

**Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales**

# Biennial Report 2010-11





# CONTENTS

FOREWORD	2
THE BAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE	5
COUNTRIES IN FOCUS	6
India	6
Mexico	6
Colombia	7
Zimbabwe	8
Blasphemy Law Review in the Commonwealth	9
TRIAL OBSERVATIONS	10
Bahrain	10
Colombia	11
Morocco	11
Pakistan	12
LEGAL TRAINING	13
Tanzania	13
INTERNATIONAL LITIGATION AND ADVISORY UNIT	14
Public Interest Case Support Project	14
Amicus Curiae	15
CHILD RIGHTS UNIT	16
Nigeria	16
WOMEN'S RIGHTS UNIT	17
URGENT APPEALS AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING	18
PUBLIC SEMINARS AND EVENTS	21
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	23

## FOREWORD BY CHAIRMAN MARK MULLER QC

Two thousand and ten – 2011 continued to be momentous years for the Bar Human Rights Committee (BHRC). Throughout the last two years the Committee has continued to work on fulfilling its mandate in seeking to protect persecuted lawyers, judges and human rights defenders around the world, as well as promoting respect for the rule of law through its fact-finding missions, capacity building programmes, trial observations, seminars and case litigation work. In doing so, the BHRC has forged new and exciting partnerships with a range of human rights organisation across the globe, from Zimbabwe, India, to Mexico. Building solid relations with a number of different organisations has enabled the BHRC to expand its work and presence in new countries, gaining a wealth of experience and expertise as well as setting up a promising scenario for 2012.

It would be remiss not to also mention the individual work of BHRC members who have provided invaluable expertise and undertaken pro-bono work on behalf of the BHRC in a number of different countries. From trial observations in Bahrain, fact-finding delegations to Mexico and capacity building programmes in Nigeria, all of our members have played a significant role in achieving the goals sought by the BHRC for this working period.

### **Seminars and Capacity Building**

Throughout 2010 and 2011 the BHRC continued to work on capacity building projects in several different countries.

In January 2011, the BHRC, in partnership with the Human Rights Lawyers Network (HRLN), participated in the Judicial Colloquium lead by HRLN on equality and non-discrimination law held in India. This was attended by representatives from the Indian Supreme Court, the South African Constitutional Court and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). The BHRC facilitated the attendance of the Right Honourable

Lord Walker of Gestingthorpe, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. In Zimbabwe, building on project activities carried out in previous years, which include a country delegation carried out in June 2010, the BHRC was awarded in March 2011 a year-long grant from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to implement a capacity building project focused on monitoring, reporting and addressing human rights violations during elections. This exciting project forms part of a wider strategy to support the legal community in Zimbabwe, which will continue through different project activities during 2012 and beyond. Elsewhere, the BHRC has also developed course materials and taught the ‘Criminal Procedure and Practice’ module at the Tanzania Law School in Dar es Salaam in September 2010 and May 2011, in partnership with the International Senior Lawyers Project UK (ISLP-UK), among other training activities.

These two years have also continued to be very important for the BHRC Child Rights Unit, which in partnership with UNICEF, has compiled and initiated the implementation of a programme to develop the capacity of Child Protection Networks throughout Nigeria. A team of BHRC experts in child rights, lead by BHRC Vice-Chair Kirsty Brimelow QC, have conducted a series of training workshops across Nigeria during 2011 with a focus on building practical skills in child rights monitoring and case management among Nigerian legal professionals. A comprehensive series of manuals has also been developed as part of this ambitious capacity building project, which also includes a long-distance legal support component that will continue its work during 2012.

### **Trial observations**

In line with its core commitment to uphold the rule of law and internationally recognised fair trial standards, the



BHRC conducted trial observations in different countries throughout 2010 and 2011. By way of example, in March 2010 BHRC member Bridget Petherbridge conducted observation in Colombia of the trial of Jorge Norguera with the aim of ensuring that the trial complies with guarantees for due process and respect for victims' access to justice and reparation. Elsewhere, Executive Committee member Pete Weatherby QC conducted trial observation in Bahrain during July 2010, followed by a BHRC report on the visit, calling for investigation of allegations of torture as well as respect for basic guarantees of due process in this country. This, as well as previous international trial observations carried out in Bahrain (such as that carried out in 2009 by BHRC Co Vice-Chair Kirsty Brimelow QC) has proved to be constructive for the fair administration of justice in this country while leading the BHRC to strengthening its work and commitment to monitor the situation of human rights in Bahrain in coming years.

In October 2010 BHRC Executive Committee member, Bryony Poynor attended the trial in Morocco of Saharawi human rights activists arrested after a humanitarian visit to the refugee camps at the request of Western Sahara Campaign UK. Similarly, between January 2011 and October 2011, BHRC member Michelle Butler conducted a partially remote trial observation of the trial of Mumtaz Qadri in the Pakistani Anti-Terrorism Court.

## **Fact finding missions and reports**

A traditional area of focus for the BHRC has been the protection of the rights of advocates and judges around the world who are threatened or impeded to practice their profession freely. Throughout 2010 and 2011 the BHRC has continued to devote efforts to this primary concern and has undertaken a series of fact-finding delegations to a diversity of jurisdictions, reporting independently on

issues affecting human rights advocates and the rule of law.

In July 2010, the BHRC launched the report *Recalling the Rule of Law: Report of the Lawyers' Delegation to Mexico* in an event held at the House of Lords, chaired by Lord Brennan QC, Labour Peer and representative of the Council of the International Bar Association. The report detailed the findings of the high-level delegation of international human rights lawyers led by the BHRC who visited Mexico between November and December of 2009. The purpose of the fact-finding visit was to carry out an independent audit of the situation of human rights, respect for the rule of law and the ability of lawyers and human rights defenders to exercise their vocation freely.

In Zimbabwe, based on the findings of a high level delegation carried out during 2009 which included, among other delegates, the then Chairman of the General Council of the Bar of England and Wales, Desmond Browne QC, the President of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, Mohamed Husain and the Chairman of the BHRC, Mark Muller QC, the BHRC launched in June 2010 at the Houses of Parliament the report *A place in the sun: A report on the state of the rule of law in Zimbabwe after the Global Peace Agreement September 2008*.

