



**York Festival of Ideas 2012**

**20 June 2012**

**Event of interest**

## **Festival Focus: How conflict transforms**

Led by the University's Centre for Applied Human Rights and Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit, this Festival Focus, facilitates discussions about the effects that conflicts throughout the world make, both at home and abroad.

### **3pm: How conflict transforms lives**

An event focused around the controversial and viral Kony video viewed by over 100 million in less than a month on social media. Sixth-form students are invited to listen to a debate on the topic delivered by students from the University of York and to vote on the arguments for and against the video. The event will be chaired by Ben Rawlence of Human Rights Watch.

The debate will be followed by an exhibition at which a number of societies and organisations will provide interactive stands considering the theme What is transformation in relation to conflict? to provoke one-to-one discussion and debate. There will also be a photographic exhibition of pictures taken by students from the University's Centre for Applied Human Rights and Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit taken on field trips to post-conflict countries, and a 3Sixty immersive visual display.

From 6pm, a public Q&A session on Global and local transformation: The impact of conflict abroad and at home will follow in the same building at which audience members will be able to quiz a panel of experts on how conflict abroad affects us here in the UK. School groups are welcome to book to attend.

### **4.30pm – 6pm: What is transformation in relation to conflict? Exhibition**

An exhibition including interactive stands, provided by a number of societies and organisations, considering the theme What is transformation in relation to conflict? Come along and find out more about conflicts and human rights.

A photographic exhibition in the 3Sixty immersive audio visual space of pictures taken by students from the University's Centre for Applied Human Rights and Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit taken on field trips to post-conflict countries.

## 6pm: Global and local transformation: The impact of conflict abroad and at home

Panel and Q&A session on *Global and local transformation: The impact of conflict abroad and at home*

This event will give the audience an opportunity to quiz a panel of experts on the effects and impact of war and conflict not only in affected countries/areas but here at home. Panellists include Ben Rawlence from the Human Rights Watch who has worked extensively with people in the Congo, academics from the University's Centre for Applied Human Rights and Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit, and local experts. The event will be chaired by Professor Andrew Webster, academic coordinator of Social Sciences at the University of York.

Panellists include:

- Ben Rawlence of the Human Rights Watch
- Chief Inspector Kerrin Smith, who spent a year training police in Iraq
- Former police inspector and Director of Pacalis Associates, Dr Martin Baines
- Georgina Yates, a Conflict Advisor with the UK Department of International Development
- Erinma Bell, co-founder and chair of Community Alliance for Renewal Inner South Manchester Area (CARISMA)
- Lars Waldorf, former civil rights lawyer and current Senior Lecturer in International Human Rights Law at the Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York
- Rev Rory Dalgliesh, Methodist Chaplain to the University of York
- David Connolly, Lecturer at PRDU/Politics, specialist in peace building and state building
- Helmy Elrawy, lawyer and the Executive Director of the Budgetary and Human Rights Observatory (BAHRO)

**Ben Rawlence** is a senior researcher on Africa for Human Rights Watch. His writing has appeared in the *Guardian*, the *London Review of Books*, *Prospect*, and the *Huffington Post*, and he has been a contributor to BBC Radio 4's *From Our Own Correspondent*. In his latest book *Radio Congo: Signals of Hope from Africa's Deadliest War* Ben shows the Congolese as people, not victims. They each have their stories, mostly very painful, but they also have faith and a lot of hope. The book delves behind the headlines of war, rape and poverty and aims to give a balanced view, avoiding the media hype. Ben studied Swahili and history at the University of London and received his master's degree in international relations from the University of Chicago.

**Chief Inspector Kerrin Smith** joined North Yorkshire Police in 2008 having spent 16 years with Northumbria and Cleveland police, as well as a year spent training police in Iraq in 2006 - 2007. During her 19-year career, she has worked in a variety of roles both in uniform and CID. This ranged from specialist drug units, Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit, response roles and as Force Control Room Chief Inspector. She describes her most challenging and exciting role as

the time she was posted to Iraq in 2006 as Director of Training for the coalition training programmes for the newly formed Iraqi police force. Chief Inspector Smith has been a trained Hostage Negotiator since 2003. In 2010 she was selected to join the ranks of just 20 International Hostage Negotiators in the whole of the UK. She is a qualified Firearms Incident Commander, an International Police Trainer, holds a Masters degree in Business Administration and is a mentor for black and ethnic minority students at Teesside University.

