

**International seminar organized within the scientific program – *Humanisme juridique critique* – of the UMR of Comparative Law – University Paris I  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2010**

**Third World Today  
Assessment and Perspectives**

The project *Third World* is led by Professors Emmanuelle Jouannet (CERDIN-University Paris 1) H  l  ne Ruiz Fabri (UMR de droit compar  -University Paris I) and Mark Toufayan (University of Ottawa).

The purpose of this symposium is to evaluate the situation of contemporary legal thought on the Third World, first taking into account the work of a group of Anglophone internationalists who founded the movement TWAIL (*Third World Approaches to International Law*) and, in so doing, have profoundly renewed thinking in this area. Some eminent representatives of this movement are Professors Antony Anghie, James Gathii, Karin Mickelson, Balakrishnan Rajagopal, Bhupinder Chimni and Vasuki Nesiah, who are all invited as key speakers at the seminar to present their work and submit their ideas to the reflection of French-speaking jurists specialized in Third World issues. The seminar discussion will be designed to allow a comparative approach to these new points of view, while also providing a more general review of contemporary Anglophone and Francophone internationalists' reflections on the Third World.

There is no doubt that the approach taken to legal study of the Third World is not the same in the French and English worlds. In France particularly, research and legal lessons on the Third World simply seem to have been abandoned in law faculties. Research centers are closed, funds have been redistributed, journals are extinct and the topic is no longer subject to a specialized education. It is now taught, at best, as an international economic law sub-discipline, which completely marginalized its impact and its relevance. In response to this situation, it is time to relaunch reflection on the Third World in France from an independent and critical perspective. This international seminar is within the program on *Humanisme juridique critique* ("Critical legal humanism") of the UMR of Comparative law, which aims to rethink the bulk of contemporary international law themes in order to recreate a critical legal humanism making the individual the ultimate beneficiary of international law. The critical perspective does not here refer to radical positions or adverse judgments, but rather to the Kantian concept of "free and public examination" of the current theme. What is most important to the creators of the *Programme Humanisme juridique critique* is not to accept the commonsense or taken-for-granted assumptions within ordinary thinking in international law. The TWAIL movement allows legal concepts related to the Third World to be rethought and submitted to free examination.

In terms of the organization of the seminar, it will be held at University Paris I (Room 1, 12 Place du Panth  on 75005 Paris) over one and a half days, in early July 2010. It will take place in the form of four round tables, based on the reports submitted by TWAIL movement representatives, to be discussed by several commentators. The seminar will end with general conclusions presented by Jean-Pierre Cot, Georges Abi-Saab, Mohamed Bennouna, Jos   Alvarez, Francisco Meldeje and Karin Mickelson.

## Programme

### July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 : Room 1 Centre Panthéon

- 1.30 p.m** Reception and registration for participants
- 2 p.m** **Opening words** – Professors Hélène Ruiz Fabri (Université Paris I - UMR de droit comparé) and Jean-Marc Sorel (Université Paris I - CERDIN)
- Introductory remarks** – Professors Emmanuelle Jouannet (Université Paris I), Mark Toufayan (Université d'Ottawa) and Yves Daudet (Université Paris I, Secrétaire général de l'Académie de droit international, La Haye)
- 2. 30 p.m.** **Third World Approaches to International Law – An introduction**  
Professor Buphinder Chimni (Jawaharlal Nehru University)
- 3 p.m.** **First round table chaired by Mohammed Bedjaoui (AE, Algérie)**  
**A reinterpretation of the history of international law?**
- Rapporteur:** Antony Anghie (Utah Law University)  
**Commentators :**  
Nathaniel Berman (Brown University)  
Gourmo Abdul Lô (Université du Havre)  
Slim Laghmani (Université de Tunis)  
Anne Orford (University of Melbourne)  
Ineta Ziemele (Lettonie, CEDH)
- 5 p.m** **Coffee break**
- 5. 30 p.m.** **Second round table chaired by Yves Daudet (Université Paris I, Secrétaire général de l'Académie de droit international, La Haye)**  
**A new approach to human rights?**
- Rapporteur:** Vasuki Nesiah (Brown University)  
**Commentators :**  
Habib Gherari (Université d'Aix-Marseille III)  
Véra Gowland-Debbas (IHEID, Genève)  
Ratna Kapur (Centre for Feminist Legal Research, New Delhi)  
Rostane Mehdi ((Université d'Aix Marseille III)  
Ki-Gab Park (Université de Corée)  
Mark Toufayan (Université d'Ottawa)
- 7. 30 p.m.** **Cocktail** – Appartement décanal, Université Paris 1

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010: Room 1 Centre Panthéon**

**10 a.m. Third round table chaired by Georges Abi-Saab (IHEID, Genève)  
Which Third World for what kind of Development?**

**Rapporteur:** Balakrishnan Rajagopal (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

**Commentators:**

Koffi Ahadzi (Université de Lomé)

Geneviève Burdeau (Université Paris I)

Paulo Casella (Université de Sao Paulo)

Rahim Kherad (Université de Poitiers)

Mohamed Salah (Université de Nouakchott)

Brigitte Stern (Université Paris I)

**12.00 Lunch** – Appartement décanal, Université Paris I

**1. 30 p.m. Fourth round table chaired by Jean Salmon (Université libre de Bruxelles)  
Rethinking modes of diffusion and research and teaching methods?**

**Rapporteur:** James Thuo Gathii (Albany Law School)

**Commentators :**

Pierre Michel Eisemann (Université Paris I)

Olivier Corten (Université libre de Bruxelles)

Marcelo Kohen (IHEID, Genève)

Ibrahima LY (Université Cheick Anra Diop de Dakar)

Eleftheria Neframi (Université Paris XIII)

**3.30 p.m Coffee Break**

**4 p.m. Closing remarks-Debate chaired by Jean-Pierre Cot (Former French  
Minister of cooperation and President of the French Society of  
International Law)**

**What have we learned? What should we do?**

Georges Abi-Saab (IHEID, Genève)

José Alvarez (NYU)

Mohamed Bennouna (CIJ, La Haye)

Francisco Meledje (University de Cocody)

Karin Mickelson (University of British Columbia)