A few months later, in October 2010, following receipt of widespread reports indicating large numbers of arrests of human rights activists in the run-up to Parliamentary elections, the BHRC conducted a fact-finding mission to Bahrain. Executive Committee member Pete Weatherby QC, who in previous months conducted a trial observation in the country, led the delegation. Interviews were held with the Deputy Prime Minister, His Excellency Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarek Al Khalifa; the Minister of Interior,

His Excellency Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al-Khalifa, the Attorney General, Dr Ali Fadhul Al Buainain, and the Head of Public Security, Major General Tariq Bin Daina, among other high ranking functionaries, diplomatic representatives and civil society members. The report of the mission was published in February 2011 and raised serious concerns regarding arrests and detentions and allegations of torture, contravening domestic and internationally recognised standards.

### **Urgent appeals and *Amicus Curiae* briefs**

Throughout 2010 and 2011 the BHRC has continue to issue various statements of concern and urgent actions seeking to protect prosecuted advocates, judges and human rights defenders across the globe. For example, during 2010, through its International Litigation Unit, the BHRC has intervened in a number of high-profile cases such as *Rosendo Cantú v Mexico* before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which underscored the limits that should be imposed on the availability of military jurisdiction to cases involving serious human rights violations. Other briefs concerning Mexico were also filed during this working period in conjunction with other organisations such as Peace Brigades International (PBI) and Solicitors International Human Rights Group with whom the BHRC has shared a long-lasting relationship of work and interest in supporting the legal profession in Mexico.

Briefs have also been filed before national courts, including two *Amicus Curiae* to the Supreme Court of the United States on cases *Manuel Valle v. State of Florida* and the *Maher Arar v John Ashcroft in 2010 and 2011* respectively, as well as to the Constitutional Court of Colombia regarding the right to free prior and informed consent/consultation of indigenous communities. This latter intervention is part of an effort to advance in litigation work concerning human

rights, private actors and environmental law for the coming years. Various statements of concern and urgent appeals have been sent to numerous national authorities, including a statement of concern over the protection of human rights of the residents of Camp Ashraf in Iraq as well as letters to the Belarusian authorities and the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers on behalf of lawyers Pavel Sapelko and Valiantsina Busko.

### **A word of thanks**

The Committee would once again like to formally note that none of this important work is possible without the annual grant from the support of the Bar Council. We are extremely grateful for the support each chairman has given the Committee along with that of the Chief Executive and the International Relations Committee. Mention should also be made of Garden Court Chambers, which continues to provide the Committee with access to its extensive facilities free of charge. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our other funders and partner organisations, which appear listed at the end of this report. However, if the Committee is to maintain and expand its activities it needs your support and donations. I believe 2012 will be another critical year for both human rights and the work of the Committee. We urge all of you who are interested in our work to get involved and make contact at the address provided below.



# THE BAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

## Mission

***The BHRC is dedicated to promoting principles of justice and respect for fundamental human rights through the rule of law in different parts of the world.***

***The BHRC believes that the availability of an effective legal profession and infrastructure is a crucial development issue and a pre-condition for civil liberties and human rights.***

## Aims

- To support and protect practising lawyers, judges and human rights defenders who are threatened or oppressed in their work;
- To uphold the rule of law and internationally recognised human rights norms and standards;
- To further interest in and knowledge of human rights and the laws relating to human rights (both within and outside the legal profession);
- To advise, support and co-operate with other organisations and individuals working for the promotion and protection of human rights;
- To advise the Bar Council of England and Wales in connection with human rights issues.

## What we do

- Conduct international fact-finding investigations, trial observations, feasibility studies and report on human rights situations;
- Build capacity through training in advocacy, human rights and humanitarian law;
- Provide legal resources to help strengthen institutions which have a direct impact on the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law;
- Monitor human rights violations and raise awareness of the plight of victims of human rights violations through the media and public meetings;
- Participate in international litigation;
- Liaise with governmental and independent non-governmental organisations working in the same field;
- Train and support judges, lawyers, academics, civil society activists and others concerned with human rights;
- Assist individuals and groups to hold states accountable for abusive practices and to ensure adherence to international human rights norms and practices.

## COUNTRIES IN FOCUS

### INDIA

In 2010, the BHRC built a partnership with the Human Rights Lawyers Network (HRLN) a nationwide collective of lawyers and social activists dedicated to advancing human rights and social justice across India. Through this partnership, the BHRC aims to assist in HRLN's work of supporting the legal profession and promoting human rights law within the region. The legal profession in India has made effective use of legal mechanisms to enforce and ensure the realisation of some of the most basic human rights. However, the burden of undertaking this work is considerable and the legal profession requires support from the international community and wider global profession to continue promoting human rights through the legal system.

As part of this, the BHRC assisted in the organisation of a Judicial Colloquium lead by the HRLN on equality and non-discrimination law held in New Delhi in January 2011. The aim of the Colloquium was to promote dialogue on human rights issues within the Indian judiciary and between judicial representatives from other jurisdictions within the region and internationally. Representatives from the Indian Supreme Court, the South African Constitutional Court and the European Court of Human Rights attended. The BHRC facilitated the attendance of the Right Honourable Lord Walker of Gestingthorpe, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, who addressed the Colloquium on leading jurisprudence on equality and non-discrimination, freedom of expression and the protection of reputation and privacy. Mark Muller QC, Sudhanshu Swaroop, Ajanta Kaza and Rajesh Rai also represented the BHRC at the event. Sudhanshu Swaroop also provided a presentation on Environmental Tort Litigation.

Following the Colloquium in February 2011, BHRC Vice-Chair Sudhanshu Swaroop participated on behalf of the

BHRC in a 'National Consultation' on 'Litigation against Corporations for Human Rights' organised by the HRLN. As part of the event, Sudhanshu facilitated a workshop for human rights defenders and lawyers pursuing ways to hold corporate entities alleged to have committed human rights violations to account for their actions. The workshop aimed to highlight means by which similar objectives have been pursued in different jurisdictions and the practical mechanisms available both within the domestic jurisdiction and international mechanisms, which can be utilised in the specific Indian context.

In August 2011, BHRC Vice-Chair Sudhanshu Swaroop undertook a follow-up scoping mission to explore ways to extend BHRC project activities in India. The BHRC met with members of the legal profession, human rights activists and academics to discuss ways in which the BHRC could support their work. The BHRC hopes to build on this groundwork within the country and region in the forthcoming year.

