

## Faculty



**John Kurowski** is an American lawyer who has been engaged in the private practice of law in the United States for over 40 years. He is a senior partner in the MG+M law firm based in Boston. He received a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) degree in History from Loyola University Chicago and attended the John Felice Rome Center (JFRC) for one year. He received his Juris Doctor from the St. Louis University School of Law.

He has served as a Visiting Professor of Law at the School of Law and Administration of Nicolaus Copernicus University (NCU) in Toruń, Poland teaching courses in Human Rights and American Civil Litigation in its Comparative Law program in 2006 and 2010. While teaching in Toruń in 2006 he began this symposium, which is in its 16<sup>th</sup> edition this year in cooperation with Loyola Chicago's John Felice Rome Center (JFRC). He has lectured at the John Felice Rome Center on Polish history and leadership. He received Loyola of Chicago's John Felice Award in 2013 in recognition of his contribution to the John Felice Rome Center, as well as to business and his community.

He is a member of the Society of Fellows of the Aspen Institute with his wife Connie and the Congress of Fellows of the Center for International Legal Studies in Salzburg. He and Connie are also members of the Ignatian Legacy Fellows. He is currently Chairman of the JFRC Director's Advisory Council and has served the JFRC in several other capacities. He lives in the St. Louis area with his wife Connie. They have three adult children and two grandchildren.



**Michał Balcerzak, PhD** is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Political Science and Security Studies at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland, where he recently became Director of the Institute for Security Studies. He is also an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Szczecin in Poland. Michał specializes in human rights and international affairs. He obtained his Master's degree in Law in 2003 and his Ph.D. in 2007 from Nicolaus Copernicus University.

He served as an ad hoc judge at the European Court of Human Rights (2018-2022) and was an alternate member of the Management Board of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (2012-2016). Earlier in his career, he was a member of the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (special procedure of the Human Rights Council, 2014-2021, chairperson of the Group 2018-2019). Between 2004 and 2011 he took part in various intergovernmental expert activities within the Council of Europe. He is currently Chair of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.



**William Mahoney** received a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) degree from Loyola University Chicago in 1975 in Political Science. He attended the John Felice Rome Center. He received a Juris Doctorate from University of Illinois College of Law in 1978. He practiced law in Chicago for 44 years. He was a founding partner of Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney and served in a leadership position, including Chairman, for over thirty years.

Today, Mr. Mahoney dedicates much of his time to social justice and international policy organizations. He is on the Advisory Committee of the National Security and International Policy, Center for American Progress, the Advisory Committee for International Policy of Human Rights Watch, for which he is Chairman. He has served on the Chairman's Council of the National Democratic Institute and the Chairman's Council of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. He is a member of the Society of Fellows of the Aspen Institute. He is a frequent speaker on a number of topics dealing with social justice, human rights, and international policy.

He lives in Miami Beach with his wife, Amalia. They have one adult son, Michael.



**Maciej Duszczyk** is currently serving as underscretary of state in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration of Poland. He was appointed to that position in December, 2023 by Polish Prime Minister, Donald Tusk. He is a graduate of the Institute of Social Policy at the university of Warsaw and is a member of the Faculty of Politiical Science and International Studies of the University of Warsaw. From 1999–2007 he worked at the Office of the Committee for European Integration. During the negotiations for Poland's membership in the European Union , he advised the Negotiation Team on the social policy of the European Union and the free movement of persons. From 2008–2011 he was, a member of the Team of Strategic Advisors to then Prime Minister Donald Tusk . In 2012–2014, he headed the team for the development of Polish migration policy in the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland .



**Katherine Kaufka Walts** is the Director of the Center for the Human Rights of Children at Loyola University Chicago School of Law. She earned her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin, and her B.A. and B.S. from the University of Michigan. She began her legal career at the National Immigrant Justice Center, where she successfully represented survivors of serious crimes and human rights abuses in criminal and immigration legal proceedings. Observing that many of her clients were young people, she later joined the International Organization for Adolescence as its Executive Director, where she developed programs and to advance the rights of children in the United States and internationally via services, leadership development, advocacy, and policy. At Loyola University, she conducts interdisciplinary research, teaches, mentors students, and continues to provide training and technical assistance to various

stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and governmental bodies on the experiences of migrant children and child trafficking victims



**Dr. Maciej Raś** is an associate professor at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Warsaw, Poland. He received his Ph.D. (2003) and habilitation (2019), both in political science, from the University of Warsaw. In September 2024, he was appointed the vice-rector of the University of Warsaw for student affairs and quality of education. He has lectured abroad at universities in China and Russia. He has presented papers at conferences around the world including in Baltimore, Bonn, Chengdu, Frankfurt am Main, Heidelberg, Jerusalem, Kaliningrad, Moscow, Nashville, Odessa, St. Petersburg, San Francisco, Sofia, and Tokyo.

His research interests include International political relations, international relations in the post-Soviet area, Russia's foreign and security policy, West-Russia relations, East in Poland's foreign policy and subnational actors in IR (paradiplomacy).



