



HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND ETHICS

Sciences Po Paris – Center for Political Research (CEVIPOF)

May 26-27, 2016

A Workshop organized as part of the Cost ACTION on Disaster Bioethics¹

Co-convened by
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&
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¹ *Disaster Bioethics* (COST ACTION ISI1201) research network is part of the European Union's COST framework, a European framework supporting trans-national cooperation among researchers, engineers and scholars across Europe.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

We are especially pleased to announce the two following keynote speakers:

- **Dr Hugo Slim:** Head of Policy at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Author of *Humanitarian Ethics. A Guide to the Morality of Aid in War and Disaster* (Hurst, 2015).
- **Dr Matthew Hunt:** Assistant Professor, McGill University (Canada). Founding member of the Humanitarian Health Ethics Research Group.

TOPIC AND AIMS OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop focuses on humanitarian action, i.e. the action that aims at saving lives, alleviating suffering and protecting human dignity during and in the aftermath of crises caused by disasters or conflicts (in particular, but not exclusively, activities of UN agencies and NGOs). The aim of the workshop is to explore **lived experiences** of humanitarian actors and invite discussion on **relationships** within humanitarian practice (such as relationships within humanitarian organisations, within affected communities, and between humanitarian actors and recipients of humanitarian assistance).

The workshop aims at engaging an interdisciplinary discussion on humanitarian ethics drawing from personal experience, empirical research, and/or conceptual inquiry in order to approach creatively and constructively ongoing practical issues in the humanitarian field today.

We are especially keen to address the following themes and questions:

- *Are there humanitarian needs beyond bodily needs? Psychological, political, cultural?*
- *Dignity and non-material needs in humanitarian action*
- *Beneficiaries' engagement with humanitarian action*
- *Increased professionalisation and standardisation of humanitarian action*
- *Resilience of humanitarian actors*
- *Technical versus relational aspects of aid*
- *The 'who' as opposed to the 'what' of humanitarian action*
- *Power asymmetries in humanitarian relationships*

An additional aim of the workshop is to engage a discussion on humanitarian ethics bridging the Anglophone and Francophone worlds on these issues. The way humanitarian action is conducted in the French-speaking world is indeed different from its conduct in the English-speaking world. Similarly for research in ethics, there is a significant difference in the way it is done within these two traditions. This workshop precisely aims at developing bridges between these two traditions of humanitarian action and ethics. We believe that this bridging is crucial for the development of the essential but still young field of research in humanitarian ethics.

LOCATION

The Workshop will be held at the Center for Political Research (CEVIPOF) of Sciences Po Paris. It is located **98, rue de l'Université** in the 7th district (arrondissement) of Paris ([here](#)).

Metro stations:

- **Assemblée Nationale** or **Solférino**: Metro 12
- **Musée d'Orsay**: RER C

For information and itinerary of **Paris public transport services**, please see here http://www.ratp.fr/en/ratp/c_21879/visiting-paris/

See the maps in the last section of this document.

MEALS DURING THE WORKSHOP

Coffee breaks and sandwich lunches are provided by the organisers and will be served on Thursday in the Lavau Room (Ground Floor) and on Friday in the Cafeteria (Basement) by the Percheron Room (where the workshop will be held).

Thursday Dinner:

A dinner is organised on Thursday evening 7PM at [Chez Clément](#) (9 Place St-André-des-Arts, 75006 Paris). There is a set menu for 30€ all included. Please note that participants will have to pay their own meal. **Please let me know by Monday 23rd 2pm whether you want to reserve a place at the dinner** and if you have any **special dietary requirements** (vegetarian, allergies...).

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- **Aivita Putnina** (PhD) – Anthropologist, Professor, University of Latvia
- **Alena Kamenshchikova** – Philosopher, Graduate student, University of Tartu (Estonia)
- **Anaïs Ressayguier** – Philosopher, PhD Candidate, Sciences Po Paris
- **Athula Sumathipala** (PhD) - Professor of Psychiatry, Keele University (UK)
- **Ayesha Ahmad** (PhD) – Ethicist, Teaching Fellow, University College London
- **Bacha Kaoutar** – Medical doctor and former MSF medical coordinator
- **Bernard Reber** (PhD) – Philosopher and Moral Sociologist, Permanent Senior Research Fellow (CNRS), Sciences Po Paris (CEVIPOF)