### MEXICO

In July 2010, the BHRC launched the report *Recalling the Rule of Law: Report of the Lawyers' Delegation to Mexico*. The report detailed the findings of the high-level delegation of international human rights lawyers who carried out an independent and impartial audit of the situation relating to the protection of human rights defenders and lawyers, pre-trial and pre-charge detention, and military jurisdiction in the Mexican states of Guerrero and Oaxaca between 26 November and 4 December 2009. The event at the House of Lords was chaired by Lord Brennan, Labour Peer and Bar representative on the Council of the International Bar Association. The findings of the report were presented by BHRC Executive Committee members and delegation members Ajanta Kaza and Adam Hiddleston. Also on the panel were Santiago Aguirre, lawyer at the Tlachinollan





Human Rights Centre and among the people interviewed by the delegation as part of their research, who provided insight into his personal experience of representing victims of human rights violations in Guerrero. Also present were Elisa Maracani, of Peace Brigades International (PBI), who gave an update on the issues in Mexico in protecting human rights defenders. The BHRC report highlighted that despite positive commitments made by the Mexico in the international arena, within Mexico human rights abuses by Mexican government authorities continue to take place and many are not adequately addressed.

Following the launch, the report was translated into Spanish and presented during a follow-up BHRC delegation to Mexico which took place in September 2011. The purpose of the second delegation was to audit and monitor developments in the protection of human rights defenders and rule of law in Guerrero and Oaxaca since the 2010 report findings and recommendations. The delegation was made up of Executive Committee members Ajanta Kaza and Adam Hiddleston, together with John Traversi and Joanne Cecil, members of the Bar of England and Wales. The delegation met with a significant number of federal and state-level authorities, including the Ministry of Interior, Foreign Ministry, Attorney General's Office, the National Commission of Human Rights and the Department of Public Security as well as numerous civil society organisations and human rights defenders. The findings of the delegation will be published in an addendum report in 2012.

## COLOMBIA

In 2010 and 2011, the BHRC built on 2009 project activities, including the fact-finding missions undertaken by Kirsty Brimelow QC and Bridget Petherbridge facilitated by Peace Brigades International and the Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights in Colombia.



*Members of the 2011 fact-finding delegation to Mexico (L-R: Ajanta Kaza, Joanne Cecil, Adam Hiddleston, John Traversi)*



*Meeting with victims of human rights violations and their family members during fact-finding mission to Mexico in September 2011*

In March 2010, BHRC member Bridget Petherbridge attended the trial of Jorge Norguera, former director of Colombia's Administrative Security Department (DAS) from 2002 to 2005, charged with homicides of trade unionists, human rights defenders, and politicians who denounced the pact between paramilitarism and the political class in Colombia. The trial observation was carried out to ensure that the trial ensured the proper guarantees for due process and respect for the victims' rights to truth, justice, and reparation.

In August 2010, BHRC Executive Committee member Bryony Poyner attended the international legal observation mission of the Colombia Caravana with the aim of monitoring human rights abuses faced by legal professionals in Colombia. During her time in Colombia, Bryony also attended a number of meetings on behalf of the BHRC to further the links with local project partners and explore BHRC project initiatives.

In August 2010, the BHRC submitted an *amicus curiae* to the Constitutional Court of Colombia regarding the annulment of the decision taken by the Court's Seventh Revision Chamber before the Plenary Chamber in the Muriel Mining Corporation Case. The brief dealt with international jurisprudence regarding the rights to consultation and prior informed consent of the communities affected by large scale projects of multinational corporations, and is part of an effort to advance the BHRC's work in the increasingly poignant area of human rights, business and environmental law.

In November 2011, Kirsty Brimelow QC was invited to meet with President Santos during his official visit to the UK. She raised BHRC concerns over executive condemnation of the lawyers collective Abogados del Colectivo José Alvear Restrepo (CCAJAR) before investigation in the Mapiripán

case. The BHRC continues to develop its relationship with Colombian human rights defenders and the Colombian government in supporting the rule of law.

In November 2011, the BHRC was invited to participate in the *International Verification Mission into the Situation of the Defence of Human Rights in Colombia* organised by the Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights in Colombia. Between 28 November and 2 December, BHRC member Bridget Petherbridge was part of a high-profile international delegation visiting regions of the country to carry out meetings with governmental and civil society organisations for the purpose of collecting up-to-date and first-hand information for a qualified diagnosis of the advances made and challenges remaining for the defence of human rights in Colombia.

Throughout 2011, the BHRC hosted a number of Colombian human rights defenders in roundtable discussions with representatives from UK-based human rights organisations focusing on Colombia, including Reinaldo Villalba Vargas from CCAJAR, Aidee Moreno, Director of Human Rights for the Colombian Agricultural Workers' Union FENSUAGRO and Edwin Rubio from ACADEUM. The BHRC partakes in regular meetings with the Colombian Ambassador and the Foreign and Commonwealth minister responsible for Colombia. On the basis of activities in 2010 and 2011 and in partnership with local and international partners, the BHRC is developing long-term ways to assist in establishing the protection of human rights.

## ZIMBABWE

In June 2010, the BHRC launched the report *A place in the sun: A report on the state of the rule of law in Zimbabwe after the Global Peace Agreement September 2008* in the Houses of Parliament. This report is based on the findings of a joint

delegation of the Bar Council and the BHRC which comprised the then Chairman of the General Council of the Bar of England and Wales, Desmond Browne QC, the President of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, Mohamed Husain, a representative of Avocats Sans Frontières, Lara Deramaix, a representative of the Belgian and Flemish Bars, Philippe De Jaegere, the Vice-President of Avocats Sans Frontières, Netherlands, Hans Gaasbeek, the Chairman of the BHRC, Mark Muller QC, then Project Coordinator of the BHRC, Jacqueline Macalesher, Ijeoma Omambala and Andrew Moran of the Bar of England and Wales. The mission concluded that there had been no improvement and probably a further decline in respect for the rule of law since the signing of the Global Political Agreement.

The delegation's recommendations continue to underpin BHRC project activities, and were developed during a follow-up visit to Zimbabwe in November 2010. The purpose of the visit in November 2010 by Desmond Browne QC and Alex Glassbrook was to examine how best to target support for the Law Society of Zimbabwe (LSZ) and the Law Faculty of the University of Zimbabwe (LFUZ). To that end, Desmond Browne QC and Alex Glassbrook attended the LSZ Summer School in Nyanga, held discussions with senior officers of the LFUZ in Harare and met with HM Ambassador, Mark Canning.

In March 2011, on the basis of project activities carried out in the previous years, the BHRC was awarded a year-long grant through the Human Rights and Democracy programme of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to support legal professionals, human rights defenders, civil society, election observers and election monitors with resources on fundamental freedoms during electoral processes. Throughout 2011, the BHRC developed tools to assist establish a necessary human rights compliant

environment so as to allow free and fair elections to take place, including a series of workshops aimed to develop strategies and systematise approaches to human rights monitoring and reporting accompanied by a manual on observing and monitoring elections and upholding human rights during electoral processes.

