



McLAUGHLIN COLLEGE

As part of our popular Lunch Talk Series McLaughlin College Proudly Presents:

'Fleeing Contemporary Armed Conflicts in International Refugee Law: Judicial Practice in the European Union'

Presented by:

Christel Querton



As the number of forcibly displaced people in the world today is the highest ever recorded and most are fleeing situations of armed conflict and widespread violence, queries regarding the continued relevance of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees ('Refugee Convention') for international protection need addressing.

This paper demonstrates that appellate authorities in the European Union adopt a conventional warfare perspective when dealing with situations of armed conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria and thereby fail to interpret the Refugee Convention in light of present-day conditions.

Drawing on feminist and security studies literature, the paper proposes an interdisciplinary approach to interpretation of the refugee definition that better reflects the nature of violence in contemporary armed conflicts, including its gender differentiated impacts. This approach aims to more effectively respond to current protection needs.

CHRISTEL QUERTON has worked for over ten years in the field of refugee, immigration and human rights law. She is a Lecturer in Law at the University of the West of England and researches the protection of refugees in international refugee law and human rights law from empirical, comparative and feminist perspectives. Her latest article entitled Gender and the Boundaries of International Refugee Law: Beyond the Category of 'Gender-Related Asylum Claims' was published in the Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights (2019). Prior to entering academia, Christel practised as a barrister from Lamb Building in London and worked at Asylum Aid and Wilson Solicitors LLP.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

12:30 – 1:30 PM via ZOOM

Click here to register: <https://yorku.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlrcOigrj4sGNB9lwmRZ5dxmz1EBwIB1H0u>

For further information, please contact Vicky Carnevale at vcarneva@yorku.ca