March 22, 2018

The Humanitarian Crisis in Myanmar: Democracy Under Siege with Chris Jochnick & Roger Normand

Time: 12:00pm - 1:15pm
Location: Silverman 245A

Despite protracted conflict, clashes in Rakhine, Myanmar, which broke out in August 2017, killing more than five hundred people, destroying hundreds of Rohingya villages and forcing more than 500 thousand, approximately half of the estimated Rohingya population in the country, to flee to Bangladesh. In what is now considered one of the greatest humanitarian disasters of our time, this crisis is unfolding during the watch of Nobelist Aung San Suu Kyi.

Normand and Jochnick will speak of their personal histories, share narratives as co-founders of the Center for Economic and Social Rights and how they broke into this field, as well as the emerging field of Business and Human Rights.

Chris Jochnick is a global human rights expert and social entrepreneur with decades of experience in international development. Chris joined Landesa as CEO in August 2015 after leading Oxfam America’s work on business and development including shareholder engagement, value chain assessments, and collaborative advocacy initiatives, such as the successful “Behind the Brands” campaign. Jochnick is a graduate of Harvard Law School and has taught business and human rights at Harvard Law School.

Roger Normand has over 20 years of experience as a human rights advocate and scholar. He, Jochnick and Sarah Zaidi cofounded the Center for Economic and Social Rights, which focused on health, housing, education, and work as human rights. In 2003 he helped launch ESCR-Net, a web-based global network of CSOs, NGOs, activists and academics. Normand was Asia-Pacific director for the International Commission of Jurists from 2008-2011. Normand has taught law and justice at Columbia University and Lahore University, and has published widely on issues of rule of law, including a historical analysis of human rights. Human Rights at the UN: the Politics of Universal Justice. (2007). He is a graduate of Harvard Law school.

Q&A led by Allyson Reynolds, L’19 & Arhama Rushdi, L’18
Moderated by Rangita de Silva de Alwis, Associate Dean of International Affairs

Concluding Observations by Professor Sarah Paoletti and Robert Cusumano L’80, founder of the Penn Law Legal Horizons Fellowship

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