**Comenius University / International Journal of Clinical Legal Education Conference**

**ENCLE - IJCLE 2019 Improving the Future: Using Clinical Legal Education to Educate Lawyers for a Just Society**

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| Title | Dr |
| Lead Presenter First Name | Andres |
| Lead Presenter Last Name | Gascon-Cuenca |
| Organisation of Lead Presenter | Legal Clinic for Social Justice. University of Valencia |
| Name/s and details of other presenters | Dr. Francesca Malzani, Associate Professor, responsible of a Clinical Course, University fo Brescia, Italy  Dr. Carla Ghitti, Part-time Professor, responsible of a Clinical Course, University of Brescia, Italy |
| Title of Proposal | Taking Human Rights Seriously. International Standards, National Regulations and Legal Clinics. |
| Summary of Proposal | In this interactive seminar the group will work in a collaborative way about the importance of international standards of protection when guaranteeing human and fundamental rights. Presenters will use interactive methodologies to underline the key role clinical professors have to fade away the idea that international standards are "soft law", enhancing its importance when national standards fail to provide protection to the society. |
| Abstract Proposal | The recognition and the protection of human rights is a long-run battle. After the horrendous crimes committed during the IIWW, States realized the necessity of developing international conventions in order to protect the core rights and values of humankind. From that time on, and starting with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we have an important number of international covenants that set the minimum threshold that every Member State must recognize and protect when it comes to a number of very basic human rights. At the European Level, the number of human rights protected has been growing, with regulations coming from UN and the Council of Europe, with the remarkable importance of the European Court of Human Rights.   Although the layout that has been just described, we are experiencing an important regression in the protection of these basic Human Rights at the national level. Focusing on the migration processes, Spain and Italy are receiving a high number of asylum seekers that are being seen like a threat by part of the society and some political parties. People that is trying to escape from wars, hunger, abuses, persecution, and many other situations, looking for better ways of living for them and their families. Nevertheless, once asylum seekers are in our countries, they have to face and comply with administrative praxis that make difficult the granting of different rights, like access to justice, protected by international and European regulations and standards that protect their very basic rights. Thus, Legal Clinical Education has to deeply challenge this view and use of the Law, by promoting and enhancing in students a critical approach to national regulations that severely interfere or make the international standards of protection of human rights useless. So that, our students as future human rights lawyers, have to always question the objectives, values and rights, pursued by national regulations and be able to evaluate if they meet the very basic standards set in the international arena and proceed consequently.  How interactive methods will be used: Therefore, this session will develop and work this idea in an interactive way. We will use the following methodological resources: video, brainstorming, working in groups about a given scenario and debriefing all this work for constructing as a group some takeaways, that might be implemented in other Legal Clinics. By using these methodologies, we will foster expertise exchange for building up common paths of empowerment of clinical students. |