

The International Clinic Exchange Program- Leiden, IDC and Emory – International Criminal and Humanitarian Law Clinic at IDC



© The 39 student participants of IDC, Emory and Leiden Law Clinics, Adv. Yael Vias Gvirsman, Prof. Laurie Blanck, Dr. Robert Heinsch and Dr. Dafna Shraga, Neve Shalom, Israel, 20 November 2015,. Israeli 1st round of International Clinic Exchange Program, 15-20 November 2015.

Students of the International Criminal and Humanitarian Law (IHL) Clinic at the Radzyner School of Law, Interdisciplinary Center participate in a unique International IHL Clinic Exchange Program initiated by the three Clinic Directors: Adv. Yael Vias Gvirsman of Radzyner Law School, IDC, Prof. Laurie Blank of Emory University and Dr. Robert Heinsch of Leiden University.

The program is generously sponsored for a three year exchange where each Clinic will be hosting the two others, every year. Every Clinic will focus on the particularities and advantages its location may offer the students participating in the program.

The first round of the exchange was hosted by IDC during the academic year 2015-2016 in November 2015 and included an intense studying week where 39 students from the three clinics met with top-notch practitioners and academics, representatives from MFA, MOJ, IDF, Civil Society (Yesh Din, Gisha) and independent attorneys, to discuss most current issues of International Humanitarian Law within the Israeli context.

Themes addressed during this week included, to name a few, the role of international law and law in the peace negotiations (Tal Becker, MFA), the principles of necessity and humanity in armed conflict (Yishai Beer, IDC), Challenges of warfare in densely populated

areas (Ben Wallhaus, IDF), The Implementation of the Turkel Report (Tal Werner Kling, MOJ and Emily Schaefer Omer-Man, Michael Sfar Law Office), Investigations following 'Protective Edge' Operation (Eli Bar-On, former Deputy MAG, IDF), The Law in the Territories (Judge Sharon Rivlin, Military Court Shomron), The ICC and Israel/Palestine (Yael Vias Gvirsman, IDC), Rights in East Jerusalem (Ir Amim, Sami Ershid, HU), the Israeli 2014 Report to the HRC (Yuval Shany, HU), Narratives and Legal Documents in the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict (Daphna Shraga, TAU) and more.

Additional highlights of the 5 day program, which included three study days at IDC, a day in Jerusalem and a day in Neve Shalom, were an unforgettable meeting with Judge Gabriel Bach who shared his experiences on the Eichmann Trial, a visit to the Israeli Supreme Court where we met with Judge Daphna Barak-Erez, and a unique experience provided by the IDF Military Academy where students participated in a Workshop where they were in the shoes of Legal Advisors to Military Commanders in combat.

Next academic year 2016-2017, students will meet in Leiden and The Hague, for the 2nd exciting Round of the Program which will also include a joint project with the ICRC Geneva. For more information or for donations to the IDC Clinic's activities, please contact Clinic Director, Yael Vias Gvirsman at yaelgman@gmail.com .