

COST Porto meeting

Workgroup 4 on “Ethics and governance”

OCTOBER 9th-10th, 2014
Report

Chair, Ana Borovečki

Agenda:

Day one 9th October 2014

11.30-12.30- Introduction and progress report on WG4 –discussion with group members

12.30- 13.00 Election of the group vice-chair

14.00-16.00 Framework/guidelines development and what was learned about such a process? David R Curry, MS Executive Director Centre for Vaccine Ethics and Policy

Day two 10th October 2014

11.-13.00 Athula Sumathipala The development of the draft guidelines for research ethics that was carried out in Asia after the 2004 Tsunami

At the WG4 group meeting new vice-chair was elected this is Donal O’ Mathuna.

We had two lectures with whom we discuss the issues of guideline drafting.

The working group members reported on their work until the Porto meeting.

1) Overview of Dr Karen da Costa's recent activities and publications

Conference presentation and paper submission:

5th International Disaster and Risk Conference 2014, Davos, Switzerland, from 24-28 August 2014, organized by the foundation Global Risk Forum. Presentation of two papers:

- "Can the observance of human rights of individuals enhance their resilience to cope with natural disasters?" (author: Karen da Costa)

- "Finding the Missing Thread: the Inclusion of a Human Rights-based Approach in Tackling Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction" (authors: Karen da Costa and Paulina Pospieszna).

The two papers have been published in the conference proceedings, see <http://idrc.info/programme/conference-proceedings/>

4th International Conference on Building Resilience, Building Resilience 2014, from 8-10 September 2014, in Salford Quays, United Kingdom.

- "Can the observance of human rights of individuals enhance their resilience to cope with natural disasters?" Paper to be published in the *Procedia Economics and Finance*, Elsevier, Science Direct.

Lectures and Seminars:

- "Human Rights and Disaster Risk Reduction", Seminar at the Humanitarian Action Study Group of the Development Studies Association (DSA) of Ireland, on the topic of International Law and Disasters. The seminar took place on 24 September 2014, at Comhlanh, 12 Parliament Street, in Dublin

Video of the talk available at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_86hd_yk8c&list=PLE69Vog62XV1ojL16ZrOIVa9hyh4-Gzty&index=2

Submission of articles for publication:

1. "The Relationship between Human Rights and Disaster Risk Reduction Revisited: Bringing the Legal Perspective in the Discussion", paper submitted in August 2014 to the *Journal of International Humanitarian Legal Studies* (awaiting revision). Authors: Karen da Costa and Paulina Pospieszna.
2. "Bioethics and the human right to health: their convergence and divergence in light of the Ebola epidemic in West Africa", paper submitted in September 2014 to the *Health and Human Rights Journal*, for the June 2015 Special Issue on Bioethics and the Right to Health (awaiting revision). Authors: Karen da Costa, Ayesha Ahmad, Marcus Eder, and Mercedes Tatay.

2) Jonina Einarsdottir is finishing up her review article on allocation issues in disasters.

3) Ana Borovecki reported that the draft paper on ICRC Code analysis is finished and that now she is looking forward to hearing from other co-authors on the paper. The plan is to publish the paper by the end of the year. All co-authors of the paper are invited to submit their comments by the end of November. Those who do not do so will not be regarded as contributors.

4) The decision was made to start to work on the second paper of our group. So far the contributors will be Dusica Krajinovic who will also be the main coordinator and the first author on the paper. Other contributors will be: Jonina Einarsdottir, Karen da Costa, Ana Borovečki, Natalia Oliva Teles, Donal O'Mathuna. **Those who would like to join in as contributors are asked to contact Dusica Krajinovic.**

Here is the paper outline:

Dusica Karjinovic will propose and by the end of November send to everyone the methodological framework that will be used to perform search for the codes dealing with governance issues.

The key words that will be used will be:

- 1) disasters or emergencies
- 2) ethics or conduct
- 3) humanitarian
- 4) framework or guideline or code or rules or good practice or statement or standards
- 5) principles
- 6) response
- 7) relief
- 8) accountability

Each contributor will be asked to perform this search based on proposed methodology. All the documents found this way in Google search engine will be taken and analysed. The documents that deal completely or only partly with governance will be taken into account.

Each document that will be taken into account will be analysed by answering the following questions:

- 1) Is it national or international document?
- 2) what is its scope?
- 3) what are the main issues in the document?
- 4) does document state any ethics principles or not if so the principles that are expressed should be enumerated

Only the documents written or translated into English will be taken for the analysis. The proposal is to finish to perform the search until February and then to discuss the progress of the paper in the next meeting in Split in April and after that to finish the paper by the middle of 2015.

- 5) It was also discuss to contact Dainel Strech form Germany and see whether his expertise could be used in WG4 work and writing of the third paper that is planned for 2016.

Ana Borovecki