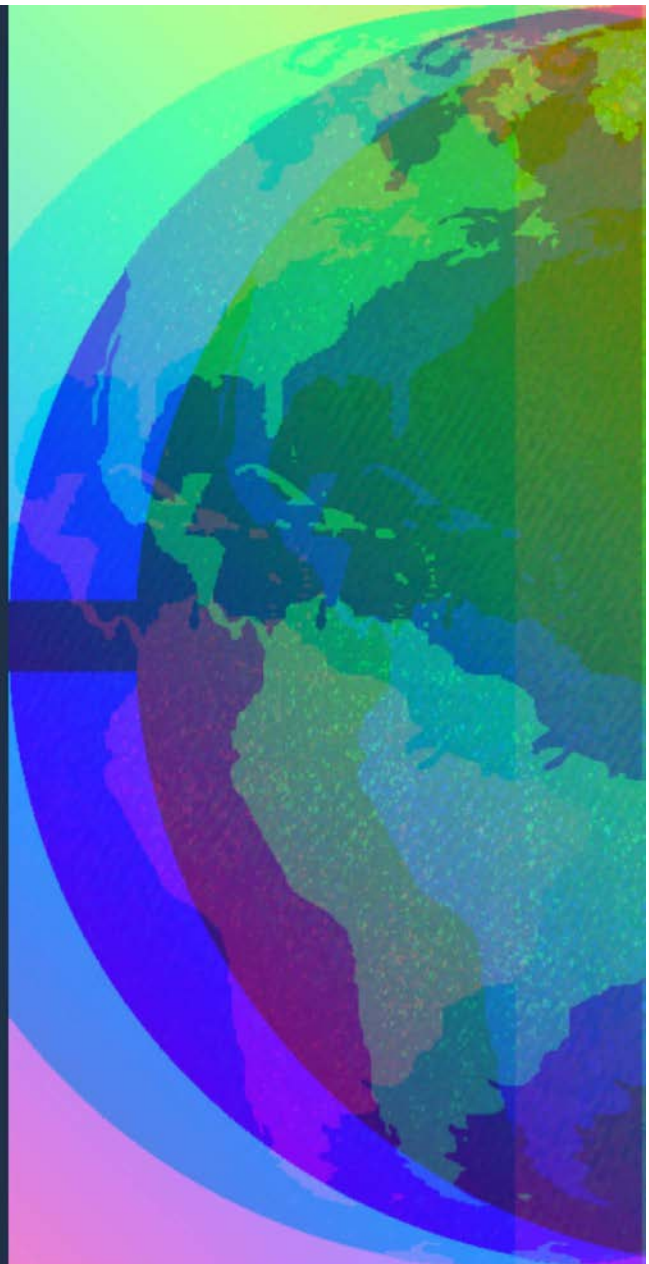


FORDHAM OUTLAWS
PRESENTS;

INTERNATIONAL LGBTQIA+ RIGHTS:

BRIDGING ACTIVISM FROM GRASSROOTS TO GLOBAL ORGANIZATIONS

Spring 2022 Symposium



March 25, 2022 | 11 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Fordham Law School

Bateman Room

150 West 62nd Street, Second Floor

New York, NY

Live Broadcast via Zoom Webinar Available

*This program is presented in conjunction with the
Leitner Center for International Law and Justice*



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
THE SCHOOL OF LAW

This year, the OUTLaws Symposium aims to bring together lawyers, organizers and activists involved in the international human rights system to discuss the state of LGBTQIA+ identity around the globe. We will be focusing on the current global trend of anti-LGBTQIA+ legislation and hear from regional experts on why this type of legislation has become so popular and what can be done to combat it. We will also look at the ways in which regional and international organizations and activists work together LGBTQIA+ issues and how their relationship can be strengthened. Finally, we will hear from lawyers working within the international human rights system on the history of LGBTQIA+ rights and their current work at the international level.