**Richard W. Miller, Ph.D.** is professor of philosophical and systematic theology and professor of sustainability studies at Creighton University. He is a contributor to and editor of seven books including [God, Creation, and Climate Change: A Catholic Response to the Environmental Crisis \(Orbis, 2010\)](#), which won a 2011 Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada book award in the faith and science category. He has published in the most prestigious English-speaking journals of theology. He has been invited to speak around the world on the ecological crisis, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (COP 22, 2016, Marrakech, Morocco). Dr. Miller has engaged political figures at the highest level in the United States and the highest levels in the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches. He was awarded (2021) the "Steward of God's Creation" award from the National Religious Coalition on Creation Care. He was one of the original architects of and remains an advisor to what has become the [Open Forest Protocol](#), a unique blockchain protocol to solve the central problem hindering global efforts to conserve and restore forests around the world in order to draw 200 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere.



**Dr. Patrycja Grzebyk**, Ph.D. in Political Science (2010), Habilitation in law [2018], UW Professorship [2020]; Director of the Network on Humanitarian Action at the University of Warsaw. Dr. Grzebyk is Head of the grant of the Polish National Science Center “Effectiveness of requests for advisory opinions to the International Court of Justice and of advisory opinions as such in international relations” [2021-2025] and of the Justice Institute “Polish impact on the development of international criminal law, including Polish experience in prosecuting international crimes” [2019-2021].

She has received awards for publication in international law and with scholarships of the Foundation for Polish Science, Ministry of Science, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is a member of the editorial board of ESIL Reflections and the Journal of International Humanitarian Action. She has served as a Visiting Professor at the universities of Cambridge, Bologna, Geneva, Taipei, Madrid, Barcelona, Munich, Kiev, Zagreb and Beijing. She is a member of the board of the European Society of International Law.

Dr. Grzebyk’s fields of expertise include: International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Law, Human Rights Law, Use of force, International Disaster Response Law, International Responsibility, International Security, United Nations and International Tribunals



**Dr. Dorota Heidrich** Ph.D is a Political Scientist and a researcher and didactic worker at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies of the University of Warsaw. From 2016-2019 she served as deputy director of the Institute of International Relations at Sichuan University in China and

Ruhr-Universität Bochum in Germany. Since 2020 she has served as the Dean's Plenipotentiary of the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Warsaw for the development of English-speaking studies. She is the author of numerous scientific articles, book chapters and books on the issues of forced migration, transitional period justice, the responsibility of individuals for international crimes and international organizations.

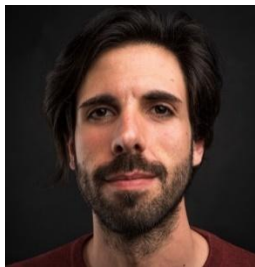
Her research interests today include forced migration (refugees and IDPs), transitional justice, and international organizations (including INGOs); theoretical issues related to the diffusion and internalization of standards in the international community.



**Dr. Agnieszka Bieńczyk-Missala** is a full professor of Political Science as well as a researcher and lecturer at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies of the University of Warsaw. She has served as the Vice-Director for Academic Research and International Cooperation at the Institute of International Relations, University of Warsaw (2008–2012); Chief specialist and analyst at the Polish Institute of International Affairs (2006–2008); She served as manager of the project entitled „Prevention of mass human rights violations” funded by the National Science Centre (2013–2017). She has also been a contributor to the joint activities within NOHA, (Network on Humanitarian Action) She was a recipient of the Jan Karski Educational Foundation Scholarship at the Georgetown University Leadership Seminar in 2016. She has authored numerous scientific publications and papers presented at scientific conferences. Her principal areas of research include Poland's foreign policy, international organisations, international humanitarian issues, human rights, human security and international crimes.



**Dr. Justyna Nakonieczna-Bartosiewicz** is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Warsaw where she received her PhD in 2006.. In 2007-2012, she was the Supervisor of the Graduate Program in International Relations. She also sat on the Board of the Centre of Migration Research from 2008-2019. Until 2020 she served as a member of the Editorial Board of the Central and Eastern European Migration Review (CEEMR). She has lectured at the University of Florence, the Autonomous University of Madrid, the University of Tromsø, as well as several higher education institutions in Taiwan..



**Francesco Bellina** is a free lance photo-journalist whos work focuses on contemporary socio-political issues with a particular focus on the topics of migration and climate issues. He attended the Law faculty in Palermo and simultaneously dedicated himself to photography.His works have been published on major international media such as The Guardian, Al Jazeera, The Globe and Mail, Paris Match, Le Monde, Internazionale, L'Espresso, The Washington Post, among others. He often works with NGOs and is a contributor to UNHCR, WHO, and others.

In 2016 and 2017 he was nominated for the World Press Photo Joop Swart Masterclass. In 2018 his work "Nigerian Connection" has been featured in the "Palermo Atlas" by the European nomadic biennial Manifesta12 and OMA.In the same year, his work "Tanakra" (2018), that depicts the human traffic between Niger and Libia, has been exhibited at the University of Neuchâtel in Switzerland, and presented as a socio-political study in lectures at the University of San Diego, California, Spring Hill College and others.