- **Caroline Abu-Sada** (PhD) – Political Scientist, Head of the Research Unit on Humanitarian Stakes and Practices (UREPH), Médecins Sans Frontières Switzerland
- **Claire O'Reilly** – Center for Victims of Torture, Jordan
- **Claudia Diaz** – Psychologist, PhD Candidate, EHESS (France)
- **Dónal O'Mathúna** (PhD) – Ethicist, Chair, Disaster Bioethics IS1201 COST Action Senior Lecturer in Ethics, Decision-Making & Evidence Dublin City University
- **Evan Fisher** – Sociologist, Graduate student, EHESS (France)
- **Giorgio Neidhardt** – Political Scientist, PhD Candidate at University of Amsterdam and University of Geneva and Associate Human Rights Expert at OHCHR.
- **Glenn Horn** – Philosopher, Independent Researcher
- **Goran Mijaljica** - Medical Doctor and PhD Candidate, Psychiatric Hospital Ugljan and Senior Lecturer, University of Split School of Medicine
- **Hugo Slim** (PhD) – Head of Policy, ICRC
- **Inès Ongeda** – Global Health, Graduate student, University College London
- **Jade Legrand** – Anthropologist, Regional Analyst Asia, Action Against Hunger International (ACF)
- **James Smith** - Medical Doctor and Researcher, Research Unit on Humanitarian Stakes and Practices at MSF Switzerland
- **Jan Wörlein** – Political Scientist, Research Teaching Fellow and PhD Candidate, Institute of Social and Political Sciences (ISP) (Lille University) and Center for Administrative, Political and Social Studies and Research (CERAPS) (University Paris Ouest).
- **Jane Freedman** (PhD) – Sociology Professor, University of Paris 8
- **Jean-Hervé Bradol** – Director of research at the MSF Foundation (CRASH). President of MSF France from 2000 to 2008.
- **Jessica Field** (PhD) - Humanitarian Affairs Adviser, Save the Children UK and Research Fellow, Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute, University of Manchester
- **Katarína Komenská** (PhD) – Ethicist, Teaching Fellow, Institute of Ethics and Bioethics, University of Prešov, Slovakia
- **Liyam Eloul** – Center for Victims of Torture, Jordan
- **Maëlle Noé** – Conflict Transformation Practitioner, Trainer, and Researcher
- **Marion Péchayre** (PhD) – Socio-anthropologist, Post-doctoral researcher, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (Paris).
- **Matthew Hunt** (PhD) – Ethicist, Assistant Professor, McGill University (Canada)
- **May Ngo** (PhD) – Anthropologist, Postdoc, National University of Singapore (to begin), PhD thesis completed at Swinburne University of Technology (Australia)
- **Monique Jo Beerli** – Political scientist, PhD Candidate and Teaching Assistant, Sciences Po Paris (CERI) and Université de Genève.
- **Nicholas Vangen-Weeks** – United Nations World Food Program (UN-WFP)

- **Noemi Casati** – Anthropologist, Graduate Student, EHESS (Paris)
- **Shlomit Zuckerman** (PhD) – Ethicist, Adjunct Professor at the Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo
- **Tammam Aloudat** – Medical doctor and Public health expert, Deputy Medical Director, Médecins Sans Frontières, Switzerland

Please note that this event is not open to the public.

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Please note that presentations on the first day are dedicated to issues related to humanitarian action in a narrow sense of the word, i.e. response by humanitarian organisations to humanitarian crises caused by disasters or conflicts. This includes action by United Nations humanitarian agencies and international and national Non-Governmental Organisations. Presentations on the second day open to discussions on humanitarian action in a broader sense of the word, including response by various actors to complex humanitarian crises.

Rooms:

- Welcoming of participants: **Room Lavau** (Ground floor room – on the right at the entrance)
- Workshop on both days: **Room Percheron** (Basement room – take the stair on the left at the entrance)
- Coffee and Lunch Breaks on Thursday: **Room Lavau**
- Coffee and Lunch Breaks on Thursday: **Cafeteria** (by the Percheron room)

1st Day: THURSDAY 26 MAY

8.30	Welcoming of participants (Room Lavau) <i>Tea and coffee will be available throughout the day</i>
INTRODUCTION	
9-9.15	Introductory remarks Ayesha Ahmad and Anaïs Ressayguier
9.15-9.30	Bernard Reber “Ethics in Context: Between Social Sciences and Philosophy”
<u>Session 1: DECISIONS IN HUMANITARIAN MEDICINE</u> <i>Chair: Ayesha Ahmad</i>	
9.30-9.45	Jean-Hervé Bradol “In a disaster situation: get your bearings, triage and act”
9.45-10	James Smith & Tammam Aloudat “The Ethics of Compromise in Humanitarian Medicine”
10-10.15	Bacha Kaoutar “Humanitarian action: a context-specific ethics. Three cases”
10.15-10.40	<i>Discussion</i>
10.40-11.15	Coffee Break (Room Lavau)
<u>Session 2: HUMANITARIAN CRITIQUE</u> <i>Chair: TBC</i>	
11.15-11.30	Marion Péchayre “The overrated power of labelling”
11.30-11.45	Monique Jo Beerli “Reconstructing ‘Populations in Danger’ and Forcing ‘International Community’: Risk, Othering, and Social Control in the Humanitarian Space”
11.45-12	Anaïs Ressayguier “An Ethics Beyond Good and Evil for Humanitarian Action”
12-12.25	<i>Discussion</i>
12.40-14	Lunch Break (Room Lavau)