Agenda

11 – 11:30 a.m. | Welcome Remarks

Dean Matthew Diller, Dean and Paul Fuller Professor of Law, Fordham Law School

Brandon Small, OUTLaws President, Fordham Law School

Georgianna Bonondona, OUTLaws Speaker and Symposium Chair

11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. | Panel 1: Regression of rights: Countries taking contemporary anti-LGBTQIA+ legislative measures and why

(1.5 diversity CLE)

Joy Chia, Executive Director, Astraea

Adrian Jjuuko, Ugandan Human Rights Lawyer and Advocate; Executive Director, Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF)

Igor Ostrowski, Partner, Dentons

Nadine Smith, Co-founder and CEO, Equality Florida

Moderator: Elisabeth Wickeri, Executive Director, Leitner Center for International Law and Justice; Adjunct Professor, Fordham Law School

12:45 - 1 p.m. | Break

1 - 2:15 p.m. | Panel 2: Domestic voices on the International Field: How NGOs, the HRC and Grassroots organizations can collaborate on LGBTQIA+ issues

(1.5 diversity CLE)

Devon Matthews, Rainbow Railroad

Zuleika Rivera, LGBTI Program Officer, International Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights

Linx Alexander Arango Schmitt, Panamanian Trans and Human Rights Activist; Co-Founder, Gen=

Dominique St. Vil, Executive and Administrative Director Organisation Trans d’Haiti (OTRAH) Haiti

Moderator: Jennifer Gordon, Professor of Law, Fordham Law School

2:15 – 3 p.m. | Lunch Break

3 – 4:15 p.m. | Panel 3: The History of SOGI and the Human Rights Systems: Exploring the ways in which the HRC and the regional human rights systems have emphasized SOGI/LGBTQIA+ issues

(1.5 ethics/diversity CLE)

Giovanna Gilleri, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Departmental Centre for Law and Pluralism, University of Milan-Bicocca (Italy)

Fanny Cata Gomez Lugo, Senior Director of Campaigns & Advocacy Programs, Women’s Equality Center (WEC)

Sahar Moazami, UN Program Officer, OutRight Action International

Yvee Oduor, Operations Manager, Gay and lesbian coalition of Kenya (GALCK)

Moderator: Paolo Galizzi, Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Sustainable Development Legal Initiative, Fordham Law School

4:15 p.m. | Closing Remarks

OUTLaws Symposium 2022 *Speaker Biographies*



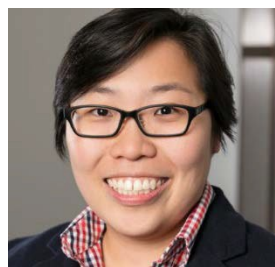
Linx Alexander Arango Schmitt

Panamanian Trans and Human Rights Activist

Linx Alexander Arango Schmitt (he/they) is a Panamanian trans and human rights activist.

Linx has been working on the promotion of human rights since he was 15 years old, opening a Gay-Straight alliance in his high school, the first of its kind in the country. Since then he has become part of several human rights organizations, including Pflag Panamá, Hombres Trans Panamá and Fundación Iguales. He was the Vice President of Hombres Trans Panamá from 2018-2020 and has been President since 2020. Within Fundación Iguales, he has served as Executive Director since October 2021. He is the co-founder of Gen=, a youth branch in the organization created to promote the inclusion of younger generations in the fight for human rights. He is currently completing a bachelor's degree in Psychology.

If you would like to donate to Linx's organization, Hombres Trans Panama, please [click here](#).



Joy Chia

Executive Director, Astraea

Joy L. Chia is the current Executive Director at Astraea. Previously, she used to be the Team Manager with the

Women's Rights Program at the Open Society Foundations, and led its work on "Power of the Collective" which supports feminist activism, community mobilization and advocacy to be more independent, resilient, vibrant, and inclusive. Prior to that, Joy was the East Asia program officer with the OSF Asia Pacific Regional Office and led the program's grant-making portfolios on equality and human rights in East Asia. Joy is passionate about the transformative potential of philanthropy,

especially when democratized, and is currently the co-chair of the Steering Committees for Philanthropies Advancing Women's Human Rights (PAWHR) and the Women's Funds Collaborative, an ambitious multi-philanthropy initiative dedicated to institutional strengthening of feminist funds around the globe.

If you would like to donate to Joy's organization, Astraea Foundation, please [click here](#).



Paolo Galizzi

Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Sustainable Development Legal Initiative, Fordham Law School

Paolo Galizzi is a Clinical Professor of Law and

Director of the Sustainable Development Legal Initiative (SDLI) and the Corporate and Social Responsibility Program at the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at Fordham Law School. He teaches and researches in the areas of international law, sustainable development, corporate and social responsibility, human rights and climate change law and policy.

Prof. Galizzi has had a distinguished academic career spanning three continents and almost three decades. After graduating in 1993 summa cum laude at the University of Milan, he continued his legal education at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, where he obtained an LLM in Public International Law in 1995. He then returned to his alma mater, the University of Milan, to pursue research for his doctoral degree, which he obtained in 1998 with a thesis on "Compliance with International Environmental Obligations".