**Dr Martin Baines QPM** is a former Police Inspector having served with West Yorkshire Police for over 31 years. Martin has worked closely with communities from across the Bradford district and West Yorkshire throughout his police career. He developed national best practice on community engagement and managing community tensions between 2000 and 2005, playing a critical role in minimising community tensions within Bradford in the immediate aftermath of the 7th July 2005 terrorist bombings in London. He also designed the West Yorkshire Police Community Intervention Strategy in the post 7/7 period following the London Bombings of 2005. Martin is a founding Director of Pacalis Associates and he has worked extensively in Pakistan, India, Brazil and Colombia, assisting police forces with their strategic development.

**Rev Rory Dalgliesh** is the Methodist Chaplain to the University of York and Methodist Minister to Heslington Church. Rory was born in South Africa where he worked as a facilitator of community based initiatives from 1996 to 2001 as part of the truth and reconciliation process. He studied engineering before moving into ministry where he majored in Systematic Theology and Theological Ethics. Rory was ordained a minister in 2000.

**Georgina Yates** is a Conflict Advisor with the UK Department of International Development. She was the DFID Country Representative in Burundi (2002-05) and was previously a Senior Humanitarian Specialist in the Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs Department. With experience also in East Timor, Georgina has worked alongside the key international humanitarian and development agencies, including the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the World Food Programme and the World Bank. Georgina is also a graduate of the MA in Post-war Recovery Studies at the University of York (2005-06).

**Erinma Bell MBE DL** is co-founder and chair of CARISMA - Community Alliance for Renewal Inner South Manchester Area. Since 2003, CARISMA has become a front-line community based group that offers life-chances for young people by giving them positive alternatives other than street and gun crime. In 2007, CARISMA was awarded The Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for voluntary service by groups. Erinma was awarded an MBE for voluntary services to her community in 2008 and the Prime Minister Gordon Brown recognized her work in his book, 'Britain's Everyday Heroes'. More recently, Erinma has become a 'community partner' under the National Centre for Community Public Engagement, and she has been honoured with the title of Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester.

**Lars Waldorf** is Senior Lecturer in International Human Rights Law at the Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York. He ran Human Rights Watch's field office in Rwanda from 2002-2004 and reported on genocide trials at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 2001. He also worked as a consultant for the International Center for Transitional Justice, the Committee to Protect Journalists, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, and Front Line Defenders. He has authored numerous book chapters, journal articles, and reports on Rwanda. He has co-edited three books: *Remaking Rwanda: State Building and Human Rights after Mass Violence*; *Localizing Transitional Justice: Interventions and Priorities after Mass Violence* and *Disarming the Past: Transitional Justice and Ex-Combatants*. He previously worked as a civil rights lawyer in the US from 1990 to 2000.

**Dr David Connolly** is a lecturer at the Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit at the Department of Politics. He works on post-war recovery and has conducted field research and professional education programmes in Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sri Lanka and Yemen. Since 2000, David has undertaken a range of commissioned studies for UNICEF, UNDP, World Bank, the government of Afghanistan, the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, and several international and local NGOs. He currently convenes the MA in Post-war Recovery Studies and convened the annual Chevening Senior Fellowship Programme on Conflict Prevention and Resolution for the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office between 2006 and 2010. From January 2013, David will direct a new programme at the university – the MSc in International Humanitarian Affairs.

**Helmy Elrawy** is a lawyer and the Executive Director of the Budgetary and Human Rights Observatory (BAHRO) in Cairo, Egypt. BAHRO's work focuses on analysing the state budget from a rights perspective and providing documentation of violations of socio-economic and cultural rights. BAHRO also works on the impact of corruption in Egyptian society. Helmy is currently a visiting fellow at the Centre for Applied Human Rights under the Protective Fellowship Scheme for Human Rights Defenders at Risk.

**Admission:** by free ticket only, available from [yorkfestivalofideas.com/tickets](http://yorkfestivalofideas.com/tickets)

**Location:** Ron Cooke Hub, University of York

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