

CITIZENS FROM WARS

International Law and Good Practices
on Wars, Migrations and Sanctuary Cities

scuola
di studi
superiori
giacomo
leopardi

28-29-30 ottobre, 2019. Prof. Sandro Calvani

Questo corso è impartito in lingua inglese.
La discussione in aula, le letture e gli esami saranno in lingua inglese.

This course will be delivered in English.
All discussions in class and the final exam will be in English.

A. Summary of course contents

The three branches of international law provide a useful and indispensable review of rules applicable to human rights of people in conflicts and of displaced people resulting from highly stressed living conditions caused by lack of human security. Nevertheless, the lecturer experience in recent crisis scenarios contributes to an original vision based on good practices in the field. The growing demand of protection by refugees in war, refugees fleeing war, and refugees in post-war contexts finds a match with the emerging rights of cities and rights of citizen, in the modern sustainable development scenario of urban living and resilient livelihoods. The analysis adds a new unconventional focus on sanctuary cities in some countries as well as citizen rights as defined by the Italian Constitution.

B. Course objectives

By the end of the course, the student will have a comprehensive knowledge and thorough comprehension of major issues in humanitarian affairs (HUAs) at global level with a specific reference to: 1. Issues deriving from current humanitarian crisis; 2. Good practices in urban settings; 3. Rights of cities, citizen rights, sanctuary cities.

Specifically, students will know:

- ✓ The internationally accepted definitions and challenges of modern humanitarian crisis and its nexus with migration flows.
- ✓ The historical dynamics of world thinking and response to major HUAs;
- ✓ The most relevant management practices of HUAs in disaster preparedness and response, with a specific focus on most vulnerable populations;
- ✓ The roles of institutions at all levels and the requirements and characteristics of Intl. professionals of humanitarian affairs in the governance of HUAs and of migrations;
- ✓ The major impact of HUAs and of policies related to HUAs on the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (MDGs) and on the respect of Human Rights.
- ✓ Pillars and components of the right of the city and citizen rights as an essential condition of sustainable development.
- ✓ Key insights on the experiences of sustainable livelihoods in post-conflict situations.
- ✓ Lesson learned and pending issues of sanctuary cities.

C. Course description

The course will examine the role of HUAs in international affairs, as well as specific challenges caused by HUAs and by migrations, to the governance of public goods at local, national and international level, with a specific focus on urban settings.

Class topics include, but they are not limited to:

- ✓ The evolution of the theory and of the field practice of humanitarian relief in mass populations;
- ✓ A review of the vision, principles, leadership and work methods developed by major Institutions involved in HUIs and in migrations;
- ✓ The performance of specific actors and the professional profiles of Intl. Civil Servants employed in HUIs and in migrations, through the analysis of success stories and failures.
- ✓ Management of all phases of humanitarian preparedness and response will be discussed, with the help of case studies, with a specific focus on crisis strategic planning to minimize impact on vulnerable populations;
- ✓ Cities as commons, inclusive citizenship, links with the “smart city” principles and with the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- ✓ Sanctuary cities as a tool of resilience in times of change of era and of confused institutional responses.

D. Course learning style and pre-requisites

The learning will focus more on real practices than on theories. However, some knowledge management of fundamental know-hows is relevant. Focus on ways and means to put the human factor at the centre of HUIs. Understanding issues in depth is more important than knowing them in depth.

E. Pre-course essential reading (total 60 pages, plus notes)

Vincent Chetail, “Armed conflict and forced migration: a systematic approach to International Humanitarian Law, Refugee Law and International Human Rights Law”, downloadable at: <https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/law/9780199559695.001.0001/law-9780199559695-e-28> (36 pages)

Global Platform for the Right to the City, “What’s the right to the city, input for the new urban agenda” downloadable at: http://www.righttothecityplatform.org.br/download/publicacoes/what-R2C_digital-1.pdf (23 pages)

Harald Bauder, “Sanctuary Cities: Policies and Practices in International Perspective”, downloadable at: <http://valencia.unm.edu/library/handouts/evaluationsources/sanctuarya.pdf> (18 pages)

Extra reading: Dirk Messner, “The Century of Cities: Pathways Towards Sustainability”, downloadable at: https://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:7309/Messner_Concilium2019_META.pdf page 13-23 (10 pages)

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