Prof. Galizzi began his academic career at the University of Milan and at the University of Verona in Italy. He later worked as Fellow at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL) in London, before joining the School of Law at the University of

Nottingham and moving to Imperial College London. Whilst at Imperial College London, Prof. Galizzi was awarded a prestigious Fellowship by the European Union (Marie Curie Fellowship) to pursue academic research in the United States on climate change law and policy and initially joined Fordham as a Visiting Professor (Marie Curie Fellow) in 2004. At the end of his visit, in 2008 Prof. Galizzi was offered a full-time position at Fordham Law School as an Associate Clinical Professor of Law and was later promoted to Clinical Professor of Law in 2012.

Since joining Fordham, Prof. Galizzi has founded and directed the Sustainable Development Legal Initiative (SDLI) and later, thanks to a generous donation of PVH Corporation, the Corporate and Social Responsibility Program (CSR) within the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice. He also directed Fordham's Summer in South Korea and continues to direct Fordham's Summer Program in Ghana.



Giovanna Gilleri
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Departmental Centre for Law and Pluralism, University of Milan

I am a postdoctoral research fellow at the Departmental Centre for Law and Pluralism, University of Milan- I hold a PhD in international human rights law from the EUI, an LLM in from SOAS, and a combined LLB+LLM from the University of Trieste. Prior to joining the EUI, I was land rights intern at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; legal intern at the European Court of Human Rights; and research fellow at the University of Trieste. I research in the theory and practice of gender and human rights law from the perspective of critical legal feminist, queer and psychoanalytical studies. Other areas of interest include human rights indicators and comparative

human rights law: further details can be found at <https://en.unimib.it/giovanna-gilleri>



Fanny Cata Gomez-Lugo
Senior Director, Campaigns & Advocacy

Fanny Cata Gomez-Lugo is a feminist, bisexual activist, and Venezuelan human rights lawyer living in Washington DC. She is the Director of Research and Advocacy at the Women's Equality Center (WEC) and an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where she teaches human rights, SOGI/E, and sexual and reproductive rights. She is a member of the LGBTI Litigants Network from the Americas. She also works as an expert in asylum cases in the US on persecution on the grounds of SOGI/E. She is a member of the International Advisory Board of The Astraea. She was the Director of Advocacy and Policy at Synergía-IHR, an NGO working on advocacy, movement building and security primarily in West and Central Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (2016-2020). Prior to that, she was a human rights specialist at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), in charge of coordinating the work of the Rapporteurship on the Rights of LGBTI People (2012-2016), where she was the main drafter of the IACHR's first regional report on the rights of LGBTI people *Violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Persons in the Americas*, 2015.

Twitter: @fannygomezlugo



Jennifer Gordon
Professor of Law, Fordham Law

School Research and Teaching Areas

- Immigration; Employment; Public
- Interest/Service; Legislation and Regulation
- Bio
- Fordham Law School, Professor of Law, 2003-present
- Independent Scholar and Consultant, 1998-2003
- Yale Law School, J. Skelly Wright Fellow and Visiting Faculty Lecturer, 1998-2000
- The Workplace Project, Founder and

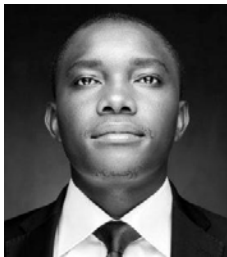
Executive Director, 1992-1998

Awards

- National Law Journal, Outstanding Woman Lawyer, 2015
- Open Society Foundations Fellow, 2013- 2014
- MacArthur Prize Fellow, 1999-2004
- National Association for Public Interest Law: Outstanding Public Interest Lawyer 1998
- National Law Journal "40 Under 40" (Forty top lawyers in the U.S. under age forty), 1995

Education

- Harvard/Radcliffe College BA 1987
- Harvard Law School JD 1992

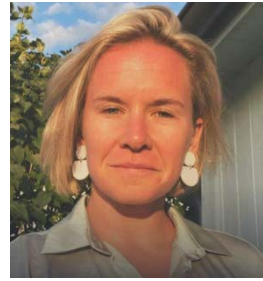


Adrian Jjuuko
Executive Director of
Human Rights Awareness
and Promotion Forum
(HRAPF), Political
Determinants of Sexual and
Reproductive Health
Project

Adrian Jjuuko is a Ugandan human rights lawyer and advocate. He is the Executive Director of Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF). He is the current Chair of the Legal Committee and former coordinator of the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law, which coordinated civil society efforts to nullify Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Act and which won the US State Department's Human Rights Defenders Award 2011. Adrian coordinated the successful legal efforts to challenge the Anti Homosexuality Act, 2014 in Uganda's Constitutional Court and is leading the process to challenge the Act at the East African Court of Justice. He holds an LLM in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa from the University of Pretoria, an LLB degree from Makerere University Kampala, Uganda, and a postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Law Development Centre, Kampala.

