



American Society
of International Law

Walker
INSTITUTE

School of Law



University of
Reading

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND INTERNATIONAL LAW SYMPOSIUM

29 June-1 July 2017, University of Reading, UK

The international community is grappling with the increasing frequency and severity of a broad range of 'man-made' and 'natural' disasters. The current global landscape governing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is therefore in a significant period of evolution. It is likely that the reach of DRR will extend into many different legal regimes, both in the development of 'soft' (non-binding policy) and 'hard' (formally binding) law, governing a broad range of disasters.

SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW

Please join us at the University of Reading between 29 June and 1 July 2017 for the Disaster Risk Reduction and International Law Symposium organised by the Reading School of Law and the multidisciplinary Walker Institute, co-sponsored by the American Society of International Law (Disaster Law Interest Group). Framed around the principles and objectives underpinning the Sendai Framework on DRR 2015-30, and cognisant of the relevance of other global initiatives including the Sustainable Development Goals 2015 and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, this will be a unique opportunity to discuss, debate, inform and progress the development of law, policy and practice governing DRR and disasters at the national, regional and international levels.



WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The symposium is expected to bring together a multinational spectrum of participants drawn from across governmental, intergovernmental, private, NGO/civil society, academic, and media sectors. Participants will comprise a mixture of those contributing papers and non-contributors informing wider discussions and debate. Whilst the discussions and papers will be framed primarily around international law and policy across a broad range of legal regimes, other disciplinary perspectives which inform law and policy understanding/development are welcome also.

PROGRAMME

The programme will comprise a mixture of keynote speakers, panel discussions, leading research presentations, interactive activities, and networking opportunities including planned social events. For more details see

walker.ac.uk/news-events/disaster-risk-reduction-and-international-law-symposium-2017

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers are invited which examine one or more of the following research questions, and should be framed around key principles and objectives of the Sendai Framework on DRR:



- (1) What 'soft' and 'hard' law DRR related norms currently exist within international law, whether more generally or within specific legal regimes?
- (2) How will/should DRR related law and policy develop within specific fields of law?
- (3) What are the current and potential law, policy and/or practice implications of findings in (1) and/or (2), especially in relation to improving the coherence of DRR law at national/regional/ global levels, and associated implementation and enforcement mechanisms?

Adopted approaches should include: (a) regional or country-specific case studies; (b) theoretical/ conceptual frameworks; and/or (c) examples of state/non-state actor practice.

Paper deadline: Anyone wishing to present a paper should submit a **500 word abstract** outlining their proposed topic(s) together with a **personal biography of no more than 200 words** to drrsymposium@reading.ac.uk by **Friday 17 February 2017**. Decisions regarding whether or not proposed papers have been accepted will be communicated by **mid/late March 2017**.

A significant edited handbook is planned aimed at law and policy makers, to be published by Cambridge University Press (subject to contract following satisfactory peer review).

HOW TO BOOK AND FURTHER DETAILS

Further symposium and booking details are available at

walker.ac.uk/news-events/disaster-risk-reduction-and-international-law-symposium-2017

Please email drrsymposium@reading.ac.uk if you wish to be notified when full booking details are available or for any other enquiries.