### BLASPHEMY LAW REVIEW IN THE COMMONWEALTH

In partnership with the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, the BHRC is conducting research into the blasphemy legislation of Commonwealth jurisdictions to assess:

- whether or not the laws meet the international standards of freedom of expression;
- whether they are effective in preventing defamation of religion;
- the extent to which blasphemy laws are used to limit freedom of expression;
- the extent to which blasphemy laws impact upon other rights and freedoms enshrined in international human rights law.

The BHRC intends for the research to be published in 2012 and to form the basis for further analysis and project work in relation to countries where current blasphemy legislation gives rise to concerns over the respective country's respect for the rule of law.

## TRIAL OBSERVATIONS

### BAHRAIN

In July 2010, Executive Committee member Pete Weatherby QC travelled to Bahrain on behalf of the BHRC to observe parts of the trials of two groups of individuals accused of offences connected to protests and tyre burnings. This followed upon a previous trial observation and report by Kirsty Brimelow QC in 2009. In that case all 24 defendants were pardoned. Whilst in Bahrain, the BHRC again had the opportunity to meet with a number of government and prosecution officials and various other individuals and groups. These opportunities were welcomed, as it enabled BHRC to discuss issues raised by the hearings, as well as providing further insights into the situation in Bahrain.

On the facts presented, the BHRC's 2010 report on the trial observation noted concern that during the arrest, detention and trial of the accused, the rights not to be tortured or subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and to a fair trial were breached. The BHRC called on the Kingdom of Bahrain to investigate the allegations of torture and ensure that internationally recognised standards of due process and fair trial are practically implemented in all proceedings.

After the publication of the 2010 BHRC report, and in the run up to parliamentary elections, the BHRC received widespread reports of large numbers of arrests of human rights activists and opposition leaders. Many of these individuals were detained under anti-terrorism legislation and concerns regarding torture and mistreatment of detainees were raised. In light of these concerns, the BHRC conducted a fact-finding mission to Bahrain in October 2010 to provide an independent view on the events reported, to assess their credibility and analyse the fact pattern against the previous matters identified by the BHRC. Pete Weatherby QC and then Project Coordinator Sally Longworth



*BHRC Executive Committee Member Pete Weatherby QC during mission to Bahrain, October 2010*

representing the BHRC met with the Deputy Prime Minister, His Excellency Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarek Al Khalifa, the Minister of Interior, His Excellency Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al-Khalifa, the Attorney General, Dr Ali Fadhul Al Buainain, the Secretary-General designate of the Gulf Cooperation Council, General Dr Abdul Latif Al Zayani, the Head of Public Security, Major General Tariq Bin Daina, and Under-Secretary for Legal Affairs, Brigadier Mahmood Bu Hamood, and doctors and officials within the Public Prosecutors Office. The mission also met with lawyers acting for the detainees, and family members of the detainees. In addition, the BHRC met with the British Ambassador and representatives of the US Embassy, representatives of the Bahrain Human Rights Society, the recently-resigned head of the National Institution of Human Rights, the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, and the Bahrain Youth Society for Human Rights, and other human rights defenders, members of the business community, and Dr Ali Salman, General Secretary of Islamic National Wafaq Committee.

The BHRC focused much of its investigations on the proceedings of the trial of 25 defendants (two *in absentia*) identified by the Public Prosecutor as “leaders” of an alleged terrorist network. Three of these individuals had been defendants in the BHRC’s first trial observation in Bahrain conducted by Kirsty Brimelow QC in March 2009. The report of the mission was published in February 2011 and raised serious concerns regarding the arrest and detention, allegations of torture and access to legal representation and family visits of the defendants against domestic and internationally recognised standards. In light of the serious failures to uphold the due process rights of the detainees at the early stages of investigation, the BHRC concluded that irreparable damage to the subsequent trial was caused. The BHRC recommended, among other things, that the Kingdom of Bahrain institute a credible independent investigation into the allegation of human rights violations addressed in the report. All detainees in the trial were subsequently released by the end of February 2011 by order of the King.

Following further unrest in the Kingdom of Bahrain in 2011, the Bahrain International Commission of Inquiry (BICI) was set up by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to investigate events in Bahrain since February 2011, and presented its findings in November 2011. The Commission’s report found that there were considerable human rights violations including the use of torture, misuse of the law, and suppression of legitimate protests and freedom of speech. The King promised to follow the recommendations of the BICI, but political trials of lawyers, medics, teachers and others continue. The BHRC continues to monitor the situation of human rights in Bahrain and a further mission to Bahrain was conducted in the first quarter of 2012.

## COLOMBIA

In March 2010, BHRC member Bridget Petherbridge attended the trial of Jorge Norguera, former director of Colombia’s Administrative Security Department (DAS) from 2002 to 2005, charged with homicides of trade unionists, human rights defenders, and politicians who denounced the pact between paramilitarism and the political class in Colombia. The trial observation was carried out to ensure that the trial is surrounded with the proper guarantees for due process and respect for the victims’ rights to truth, justice, and reparation.

## MOROCCO

In October 2010, BHRC Executive Committee member Bryony Poyner attended the trial of Saharawi human rights activists arrested after a humanitarian visit to the refugee camps at the request of Western Sahara Campaign UK. The proceedings took place at the Ordinary Penal Tribunal in Casablanca and it was hoped that the presence of international observers would allow for international trial standards to be upheld and act as a reminder to the authorities involved of the required international fair trial standards.

The case had originally been submitted to military jurisdiction despite the defendants’ civil status, following a dispute regarding which Articles of the Criminal Code the accused persons were believed to have been indicted under and the Article which the judge set out in his findings. The case was later referred by the Moroccan Military Court to the Ordinary Penal Tribunal in Casablanca. The proceedings were due to take place on 15 October 2010, but were marred by demonstrations by Moroccan lawyers, resulting in a rescheduling of the trial and further delays in proceedings. Three of the accused had been in detention since October 2009 and significant concerns were raised throughout the case of the rights of the defence being respected.





## PAKISTAN

Between January 2011 and October 2011, BHRC member Michelle Butler conducted a partially remote trial observation of the trial of Mumtaz Qadri in the Pakistan Anti-Terrorism Court. Qadri was found guilty of both murder and causing an act of terrorism resulting from his assassination of Salman Taseer, the Governor of the Punjab, on 4 January 2011. Taseer had advocated reform to the blasphemy laws in Pakistan which human rights groups say are misused to persecute ethnic and religious minorities across the country. Qadri freely admitted killing Taseer and was widely regarded as a hero in Pakistan for having done so. Such was Qadri's support that he was garlanded with flowers by hundreds of lawyers at initial public court appearances. Serious delays resulted from difficulties in finding a prosecutor willing to try the case and by the reassignment of two judges who had presided over the case.