In 2020 he finished the long-term project "Oriri"(2016-2020), that follows the interlace of sex trafficking and voodoo rituals in Benin, Niger, Ghana, Nigeria and Sicily. The project was exhibited in Palermo in 2021 and came out in the form of an editorial work in late 2022.

His projects have been described as at the crossroads of migration, human trafficking and organized crime. They have been presented or exhibited throughout the EU and North America at the European Parliament, the annual meeting of WHO in Istanbul and throughout his home area of Trapani and Palermo..

Mr. Bellina resides in Trapani (Sicily), Italy..



**Dr. Anne Wingenter** is an assistant professor of History at Loyola University, Chicago's John Felice Rome Center. Her research interests include: gender and women's history; fascist movements; and the politics of history/memory. Her most recent publications include "Finding Subjectivities in Fascist Italy" in *Subaltern Political Subjectivities and Practices in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, Routledge, 2023 "Benito Mussolini in Italian High School Textbooks" *Globalisation and Historiography of National Leaders: Symbolic Representations in School Textbooks*. Springer: 2017; "From Soldier's Guides to Student Handbooks: Rome as Classroom during the Early Cold War," in *A Tale of Two Cities: Florence and Rome from the Grand Tour to Study Abroad*. Edisai: 2017; and "Politics of Grief: War Widows and Mothers in Interwar Italy," *Veuves, veufs et veuvages en Europe à l'époque contemporaine*. [forthcoming] She is currently working on a project that looks at the city of Rome in the transition between "Hot" and Cold War.



**Dr. Aleksandra Jarczewska** Ph.D. is a scholar at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, University of Warsaw. Since 2016, she has served as Co-President of PEACER (Polish and European Academic Center for Exchange and Research) in cooperation with Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. She graduated from the Faculty of Journalism and Political Science, and the American Studies Center at the University of Warsaw, and has also been a Fulbright fellow. She has co-authored various projects implemented together with non-governmental organizations that support and promote women. She also serves as a mediator, consultant, and trainer in personal data protection.

Her research interests include the US economy and politics, transatlantic relations, problems of operations of international companies, and the functioning of the global economy as well as the role of women in international relations.





**Carolina Jorda Alvarez** is the Senior Geospatial Analyst at Human Rights Watch. As part of the Digital Investigations Lab, she works closely with researchers by applying geospatial technologies to human rights investigations. She is responsible for the analysis and production of satellite imager derived products that cover a range of issues, including armed conflict, forced displacement, environmental destruction and poverty and inequality.

Prior to joining HRW, Carolina worked as a satellite imagery analyst at the UN's Operational Satellite Applications Program providing support for humanitarian operations during armed conflicts and natural disasters. She holds an M.A. in Environmental Sciences with a focus on water, sanitation and hygiene from the University of Alcalá de Henares, Spain. Carolina speaks Spanish, English and Italian.



**Nadia Hardman** is a researcher in the Refugee and Migrants Rights Division of Human Rights Watch, monitoring and documenting human rights abuses against asylum seekers, refugees, and migrant populations.

Prior to Human Rights Watch she led the International Rescue Committee's protection program for Syrian refugees in Lebanon and was based in Mosul, Iraq with the Norwegian Refugee Council working with internally displaced persons (IDPs) between 2017 and 2018. Nadia has worked with refugee and IDP populations in Myanmar, Thailand and Palestine and was a Program Lawyer for the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute working on rule of law issues in Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, and Tajikistan from 2013 to 2015. She is a qualified UK lawyer with a Masters in Human Rights from University College London. Nadia speaks fluent French and Italian.



**Zbigniew Lasocik** is a Professor of Law and Criminology at the University of Warsaw Faculty of Political Science and International Studies. He received his PhD in Law and Criminology from the University of Warsaw. Today he is Head of the Human Trafficking Research Centre of the university. He has authored over 110 publications on human trafficking and forced labour, crime, prisons, police, sociology of total institutions, prevention of torture and civil society. He has been the manager of several international research projects financed by the European Commission. He has been a member of the UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture in Geneva, an expert of the UN, the Council of Europe, the European Commission and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe in the field of human rights, democracy, crime and prisons. He has received scholarship grants from Harvard University, Columbia University, New York, London School of Economics, Sam Houston University in Huntsville, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, University of Northern Colorado. He was the editor of the first textbook on human trafficking in Poland.



**Lukasz Wieczorek** is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Warsaw. He has spoken and presented papers to the International Labour Organization in Geneva, the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control – HEUNI in Helsinki, Eötvös Loránd University – ELTE in Budapest, Charles University in Prague, Free University in Brussels, and the University of Ghent. He has been a Lecturer at postgraduate studies for the criminological, victimological and socio-cultural aspects of migration and human trafficking organized by the Human Trafficking Research Center of the University of Warsaw for operational and investigative officers of the Border Guard, as well as during specialist training for officers of the Police and Border Guard. He has received a scholarship grant from the U.S. State Department.

His research has included the areas of Demand for sexual exploitation in Europe combating human trafficking in Poland and trafficking for forced labour and labour exploitation. He received his Doctor of Laws from the University of Warsaw.