

Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns (ap-gc.net)

By Dr. Mahmoud Masaeli

International Seminar

Racism, Equality, and Love of the Community in the Time of Crisis

Any racist claim that some political and cultural systems are superior to those of others, or the racist idea that strong attachment to 'our' way of life which creates an emotional boundary between 'them' and 'us', are shocking not only for the victims of racist policies but also for all of those who are considered different due to their ethnic, religious, and gender specifications. In today's life, a new form of racism has emerged that causes deeper wound on the mind and spirit of people. Also known as the "reverse racism", new racism favors the discourse of "equal opportunities" for all in order to deny the historical background of the formation of racism. However, COVID-19 stimulated critical reflection on all patterns of exclusion, suppression, and annihilation of those who are marked as different. This seminar will discuss equality of difference against new racist misleading accounts of equality to fortify the communal ties and harmony in multicultural and multiethnic societies. The speakers will also highlight how COVID-19 could vitalize awareness of new racism.

- How and in what way, could COVID-19 condition stimulate critical reflections on racism?
- Given universal legal responses by the international community against racism, why do legal instruments still fail to offer an effective response to racism?
- What makes modern racism distinct from new racism, and why should this distinction be highlighted in the reconstruction of social life in the post-COVID-19 era?
- Would the responsibility to promote equality stop at the border of the legal protection of civil and political rights? Should not a politically determined will be formed to recognize the equality of difference?
- How would such recognition contribute to reviving a love for the community, especially in the condition of scattered social bonds and weakened solidarity?
- Can spiritual perspectives play a role in such recognition and efforts to revive a love for the community?

This topic and related questions will be discussed by our participants, who are experts in Ethics, spirituality, politics, social activism, and politics. This seminar format webinar will be held via a Zoom teleconference and will be broadcasted live. It will also be recorded for offline social media.

We encourage our speakers to submit a short paper of 1500-2500 words to be published on the website of APGC. The collected papers will also be published in a public e-book by APGC.

Date: Friday, July 31st, 2020

Time: 09h00 East Canada and the US, 15h00 Central Europe, 21h00 Macau

Registration and Participation: Free of charge

We appreciate your donation: <https://ap-gc.net> (PayPal)

The panelists

Dr. Cristina Aguiar is a professor, lawyer, and human rights activist who served as the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic at the United Nations and later as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. She was admitted as a member of the Hispanic Luso American Institute in 2010. She has several publications on Comparative and Constitutional Law, in Spanish. She has been recognized with many awards and plaques during her tenure in New York and in the Dominican Republic. In 2019, she was awarded the Human Rights Medal.



Dr. Rostam Neuwirth is Professor of Law at the Faculty of Law of University of Macau. He has published more than 70 academic items on a great variety of legal issues and related fields with a particular focus on the culture and trade debate as well as other “trade and ... problems”. Most recently he is the co-editor of the book entitled “*The BRICS-Lawyers’ Guide to Global Cooperation*” (CUP, 2017) and author of a forthcoming book called “*Law in the Time of Oxymora: A Synesthesia of Language, Logic and Law*”.

Dr. Aderemi Oladele specialises in international development policy, governance, public sector management, Africa’s geopolitics and multilateral diplomacy. He is a Senior Research Officer at the Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to UNESCO in Paris. His research interests are in sustainable development; Africa’s geopolitics and political economy; results culture in international development management; and the linkages between internationally development policy and regional and national development. Aderemi is the Founder and Lead Analyst at 3psmars International, a non-profit think tank focused on capacity-building and knowledge management for development effectiveness, with special focus on Africa.



Dr. Wu Huiyong obtained his PhD in Comparative literature from Beijing Language and Culture University in 2010. Currently, he is at the School of Foreign Languages at Hubei University of Arts and Science, China, where he is an Associate Professor and a former deputy dean. His research interests are in comparative literature and culture studies. His works centers on the culture communication between China and the Western world.

Dr. Mahmoud Masaeli is a Canadian Iranian political philosopher, ethicist, spiritualist, poet, and a global think tank leader. His area of research interest includes Global Ethics, Human Rights, Global Justice, Hermeneutics of Selfhood, and Human Development. He also holds a special interest in universal spirituality. Mahmoud is the Founder and Executive Director of Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns (ap-gc.net). Mahmoud has published extensively in global ethics, global development, spirituality, and ethics of globality. He is a visiting professor at Ottawa University.



Zoom information

Topic: Racism, Equality, and Love of the Community in the Time of Crisis

Time: Jul 31, 2020 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86151795725?pwd=ZiswMWZVdldlRnhpM2pEV0doUWJPdz09>

Meeting ID: 861 5179 5725

Passcode: 218384