<p>Session 3: BEYOND BODILY NEEDS <i>Chair: Anaïs Ressayé</i></p>	
14-14.15	<p>Jessica Field “Saving Lives the Bottom Line? Accounting for Culture after Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines”</p>
14.15-14.30	<p>May Ngo “Rendering prayerful: staff issues in a Christian Faith-Based Organisation on the African migration route (Morocco)”</p>
14.30-14.45	<p>Jan Wörlein “Coping with Humanitarian failure – The Case of Haiti”</p>
14.45-15.10	<p><i>Discussion</i></p>
<p>Session 4: HUMANITARIAN MENTAL HEALTH <i>Chair: Ayesha Ahmad</i></p>	
15.15-15.30	<p>Claudia Diaz “Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian settings: tales from the borderlands”</p>
15.30-15.45	<p>Claire O’Reilly (invited speaker) & Liyam Eloul “Putting the Soul Back into the Body: Mental Health as an indispensable component of humanitarian response”</p>
15.45-16	<p>Athula Sumathipala “Children and disasters; children as a special vulnerable group who should not be forgotten”</p>
16-16.15	<p>Ayesha Ahmad & Emanuele Valenti “Disclosure of gender-based violence in refugee settings cross-culturally”</p>
16.15-16.40	<p><i>Discussion</i></p>
16.40-17	<p>Coffee Break (Room Lavau)</p>
17-17.45	<p><u>Keynote Speech:</u> Hugo Slim (invited speaker) “Ethical reflections on the World Humanitarian Summit” <i>Chair: Anaïs Ressayé</i> <i>Discussion</i></p>

2nd Day: FRIDAY 27 MAY

9.30-10.15	<p><u>Keynote Speech: Matthew Hunt</u> (invited speaker) <i>"Ends and exits: Ethical considerations for the closure of humanitarian projects"</i> <i>Chair: Ayesha Ahmad</i> <i>Discussion</i></p>
<p>Session 5: HUMANITARIAN SUBJECTIVITIES AT THE BORDERS <i>Chair: Anaïs Rességuier</i></p>	
10.15-10.30	<p>Maëlle Noé "Redefining the Role of International staff in International Development"</p>
10.30-10.45	<p>Jane Freedman "Professional versus amateur humanitarianism: Social solidarity and « volunteer tourism » in the EU refugee crisis"</p>
10.45-11	<p><i>Discussion</i></p>
11-11.15	<p>Coffee Break (Cafeteria)</p>
11.15-11.30	<p>Aivita Putnina "Humanitarian aid at home: a case of asylum seekers in Latvia"</p>
11.30-11.45	<p>Katarína Komenská "Complex cooperation of humanitarian actors as a basis for responding to specific needs of refugees on their Balkan route – a case of Adaševic/Šid"</p>
11.45-12	<p>Noémie Casati "Suffering, gratitude and professionalism: Moral subjectivities of aid in a Sicilian refugee centre"</p>
12-12.20	<p><i>Discussion</i></p>
12.20-13.30	<p>Lunch Break (Cafeteria)</p>
<p>Session 6: ETHICAL ISSUES IN COMPLEX EMERGENCIES and EPIDEMIES <i>Chair: Ayesha Ahmad</i></p>	
13.30-13.45	<p>Shlomit Zuckerman "Ethical consideration at the interface of a complex relationships between humanitarian actors and recipients of humanitarian assistance"</p>
13.45-14	<p>Goran Mijaljica "Medical, ethical and humanitarian perspectives of the transition camps in the Democratic Republic of the Congo"</p>

14-14.15	Dónal O'Mathúna “Zika and Abortion: An Ethically Questionable Connection”
14.15-14.35	<i>Discussion</i>
Session 7: BORDERS, GLOBAL SURGERY AND MORAL VISION <i>Chair: TBC</i>	
14.35-14.55	Giorgio Neidhardt “Humanitarian Borders in the Middle East” <i>Discussion</i>
14.55-15.15	Ines Ongeda “Global Surgery Ethics in Burundi” <i>Discussion</i>
15.15-15.35	Glenn Horn “How The Dialogue Between Religion and Naturalism Informs and Nourishes A Moral Vision For Humanitarian Effort in the Thought of Jürgen Habermas” <i>Discussion</i>
15.35-16	<i>Closing Remarks</i>

INTERNET CONNECTION

Connection to the network: Sciences Po
ID: cevipof.wifi
Password: Pomme001

EMERGENCY CONTACT

In case of unexpected delays or any other problems please telephone Anaïs Rességuier on +33 787 33 83 87.