



Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs

Cordially invites you to a lecture and open discussion

Protecting Syrian Refugees: Laws, Policies and Global Responsibility-Sharing

by

Dr. Susan Akram

Boston University law school

Tuesday, March 18, 2014 | 12:00 - 1:30 pm
IFI New Building (AUB Green Oval) – Multipurpose Seminar Room 3rd Floor

The International Human Rights Clinical Program at the Boston University School of Law is completing a two-year research project focusing on the legal issues and problems that are creating barriers to relief and protection for refugees fleeing Syria. This project focuses on the international and regional legal instruments that govern the rights of and obligations towards this refugee flow in the most-affected states: Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, and Egypt. Addressing weaknesses in the existing legal framework within and among the states in which most of the Syrian refugees are seeking refuge, this research is oriented towards wider responsibility-sharing of the refugee flow. Moving away from the existing "containment" paradigm of the Western states towards the refugees from Syria, this report highlights legally-required burden sharing and mutual obligations of the host and third states towards refugees from Syria, including Palestinians and other non-Syrian nationals caught up in the crisis. Susan Akram will discuss the preliminary findings and recommendations based on the research at this event.

Susan Akram is Clinical Professor at Boston University School of Law and directs the School's International Human Rights Clinical Program. She has been on the faculty at BU law school since 1993, supervising in the Civil Litigation Program, then in the Asylum and Human Rights clinic, and teaching immigration law, international human rights law, refugee law and pre-trial and trial advocacy. She specializes in refugee and forced migration issues, particularly refugees in the Middle East, and has taught at Al-Quds university law school in East Jerusalem, at the American University in Cairo, and at Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre.

Note: Event will be in English