



# Centre Conference & Workshops

## Programme of the day

10.30: **Coffee & Sign-up for Workshops** (numbers limited)

11.00: **Introduction to the Centre:** Amina Memon & Jill Marshall, RHUL, Stuart Turner, Past-President of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies & CSEL Co-Founder



11am-5 pm

23rd March 2019

11.30: **Keynote Lecture: Amanda Weston QC Garden Court Chambers**

The informed heart: Trauma in the legal system.

Barrister Amanda Weston practises across a wide range of public and administrative law fields with an emphasis on civil liberties and vulnerable client groups. Substantive areas of her public law practice include community care, mental health and mental capacity, unlawful detention, national security measures such as deprivation of citizenship, prison law, human rights and discrimination. She has a long-standing commitment to upholding the rights of immigrants and their families.



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**12.15: *Keynote Lecture: Prof Adam Brown, New School for Social Research, New York***

**Sustainable Human Rights Advocacy: Transforming Approaches to Mental Health in Human Rights Organizations**  
Adam is a clinical psychologist whose research focuses on identifying psychological and biological factors that contribute to negative mental health outcomes following exposure to traumatic stress and developing interventions guided by advances in cognitive neuroscience. As a member of the Human Rights Resilience Project, he researches and creates tools to improve resilience and well-being in the human rights community.

**1.00-2.00 Lunch Break**

**2.00- 4.30: Workshops**

**4.30: Plenary & Close with a drinks reception and networking**

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## Workshop 1: Emotional victim narratives in the criminal justice setting

Led by Dr Alice Bosma, LLM Tilburg University (The Netherlands) and Louise O' Connor, Centre for Social Work, Royal Holloway University of London

**This workshop** will confront participants with their own stereotypes with regard to emotional victims to raise awareness of the tension between law and emotion. The vignette method will be used to simulate the dilemmas of reacting to emotional narratives in the courtroom. Research has shown most people expect sadness rather than anger in victims of crime – which might relate to the prototypical victim characteristics. Each dilemma will be discussed and participants will question whether they should have reacted differently. The ultimate goal will be to learn how to solve the dilemmas.

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**Workshop 2: Refugees' attitudes toward seeking professional psychological help and attitudes toward refugees** Led by Dr Jens H. Hellmann, University of Muenster (Germany) and Pascal Schlechter, University of Cambridge

Data on trauma and psychological well-being of refugees who recently migrated from Middle Eastern countries (mainly Syria) to Western Europe (i.e., Germany) will be presented. Part One looks at cultural sensitivity as an antecedent to working toward a mutual understanding of refugees and Western host country residents. Part 2 of the workshop will get participants to reflect on their own and others' positive and negative contact experiences with members of different groups and on how these may have contributed to their own attitudes and prejudices. Finally, participants and workshop teachers will be guided on how they can apply the research to the issues confronting them in their work with refugees.

**Workshop 3: Compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma and burnout in human rights work.** Led by Adam Brown, New School, USA and Amina Memon, RHUL

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