The climate of fear surrounding the case meant that the proceedings had to be held under closed conditions within

the Adiala jail in Rawalpindi in order to try to ensure the safety of the judge and the prosecutor. Qadri's defence was that he had obeyed his religious duty to kill Taseer because he was a blasphemer and that this duty overrode the criminal law prohibition of murder and terrorism. After hearing extensive evidence from both the prosecution and the defence, Qadri's defence was not accepted by Judge Pervez Ali Shah. Following Qadri's conviction and sentence to the mandatory death penalty on 1 October 2011, crowds of lawyers caused property damage to the court room of the Presiding Judge. It has been reported that the judge fled Pakistan on 25 October 2011 in fear of his life after receiving credible death threats. Qadri's death penalty is currently suspended while appeal proceedings are pending in the Islamabad High Court. The former Chief Justice of Lahore, Khawaja Muhammad Sharif, has come out of retirement to represent Qadri in his appeal.



## LEGAL TRAINING

### TANZANIA

In partnership with the International Senior Lawyers Project UK (ISLP-UK), the BHRC developed and taught the 'Criminal Procedure and Practice module' at the Tanzania Law School in Dar es Salaam in September 2010 and May 2011. Executive Committee members, Theodora Christou and Brenda Campbell, then Project Coordinator Sally Longworth and BHRC members Icah Peart QC and Simeon Evans developed the course materials, drafted the course manual and travelled to Dar es Salaam in September 2010 to deliver the course to several hundred law graduates. BHRC representatives, Thomas Price QC, Phillipa Eastwood, Simeon Evans and Theodora Christou returned to Dar es Salaam in May 2011 to teach the course again to a new intake of students. A third delegation will return in summer 2012.



*Teaching at the Tanzania Law School, September 2010*

In line with the aims of the programme to ensure consistent and quality training on the course, BHRC representatives work closely with local lawyers and lecturers, training the trainers as the course is rolled out.

In September 2010, the BHRC also met with local civil society organisations to discuss ways in which the BHRC we could work together to promote the rule of law and protection of human rights. The meeting was facilitated by the Children Education Society and was attended by representatives of the National Organisation for Legal Assistance, the Tanganyika Law Society, the Legal Aid Scheme of the University of Dar es Salaam, Agenda Participation 2000, the Tanzanian Media Women's Association, the Tanzanian Network of Women Living with HIV and AIDS, the Legal and Human Rights Centre and the Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services. In 2012, the BHRC anticipates developing further project initiatives in Tanzania on the basis of its 2010 and 2011 project activities.

## INTERNATIONAL LITIGATION AND ADVISORY UNIT

### Public Interest Case Support Project

Through the Public Interest Case Support Project (PICS) network, UK-based barristers provide advice, assist with submissions and undertake research on cases under consideration or being litigated by project partners in Malawi and Tanzania relating to:

- Children's rights, including juvenile justice; child trafficking; child labour; education rights.  
Women's rights, particularly discrimination; domestic violence; reproductive rights; economic rights.
- Rights for people with HIV/AIDS, including discrimination; access to medical care; rights for prisoners with HIV.
- Actions against the police, including deaths in police custody; torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment; prison law.
- Fair trial, notably access to justice; access to legal representation; pre-trial detention; sentencing.
- Death penalty cases.
- International and transnational crimes.
- Environmental cases.
- Housing/land rights.
- Labour and employment rights.
- Immigration and asylum.
- Freedom of expression and freedom of information.
- Freedom of association.

Since 2009, the BHRC has developed the PICS network in partnership with the Malawi Law Society, Malawi Human Rights Commission, LegalAid Department, Paralegal Advisory Service, Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation, Centre

for Human Rights Education and Development, Centre for the Development of the People, Secular Humanism and lawyers in independent practice on areas of human rights law and public interest cases. Throughout 2010 and 2011, meetings with project partners, including the Malawi Law Society, took place in London and in January 2011, BHRC member Michelle Knorr travelled to Malawi to develop further links to extend the PICS project.

As part of the PICS project, the BHRC provided advice to the Malawi Human Rights Commission on a case before the Constitutional Court concerning gender equality and the inheritance rights of women in June 2010. In June 2011, the BHRC submitted a brief to the Malawi Special Law Commission established to review the Witchcraft Act Cap. 7:02. The brief was drafted by BHRC members Michelle Butler, Rachel Logan and then Project Coordinator Sally Longworth and outlined the BHRC's observations on the applicable international legal standards on discrimination against women and children, as well as fair trial and access to justice rights. Following events surrounding civil society protests in July 2011, the BHRC assisted Malawian practitioners with research briefs with a focus on freedom of expression, actions against the police and in identifying international mechanisms and procedures for complaints. The BHRC continues to work closely with local lawyers to address these issues.

This form of support has proven to be extremely beneficial in addressing violations of human rights following the formation of the scheme in Malawi, and in December 2010, the BHRC extended its PICS network to Tanzania. In partnership with the Children Education Society, the National Organisation for Legal Assistance, the Tanganyika Law Society and the Legal Aid Scheme of the University of Dar es Salaam. The BHRC aims to undertake casework

support on selected cases under consideration or being litigated by the Tanzanian partner organisations. The BHRC has established a register of experienced barristers in various specialist areas of human rights law.

In 2012, the BHRC hopes to roll out further PCIS schemes in others countries we have worked in.

