael Barnett, George Washington University
Jonathan Benthall, University College London
Erica Bornstein, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Mark Bradley, University of Chicago
Lilie Chouliaraki, London School of Economics
Daniel Cohen, Rice University
J.P. Daughton, Stanford University
Didier Fassin, Institute of Advanced Study
Heide Fehrenbach, Northern Illinois University
Ilana Feldman, George Washington University
Michal Givoni, Ben–Gurion University
Young-Sun Hong, SUNY–Stony Brook
Helen Kinsella, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Samuel Moyn, Columbia University
Johanna Ransmeier, University of Chicago
Peter Redfield, University of North Carolina
Julia Adeney Thomas, Notre Dame
Michelle Tusun, University of Nevada–Las Vegas
Charlotte Walker-Said, CUNY–John Jay
Ann Marie Wilson, University of Leiden

humanitarianism.uchicago.edu
FRIDAY
APRIL 25, 2014

All sessions take place in the Alumni House Library (5555 S. Woodlawn Ave, Chicago, IL) unless otherwise noted.

9:00 – 9:30am
Registration and Light Breakfast

9:30 – 10:00am
Opening Remarks

Mark Bradley, Bernadotte E. Schmitt Professor of International History
University of Chicago

Samuel Moyn, James Bryce Professor of European Legal History
Columbia University

10:00 – 11:00am
Panel 1: Principles and Modalities of Humanitarianism

Reluctant Cosmopolitanism: Perceptions Monitoring and the Performance of Humanitarian Principles
Michal Givoni, Lecturer, Department of Politics and Government
Ben-Gurion University

On Being Able to Sleep
Helen Kinsella, Associate Professor of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Panel Chair: Mark Bradley

11:00 – 11:30am
Break and Refreshments

11:30am – 1:00pm
Panel 2: The Communication of Solidarity

Atrocity on Film: Humanitarianism at the Dawn of New Media
Michelle Tusan, Professor of History
University of Nevada-Las Vegas

The Humanitarian Eye: Photographic Appeals and Historical Inquiry
Heide Fehrenbach, Board of Trustees Professor and Distinguished Research Professor
Northern Illinois University

Post-Humanitarianism - The Contemporary Politics of Solidarity
Lilie Chouliaraki, Professor of Media and Communications
London School of Economics

Panel Chair: Daniel Morgan, Associate Professor, Department of Cinema and Media Studies
University of Chicago

1:00 – 2:00pm
Lunch

2:00 – 4:00pm
Panel 3: Humanitarian Practices and Publics before World War II

Tenuous Solidarities: Compassion, Exclusion, and Legibility in Nineteenth-Century Humanitarianism
Ann Marie Wilson, Assistant Professor of History
Leiden University
Victims, Villains, and the Vocabulary of Humanitarianism
Margaret Abruzzo, Associate Professor of U.S. History
University of Alabama

In Search of Humanity: How the French Dealt with Suffering in Their Empire, 1890-1940
J.P. Daughton, Associate Professor of Modern European History
Stanford University

A Genealogy of Legal Literacy and “NGO’s” in China
Johanna Ransmeier, Assistant Professor of History
University of Chicago

Panel Chair: Andrew Janco, Lecturer in Human Rights
University of Chicago

4:30pm Reception
Room 122, Social Sciences Research Building
1126 E. 59th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

5:00 – 6:30pm Keynote Lecture: Heart of Goodness: Reflections on Humanitarianism
Room 122, Social Sciences Research Building
Co-sponsored by the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society

Welcome: David Nirenberg, Roman Family Director, Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society; Deborah R. and Edgar D. Jannotta Professor of Medieval History and Social Thought
University of Chicago

Introduction: Michael Geyer, Samuel N. Harper Professor of Modern German and European History
University of Chicago

Keynote Lecture: Didier Fassin, James D. Wolfensohn Professor in Social Science
Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton

S A T U R D A Y
APRIL 26, 2014

All sessions take place in the Alumni House Library.

9:30 – 10:00am Registration and Light Breakfast

10:00 – 11:30am Panel 4: Humanitarian Practices and Publics after World War II

Charlotte Walker-Said, Assistant Professor of Africana Studies
City University of New York

Afro-Asian Wars of National Liberation and the Global Humanitarian Regime
Young-Sun Hong, Associate Professor of History
State University of New York – Stony Brook

Nuclear Pain and Humanitarian Photography: A Japanese Angle on the First Gulf War
Julia Adeney Thomas, Associate Professor of History
University of Notre Dame

Panel Chair: Emily Osborn, Associate Professor of African History
University of Chicago
SATURDAY continued

11:30am – 12:30pm  
Lunch

12:30 – 2:30pm  
Panel 5: Transnational Religion and the Question of Humanitarianism in Palestine

Which Cosmopolitanism? American Jews, Human Rights, and Humanitarianism  
Michael Barnett, University Professor of International Affairs and Political Science  
George Washington University

A Revival of GCC-Based Islamic Charities? Obstacles and Opportunities  
Jonathan Benthall, Honorary Research Fellow in the Department of Anthropology  
University College London

Humanitarianism or Politics? Dilemmas of Christian Refugee Relief in the Middle East, 1948-1967  
Daniel Cohen, Associate Professor of History  
Rice University

Non-Humanitarian Futures? Palestinian Experiments with Living Otherwise in Conditions of Long-Term Displacement  
Ilana Feldman, Associate Professor of Anthropology, History, and International Affairs  
George Washington University

Panel Chair: Orit Bashkin, Associate Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History  
University of Chicago

2:30 – 3:00pm  
Break and Refreshments

3:00 – 4:30pm  
Panel 6: Humanitarianism Between Marketing and Development

Regulating Rights-Based Social Welfare in India  
Erica Bornstein, Associate Professor of Anthropology  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

The Marketization of Humanitarianism  
Mona Atia, Assistant Professor of Geography and International Affairs  
George Washington University

Micro-Utopias: Humanitarian Goods in an Age of Audit  
Peter Redfield, Professor of Anthropology  
University of North Carolina

Panel Chair: Samuel Moyn

4:30 – 5:00pm  
Wrap-Up Session  
Mark Bradley and Samuel Moyn

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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