His research interests are in the areas of: LGBTI rights, the right to health, and children's rights.

If you would like to donate to Adrian's organization, Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum, please [click here](#).



Devon Matthews
Rainbow Railroad

Devon comes to Rainbow Railroad with most recent experience as the Manager of Fellowship Programs at Engineers without Borders Canada, where

her work involved the strategic oversight and execution of four programs based in sub-Saharan Africa. Devon brings with her years of experience in facilitation, activism, coaching, immigrant services, participatory research, and non-profit fundraising. Devon holds numerous professional certifications in project management, social systems leadership, and professional coaching — she also holds a BA(honours) from Dalhousie University where she specialized in International Development. When not at Rainbow Railroad, Devon can be found writing, reading, organizing, and consulting in Toronto and abroad.

If you would like to donate to Devon's organization, Rainbow Railroad, please [click here](#).



Sahar Moazami
UN Program Officer,
OutRight Action
International

Sahar Moazami currently serves as a UN Program Officer at OutRight Action International, an NGO

working to promote and protect the rights of LGBTIQ people globally. Sahar is a New York bar admitted attorney with a focus on international human rights law. As a UN Program Officer, they have successfully led campaigns to push for more inclusive language within official UN documents, including a resolution on extrajudicial executions, and more recently, a resolution on strengthening elections. Sahar works to create a more inclusive 'women, peace and security' agenda, focusing on queering the Security Council as OutRight's representative within the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security. They work alongside civil society partners to bring visibility to LGBTIQ issues at the UN, and co-lead

several CSO coalitions, including the Women's Rights Caucus, a global coalition of more than two hundred women's rights NGOs working at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and the LGBTI Caucus, a group of LGBTI civil society representatives active at CSW. Sahar works with LGBTIQ activists from the global South, supporting them to be more visible at the UN, through OutRight's Fellowship and Advocacy training programs. Sahar holds a JD from Fordham Law School and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Boston University.

If you would like to donate to Sahar's organization, Outright Action International, please [click here](#).



Yvee Oduor
Operations Manager, Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Kenya (GALCK)

A gender non-conforming feminist who uses their background as a trained

journalist to advocate for the human rights of gender and sexual minorities in Kenya. They are currently the Operations Manager at the Gay and lesbian coalition of Kenya (GALCK). At GALCK Yvee oversees the administrative, HR & operational matters of the Secretariat. They are involved in advocacy programs that focus on Lesbian, Bisexual, Queer Women and Gender Non-Conforming persons at national, regional and international levels. They are also part of a SOGIE research committee that coordinates SOGIE based research on behalf of the LGBTQ community and organisations within the coalition. They lead the Gender & Sexual Diversity and Mentorship programs at GALCK.

Yvee has worked and volunteered with a number of LGBTIQ+ led organisations for about nine years and together with two other amazing humans they founded Because Woman, a healing justice initiative for Lesbians, Bisexual and Queer women and Gender non-conforming people in Kenya. Yvee is an alumni of the CREA Gender & Sexuality Rights training (2015) and an OutRight International United Nations fellow (2019), they are

passionate and involved in various social justice movements in Kenya.

If you would like to donate to Yvee's organization, Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Kenya, please [click here](#).



Igor Ostrowski
Partner, Dentons

Igor Ostrowski is an openly gay accomplished Polish lawyer and partner at Dentons. Having grown up in Communist Poland Igor faced discrimination

and social isolation. The situation in recent years has again deteriorated due to a new wave of political conservatism, which has swept through Poland.

Igor wants to "pay it forward" by using his position of influence to raise awareness and help shape policy to advance LGBT+ inclusion. In addition to his legal practice and pro bono activities, Igor serves on several committees, which advise Dentons' leadership on strategic issues related to inclusion. These advisory groups include the Global Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Europe Diversity and Inclusion Committee, and Global LGBT+ Network Committee. For his work, he was recognized as Stonewall's Global Senior Champion of the year in 2020 and awarded as LGBT Lawyer of the Year by Chambers Europe in 2019.

If you would like to donate to Igor's organization, Eqaversity Poland, please [click here](#).



Zuleika Rivera
LGBTI Program Officer, International Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights

Zuleika Rivera (she/her) is the LGBTI Program

Officer at the International Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights. She manages the LGBTI program and works with LGBTI+ human rights defenders in Latin America to support and strengthen their advocacy capacity at the domestic and international levels.