### **Amicus Curiae**

The BHRC is working to extend the capacity of its International Litigation and Advisory Unit. In 2010 and 2011, the BHRC submitted the following briefs:

#### **USA**

March 2010, Amicus Curiae to the US Supreme Court for the Petitioner in *Maher Arar v John Ashcroft*

#### **MEXICO**

June 2010, Amicus Curiae to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case of *Valentina Rosendo Cantæ et al against the United States of Mexico*

#### **MEXICO**

December 2010, Amicus Curiae to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case of *Radilla-Pachecho and The United States of Mexico*

#### **RWANDA**

March 2011, Amicus Curiae to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in the case of Prosecutor v. Aloys Ntabakuze

#### **COLOMBIA**

July 2011, Amicus Curiae to the Colombian Constitutional Court in relation to judgment T-769/2009 with regards to prior consent of communities affected by major mining or other economic projects to be conducted on their lands or territories

#### **PAKISTAN**

August 2011, Amicus Curiae to the Shariat Court of Azad Jammu and Kashmir in the cases of Naheem Hussain and Rehan Zaman

#### **USA**

September 2011, Amicus Curiae to the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Manuel Valle v State of Florida*



## CHILD RIGHTS UNIT

### NIGERIA

Since 2009, the BHRC has been working in partnership with Stepping Stones Nigeria (SSN) to promote the rights of children and to address serious issues relating to abuses of those rights within the country and specifically in the state of Akwa Ibom. The BHRC has provided advice and support on a wide variety of aspects in relation to this work, including producing a “child-friendly” version of Akwa Ibom Child Rights Act 2003 together with SSN and advising on specific cases of breaches of the Child Rights Act. In August 2010, Kirsty Brimelow QC and Hugh Davies travelled to Nigeria on behalf of the BHRC Child Rights Unit to meet and discuss with the Director of Public Prosecutions of Akwa Ibom and representatives from the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and UNICEF, among others these issues and ways in which the BHRC can support their efforts to promote protection of children from abuses. During the mission, the BHRC also conducted a two-day training workshop with lawyers working on children rights issues on interviewing children and recording evidence of abuse.

In 2010 and 2011, in partnership with UNICEF, the BHRC has compiled a programme to develop the capacity of the Child Protection Networks throughout Nigeria in child rights monitoring and documentation and access to local, regional and international legal mechanisms. This includes a particular focus on collating evidence from vulnerable witnesses and case management. The BHRC has developed a composite manual together with a “train-the-trainer” manual and resources. In 2011, the BHRC carried out a scoping mission to Kwara state. The team comprised Kirsty Brimelow QC, manual author Miša Zgonec Rozej and then Project Coordinator Juliane Heider. Kirsty Brimelow QC led the first training team in October 2011. The team consisted of barristers Tunde Okewale, Nathan Rasiah and then Project Co-ordinator Juliane Heider. The first of this series of five



*BHRC Vice-Chair Kirsty Brimelow QC led the first delegation to conduct training with the Child Protection Network in October 2011*

rounds of training took place in Abuja and was attended by over 50 representatives from 10 different Northern and Central Nigerian states. Trainings led by Kirsty Brimelow QC are continuing in 2012 and have expanded in size. The training was initially delayed following the bombing of the UK House in Abuja, but was able to take place shortly after driven by the spirit of UNICEF and the Child Protection Network throughout Nigeria.

*“The seminar was fun all the way through, the instructors were lively and the content was educative. I will go out and put all I have learnt to practice.”*

*Feedback given by CPN member after the training*

In partnership with SSN, the BHRC placed an intern in Calabar, Cross River State, to provide litigation and advocacy support to partner organisations of the Niger Delta Child Rights Watch Project (NDCRW) in 2011 and 2012. The purpose of the year-long internship is to enhance

monitoring, documenting and investigating of cases of child rights abuse in the Delta states of Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River and Rivers.

Since September 2011, BHRC intern Madeleine Bridgett provides dedicated support to the NDCRW project partners on case management with a view to identifying test cases and enhancing litigation to promote and protect child rights. Madeleine is also carrying out advocacy and training work to assist the government with the implementation of the 2003 Child Rights Act at a local and national level and to support police, judiciary and social welfare departments in effectively prosecuting child rights offenders and providing support to victims.

Since the start of the project, the Chief Justice of Cross River State, Hon. Justice Dorathy N. Eyamba-Idem, OFR formally inaugurated the Family Court in Calabar, Cross River State, and the NDCRW partner organisation the Basic Rights Counsel filed the first application to the family court in the Magistrates Court, Calabar and the first application to the family court registry in the High Court, Calabar.



*BHRC intern Madeleine Bridgett with staff from project partners of the Niger Delta Child Rights Watch Project*

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS UNIT

Following the success of the Child Rights Unit, the BHRC was proud to establish a Women's Rights Unit (WRU) in February 2011 to focus on women's human rights and gender discrimination in specific and existing projects. The aim of the WRU is to build on the considerable work undertaken by the BHRC in this field. Over the past years, the BHRC has conducted training and fact-finding missions on the rights of women and human rights abuses on women, including gender specific violence. In light of this wealth of experience, the BHRC is working with partner organisations to develop the operations of the WRU in providing direct legal assistance on human rights issues relating to women. The purpose of the WRU is to act as an umbrella unit for issues relating to women's human rights within current and future projects, as well as undertaking projects with a specific focus on women's human rights.

## URGENT APPEALS AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING

In accordance with its mandate to monitor and uphold the rule of law, the BHRC frequently issues statements of concern and sends letters to raise attention about particular human rights violations.

### AZERBAIJAN

In October 2011, the BHRC wrote to the Azerbaijani authorities in relation to information received in the case of Elchin Nazomov, urging them to recognise that the independence of lawyers is a core principle of democracy and of the effectiveness of the rule of law.

### BAHRAIN

In August 2010, the BHRC issued a letter expressing concern regarding reports of the arrest and treatment of human rights activist, Dr Abdul Jalil al-Singace. Following the imposition of a state emergency in March 2011, the BHRC issued a further statement urging all sides to engage in dialogue and adhere to the rule of law and respect human rights.

### BELARUS

In January and February 2011, the BHRC sent letters to the Belarussian authorities and the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers on behalf of Pavel Sapelko and Valiantsina Busko.

### COLOMBIA

In July 2010, the BHRC sent a letter expressing concern regarding the safety and privacy of Luis Guillermo Perez Casas, lawyer and member of the Jose Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR) returning to Colombia following 10 years in exile to continue his work as a human rights lawyer.

### EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

In March 2010, the BHRC signed a joint appeal together with 156 other non-governmental organisations regarding the reform of the European Court of Human Rights, calling for enhanced respect for human rights and resources to ensure the Court can function properly.

### IRAQ

In April and November 2011, the BHRC issued a statement of concern over the protection of human rights of the residents of Camp Ashraf.

### JORDAN

In May 2011, the BHRC sent a letter of concern to King Abdullah of Jordan urging him to renounce the recommendation to activate the death penalty to address communal violence.

### MALAWI

Further to its support of and work with human rights lawyers through the Public Interest Case Support project, in July 2011, the BHRC issued a statement of concern regarding events in Malawi surrounding civil society protests against a range of Malawi Government policies, and their impact on Malawians' fundamental human rights to lawfully protest and assemble.

### MEXICO

Further to its particular focus on issues relating to the rule of law in Mexico as outlined in the 2010 report 'Recalling the Rule of Law: A report on the protection of human rights defenders and the rule of law in the states of Guerrero and Oaxaca, Mexico' and follow-up work undertaken in 2011, the BHRC has issued a number of urgent appeals to the Mexican authorities.





In April 2010, the BHRC wrote to the Mexican authorities regarding reports received about the safety of members of the Organisation of the Me'phaa Indigenous People and the members of the Mountain Human Rights Centre Tlachinollan. In November 2010, the BHRC contacted the Mexican Attorney General on the first anniversary of the Inter-American Court decision in the case of *Radilla Pacheco v Mexico* and to encourage the Mexican authorities to uphold the judgement. In July 2010, the BHRC sent a letter to the state authorities of Guerrero regarding human rights concerns in judicial proceedings against Raúl Hernández from the Organisation of the Me'phaa Indigenous People.

In 2011, the BHRC also hosted a number of Mexican human rights defenders and lawyers in roundtable discussions with representatives from UK-based human rights organisations focusing on Mexico, including human rights defender Tita Radilla, Juan Carlos Gutiérrez, Director of the Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos and Santiago Aguirre from the Mountain Human Rights Centre Tlachinollan.

## **NEPAL**

In 2011, the BHRC issued a number of urgent appeals in eminent cases that raise concerns over the prevailing climate of impunity for human rights violations committed during the recent conflict. In February 2011, the BHRC contacted Nepali authorities regarding the continued lack of arrest and prosecution of those responsible in the case of Maina Sunuwar.

In May 2011, the BHRC issued a letter of concern to the Government of Nepal in the case of Arjun Bahadur Lama. Following the appointment of Kuber Singh Rana, one of the officials named as suspect in the cases of the 'Dhanusha five', as Additional Inspector General of Police

in July 2011, the BHRC wrote to the Government of Nepal to express concern over the prevailing climate of impunity for human rights violations committed during the recent armed conflict.

## **NIGERIA**

In September 2010, the BHRC sent a letter to the Governor of the Akwa Ibom State regarding the security of the Child Rights and Rehabilitation Network centre following reports of armed individuals entering the centre and firing a round of bullets.

## **PAKISTAN**

In April 2011, the BHRC and the Commonwealth Lawyers Association issued a statement on issues arising from an atmosphere of fear and intimidation surrounding the blasphemy laws in Pakistan. Based on the observations of the previous statement, the BHRC and the Commonwealth Lawyers Association issued a statement on the abduction of Shahbaz Taseer in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. In November 2011, the BHRC and the Commonwealth Lawyers Association issued a further statement following events on the delivery of the verdict in the Mumtaz Qadri trial.

## **RWANDA**

In June 2010, the BHRC sent a letter of concern to the Rwandan President regarding the safety of Professor Erlinder, a US lawyer and academic who acted as defence counsel before the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

## UGANDA

In May 2011, the BHRC issued a statement expressing deep concern regarding events in Uganda surrounding civil society protests and their impact on upholding fundamental freedoms and human rights and the respect for the rule of law in Uganda.

## TOGO

In November 2010, the BHRC sent a letter of concern to the authorities regarding reports received about freedom of assembly and the actions of authorities at a protest organised by human rights NGOs in Togo.

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

In July 2010, the BHRC signed an open letter to Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago expressing concern at the announcement of the Government to resume execution of its death row prisoners.

## TURKEY

In November 2011, the BHRC sent a letter of concern to Prime Minister Erdoğan about the arrest of 51 lawyers and concerns raised about Turkey's respect for human rights obligations, in particular regarding the role of lawyers.

## WEST AFRICA

In 2010, the BHRC published an update on the human rights situation in Francophone West Africa and two updates on events in Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, the Republic of Congo and Sierra Leone in 2011.

## ZIMBABWE

In April 2010, the BHRC sent a letter of concern to President Mugabe regarding the treatment of members of Women and Men Zimbabwe Arise.



## PUBLIC SEMINARS AND EVENTS

### 2010

#### FEBRUARY

‘The Russian Judiciary – Priorities for Change in a New Decade’

Addresses by Ms Olga Borisovna Kudeshkina (Former Judge of the Moscow City Court) and Mr Drew Holiner (Monkton Chambers). The event was chaired by BHRC Executive Committee member Professor Bill Bowring.

#### MAY

‘Colombia – Cracking Impunity and the trial of Jorge Noguera’

Addresses by Bridget Petherbridge (Barrister at QEB Hollis Whiteman), Kirsty Brimelow (BHRC Vice-Chair) and Mark Cunningham QC (Maitland Chambers).

#### SEPTEMBER

‘Brave new world: A discussion on the European Union’s accession to the European Convention on Human Rights’

Addresses by José-María Davó-Fernández (President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe) and Rob Linham (UK Ministry of Justice and member of the group drafting the accession treaty). The event was chaired by BHRC Vice-Chair Kirsty Brimelow QC.

#### NOVEMBER

During the Bar Conference 2010, the BHRC conducted a workshop ‘Upping the Standards: Holding Corporations Accountable’ with Colin Gonsalves, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of India and Executive Director of the Human Rights Law Network, India, Sif Thorgeirsson from the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, Richard Hermer QC from Doughty Street Chambers and moderated by BHRC Chair Mark Muller QC.

### 2011

#### FEBRUARY

‘Blacklisted: Targeted sanctions, pre-emptive security and fundamental rights’

Addresses by Gavin Sullivan and Ben Hayes, co-authors of the ECCHR report “Blacklisted: Target Sanctions, Preemptive Security and Fundamental Rights”, Anne McMurdie and Henry Miller (Public Law Solicitors and Birnberg Peirce & Partners Solicitors), Dr Eric Metcalf (Director of Human Rights Policy, Justice) and Mark Muller QC (BHRC Chair). The event was chaired by BHRC Executive Committee member Professor Bill Bowring.

#### MARCH

‘Developments in international human rights & the independent practice of lawyers abroad’

Addresses by Adam Hiddleston (3 Paper Buildings), Pete Weatherby (Garden Court North) and Wendy Hewitt (Equality and Human Rights Commission). This event was chaired by BHRC Chair Mark Muller QC. This event was organised in partnership with the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Garden Court Chambers North.