Before joining Race & Equality, Zuleika completed the J.D. Distinguished Fellowship of

American University Washington College of Law at Lesbianas Independientes Feministas Socialistas (LIFS), a lesbian organization in Lima, Peru where she served as a member of its legal team and conducted workshops on LTB rights for Peruvian civil society. Additionally, she was a research assistant at the Academy on Human Rights and International Law and the Anti-Torture Initiative. Zuleika was an intern at the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL) and the Study for the Defense of Women's Rights (DEMUS), among other NGOs.

Zuleika received her law degree from American University Washington College of Law, where she focused on human rights and gender. She also holds an M.A. in International Relations from the School of International Service of American University and a B.A. in Political Science and Public Affairs from Syracuse University. She is admitted to practice law in the District of Colombia.

If you would like to donate to Zuleika's organization, Race and Equality, please [click here](#).



Nadine Smith
Co-founder and CEO,
Equality Florida

Nadine Smith is the co-founder and CEO of Equality Florida, the state's largest organization dedicated to ending

discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

A former award-winning journalist turned organizer, Nadine was one of four national co-chairs of the 1993 March on Washington. She was part of the historic oval office meeting between then - [President Clinton](#) - the first such meeting between a sitting President and gay community leaders. She served on the founding board of the International Gay and Lesbian Youth Organization, which celebrates 30 years in 2014. She is a Florida Chamber Foundation Trustee, board member for Green Florida and served on President Obama's National Finance Committee. In 2013, was named one of the state's "Most Powerful and Influential Women" by the Florida

Diversity Council. She was also given the League of Women Voter's Woman of Distinction Award earlier this year. She currently serves on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Florida Advisory Committee. Nadine also recently received the Keys to the City of Saint Petersburg in 2021.

She lives in St. Petersburg with her wife Andrea and son Logan.

If you would like to donate to Nadine's organization, Equality Florida, please [click here](#).



Dominique St. Vil
Executive and
Administrative Director
Organisation Trans
d'Haiti (OTRAH) Haiti A
founding member of the
Organisation Trans

d'Haiti (OTRAH)

Dominique St. Vil became Executive and Administrative Director in 2020. OTRAH promotes the recognition, visibility, and development of Haiti's transgender and transexual community by challenging discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation. Dominique leads OTRAH's advocacy, collaboration, and civic education initiatives. He works directly with trans individuals to ensure their effective and efficient civic participation and to lay the foundations for an affirming, fair, united and inclusive Haitian society.

Dominique strives to create and maintain a strong network of trans organizations throughout the country so that all trans Haitians can access important resources and information. Dominique and OTRAH also lead programs to promote physical and mental wellbeing with an emphasis on the prevention of sexually transmitted infections and mental health assistance.

Previously he served as a logistical and technical advisor to the Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans wing of kouraj pou Pwoteje Dwa Moun, best known as Kouraj. With KPPDM and OTRAH, he has represented Haitian civil society and LGBTQI communities at conferences and events throughout Latin American and the Caribbean. Dominique has also completed extensive

secretarial training and coursework in law. Additionally, he has taken coursework in cross-cultural competency at the University of Rhode Island. Dominique is also in the 2021-22 Human Rights Advocates Program at Columbia University.

- Smith College, B.A., cum laude, 2000

ISHR is pleased to open the application for the 2022-23 Human Rights Advocates Program (HRAP). Please go to the [Admissions page](#) to apply. There you will learn more about the timing of the next program.

If you would like to donate to Dominique's organization, Organisation Trans d'Haiti, please [click here](#).



**Elisabeth Wickeri
Executive Director,
Leitner Center for
International Law and
Justice; Adjunct
Professor, Fordham
Law School**

Elisabeth Wickeri is Executive Director of the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at Fordham Law School and Adjunct Professor of Law. Elisabeth teaches courses in public international law, comparative legal frameworks, and carries out fieldwork, research, and writing on legal developments in Asia.

Her publications have appeared in the Fordham International Law Journal, the Drexel Law Review, China Perspectives, and the China Rights Forum. She also serves as a law lecturer and course director with the Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation at Fordham University, and Adjunct Professor at the NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies.

Elisabeth received her J.D. from New York University School of Law, where she was an Executive Editor for the Review of Law & Social Change. She received her B.A. in History, cum laude, from Smith College, and also studied at the Hopkins-Nanjing Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China.

Education

- New York University, J.D., 2004 Johns Hopkins University
- Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies
- Graduate Certificate, 2001