#### JUNE

‘Freedom of expression: movements, responses and fundamental freedoms’

Addresses by Waytha Moorthy Ponnusamy (Chair of Hindu Rights Action Front) on minority rights and the infringement of freedom of expression in Malaysia, Natalia Kaliada (Director of the Belarus Free Theatre) on her experience of using theatre to defend human rights in Belarus, Mark Muller QC (Chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee) on the rule of law and fundamental freedoms in Libya. This event was chaired by BHRC Vice-Chair Kirsty Brimelow QC.

## AUGUST

Senior advocate Mordecai Mahlangu delivered the Inaugural International Rule of Law Lecture and Debate entitled 'Future of Zimbabwe', which was organised in partnership with the Faculty of Advocats and Beyond Borders.

The lecture was followed by a debate on 'Mediating Justice in War and Peace' with Sir Kieran Pendergast (British diplomat and former Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs at the United Nations), Professor Alan Miller (Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission), Dr Paikiasothy Saravanamutt (Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Alternatives in Sri Lanka) and Dr Oscar Guardiola-Rivera (Colombian philosopher and senior law lecturer at Birkbeck University). The event was chaired by Mark Muller QC (Chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee).



*Senior advocate Mordecai Mahlangu at the Inaugural International Rule of Law Lecture, Edinburgh, August 2011*  
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*“Notwithstanding the gloom and doom that is the lot of Zimbabweans, there is every reason to believe that greater times lie ahead. At the heart of the political problems Zimbabwe has experienced in the past decade is the view by many of the liberation heroes that they are entitled by reason of their role in liberating Zimbabwe to rule forever. This is a belief that has not received support from the governed. For this reason, our liberation heroes are largely discredited and they have lost popular support. I am convinced in my own mind that they cannot win a free and fair election.”*

*Extract from 'The Future of Zimbabwe'*

## SEPTEMBER

'Prison law: a discussion on human rights'

Addresses by Juliet Lyon CBE (Director of the Prison Reform Trust), Prof Dirk Van Zyl Smit (University of Nottingham), Adam Stapleton (Governance and Justice Group). The event was chaired by BHRC Executive Committee member Pete Weatherby. This event was organised in partnership with the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Garden Court Chambers North.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The BHRC thanks all its members for their support to realise its mandate and continue to expand its efforts to promote and protect human rights and respect for the rule of law internationally.

### THE BHRC IS GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ITS FUNDERS:

Alliance for Lawyers at Risk  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
Garden Court Chambers Special Fund  
General Council of the Bar of England and Wales  
International Senior Lawyers Project  
Jomati Foundation  
Law Society Charity  
Scurrah Wainwright Trust  
Stepping Stones Nigeria  
United Nations Children's Fund

### THE BHRC HAS WORKED AND ESTABLISHED LINKS WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

Advocacy Forum (Nepal)  
AdvocAid (Sierra Leone)  
Advocats Sans Frontière (Netherlands)  
ABColumbia (UK)  
ACADEUM (Colombia)  
Attorneys without Borders (Germany)  
Beyond Borders (Scotland)  
British Council  
Campaign for the Right to Defend Human Rights in Colombia  
Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez (Mexico)  
Child Protection Network Nigeria

Colombian Caravana (UK)  
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (Mexico)  
Commission of Human Rights of the Association of Judges and State Attorneys and the Association of Lawyers (Germany)  
Commonwealth Lawyers Association (UK)  
Community Advocacy and Legal Centre (Canada)  
European Human Rights Advocacy Centre (UK)  
Faculty of Advocats (Scotland)  
FENSURAGO (Colombia)  
Human Rights Lawyers Network (India)  
International Bar Association Human Rights Institute (UK)  
Jose Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (Colombia)  
Justice for Colombia (UK)  
Justice Project Pakistan  
Law Society Zimbabwe  
Lawyers Rights Watch (Canada)  
Malawi PICS partners  
Niger Delta Child Rights Watch project partners  
Peace Brigades International (Colombia, Mexico, Nepal, UK)  
Reprieve (UK)  
Solicitors International Human Rights Group (UK)  
Tanzania PICS partners  
Tlachinollan Centro de Derechos de Humanos de la Montaña (Mexico)  
Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights

The BHRC is a member of the Alliance for Lawyers at Risk, the Attorney General's Bar Pro Bono Committee, the Coalition for the International Criminal Court and the Justice working group of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network.



## STAFF

Jacqueline Macalesher (11/2008 to 03/2010)  
Sally Longworth (04/2010 to 03/2011)  
Juliane Heider (03/2011 to 03/2012))

## INTERNS

Gizem Akyil	Madeleine Bridgett
Priscilla Dudhia	Ghazala Hussain
Rachel Hutchings	Siobhán Lloyd
Mark Odaga	Olamide Olajide
Tom Rainsbury	Sarah Sadek
Andrew Sanger	Emily Smith
Tania Soris	Mariam Uberi
Richard Wingfield	Parisa Zangeneh

## BAR HUMAN RIGHTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN 2010

Mark Muller QC (Chair)	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
Kirsty Brimelow QC (Vice-Chair)	<i>Doughty Street Chambers</i>
Timothy Otty QC (Vice-Chair)	<i>Blackstone Chambers</i>
Michael Ivers (Treasurer)	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
Zubair Ahmad	<i>2 Hare Court</i>
Professor Bill Bowring	<i>Birkbeck College, University of London</i>
Brenda Campbell	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
Theodora Christou	<i>Queen Mary, University of London</i>
Mark Cunningham QC	<i>Maitland Chambers</i>
Blinne Ní Ghrálaigh	<i>Matrix Chambers</i>
Alexander Glassbrook	<i>1 Temple Gardens</i>
Edward Grieves	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
Ajanta Kaza	<i>1 Pump Court</i>
Naina Patel	<i>Blackstone Chambers</i>
Bryony Poynor	<i>Garden Court North</i>
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## BAR HUMAN RIGHTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN 2011

Mark Muller QC (Chair)	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
Kirsty Brimelow QC (Vice-Chair)	<i>Doughty Street Chambers</i>
Sudhanshu Swaroop (Vice-Chair)	<i>20 Essex Street</i>
Michael Ivers (Treasurer)	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
Zubair Ahmad	<i>2 Hare Court</i>
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Mark Cunningham QC	<i>Maitland Chambers</i>
Blinne Ní Ghrálaigh	<i>Matrix Chambers</i>
Alexander Glassbrook	<i>1 Temple Gardens</i>
Adam Hiddleston	<i>3 Paper Buildings</i>
Bryony Poynor	<i>Garden Court Chambers</i>
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BAR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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*Front cover image: Prison Exercise Yard, Malawi © Shauna Gillan  
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