#### LAW 810: EMERGING ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW: CRIMES, RIGHTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Prof. Corri Zoli, Ph.D. Director of Research/Assistant Research Professor Institute for National Security & Counterterrorism College of Law/Maxwell School of Public Affairs Syracuse University



**INTRODUCTION: Geopolitical Trends Understanding the Current IL/IHRL Landscape** 

### **Three Tasks:**

- 1) Syllabus discussion & approach to the course (Wed)
- 2) Key terms, definitions & core IHRL instruments (Mon)
- 3) Key global challenges—Good/Bad News...(Mon)

#### Jan 17, 2018: Week 1 Lecture

CHAPTER 1:

**Syllabus** 

## **Syllabus Discussion: Readings**





Louis Henkin & Sarah Cleveland et al., (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) Mark Weston Janis (7<sup>th</sup> ed.) IL/IHRL source documents **Scholarly essays** 

### **Syllabus Discussion: Course Components**

- Learning outcomes
- Assessment process & requirements
  - Participation
  - ✓ Due dates
  - ✓ Work plan
  - ✓ Extra-credit
- Course schedule
  - Readings/assignments
  - Journals/Precis

## **COURSE QUESTIONS & FOCUS:**

- 1. Inquiry: Why study International Law & IHRL today? Why focus on emergent challenges?
- 2. What **role** can **law (& rule of law) and policy** play in good governance, defending & protecting human rights, strengthening good governance (rule of law) and in providing solutions to conflict, problems of human suffering & oppression?
- 3. Interdisciplinary approach of the course.

## **OUR APPROACH:**

- Reasoning/legal methods + (case facts; Sources of IL; proof; evidence). I expect you to read & understand the law (treaties, jurist opinions, statutes) & to distinguish law & policy.
- Nonbiased & Multiperspectival analysis: bias by definition is prioritizing one perspective...
- Exemplars/Professionals exhibit leadership in making hard decisions that showcase knowledge/expertise & creativity in law & its possibilities
- Frontier challenges in IL/IHRL: We can learn from relevant challenges of the past, for the future...We're not the first to struggle, to make new solutions to 'wicked' problems.
  I reward hard work.

### **BIAS & MULTIPERSPECTIVISM**

- Most destinations (firms, government, NGOs, private sector, think tanks) do not reward bias—in fact, we have rules (formal, informal) curtailing ideological-political bias as a problem of professionalism, credibility & ethics.
- 2. Many domains in our culture are demonstrating the perils of bias today—for individuals as professionals, for institutions.
- 3. If you embrace bias (policy, ideology, politics) it is very hard to embrace multiperspectives, to truly empathize, understand where others are coming from, to fairly represent an opposing/contrary/different point of view, required in the best arguments & rebuttals.

### **Bias: some timely examples**

 USG Government: DOJ-FBI Special Council Investigation of Russian interference in 2016 Presidential elections: Peter Strzok; Andrew McCabe; Lisa Page; Ohr; John Carlin; James Baker; Bill Priestap

#### TRUMP RUSSIA SCANDAL

#### DOJ fuels doubts about integrity of Mueller probe

While senior Justice Department officials have defended the integrity of the special counsel, the agency has released information that bolsters his opponents.

By DARREN SAMUELSOHN | 12/14/2017 05:02 AM EST

#### An FBI agent's anti-Trump text messages pose a growing threat to the Mueller investigation

Former Russia probe investigator Peter Strzok's texts have been released and they're stirring up controversy.

By Zeeshan Aleem | @ZeeshanAleem | zeeshan.aleem@vox.com | Dec 13, 2017, 5:10pm EST

🛫 TWEET 🕴 🕇 SHAR







GOP rep: FBI, DOJ will be subpoenaed over Clinton, Trump investigations

#### House Republicans quietly investigate perceived corruption at DOJ, FBI

**Trump** out of frustration over the Justice Department's refusal to explain how it used a disputed dossier. By **KYLE CHENEY** and **JOHN BRESNAHAN** | 12/20/2017 06:34 PM EST

BY JONATHAN EASLEY - 12/19/17 01:54 PM EST

### Bias: House, Senate Investigating DOJ/LE

EFF SESSIONS, ALABAMA INDSEY O. GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA CHARLES E. SCHUMER, NEW YORK OHN CORNYN, TEXAS MICHAEL S. LEE, UTAH TED CRUZ, TEXAS JEFF FLAKE, ARIZONA DAVID VITTER, LOUISIANA DAVID A. PERDUE, GEORGIA HOM TILLIS, NORTH CAROLINA

DIANNE FEINSTEIN, CALIFORN RICHARD J. DURBIN, ILLINOIS SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, RHODE ISLAND AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA AL FRANKEN, MINNESOTA CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, DELAWARE RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT

United States Senate COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KOLAN L. DAVIS, Chief Counsel and Staff Director KRISTINE J. LUCIUS, Democratic Chief Counsel and Staff Director

November 2, 2016

#### VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz Inspector General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Inspector General Horowitz:

The public's lack of confidence in the Justice Department's ability to handle investigations related to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton impartially ought to be grave concern for its leadership. The entire matter is in desperate need of independent, c non-partisan oversight. As the Inspector General, that is your statutory duty.

The Department has utterly failed to manage the significant appearances of conflicts of nterest. The leadership of the Department has stuck their heads in the sand, assuming that their reputations and silence would be enough to insulate them. The American people are all too aware of the troubling meeting between Attorney General Lynch and former President Bill Clinton on the tarmac of a Phoenix airport and the Justice Department's acceptance of the FBI's recommendation not to prosecute a little over a week later.

However, the potential conflicts are much deeper and broader than that one meeting.<sup>1</sup>

inner circle.2

It is vital that the American people have confidence in the ability of the Department to be impartial with regard to criminal inquiries related to senior officials and candidates for high office. Yet, the Justice Department has failed to appoint a special counsel to ensure that these inquiries are insulated from the appearance that decisions are being made based on political considerations rather than on the merits.

Attorney General Lynch has professional associations with the Clintons that created the appearance of a conflict long before her meeting on an airplane with the former President. President Clinton appointed her to be the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York. She was a partner at a law firm that represented both President and Secretary Clinton. In addition, reports around the time of Attorney General Lynch's meeting with President Clinton indicate that Secretary Clinton was considering keeping her on as Attorney General.<sup>3</sup> Executive Order 12674 demands that "[e]mployees shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standard promulgating pursuant to this order."4

As the senior official in the Office of Legislative Affairs, Mr. Kadzik is being allowed to participate in decisions about what information on these matters will be disclosed to Congressional oversight committees. Reports have noted that Mr. Kadzik continues a very close relationship with John Podesta, the Chairman of Secretary Clinton's presidential campaign. For instance, news reports have noted:5

## 2. Bias: Global Social Media Companies

#### **Google/Facebook bias**

Commentary: If Google's workplace is biased, what about its algorithms?

#### 'The end of Trump': how Facebook deepens millennials' confirmation bias

Facebook users are more likely to get news that fits political beliefs - but younger voters don't necessarily realize how much the echo chamber affects them

Yesterday 4:35pm • Filed to: GOOGLE v





GOOGLE

Today's Mortgage

ect Loan Amount \$

Why Google's Half-Assed Fact-Checking Widget Was Destined to Piss Off Conservatives

Goolag



#### ECONOMY

The Antitrust Case Against Facebook, Google and Amazon

A few technology giants dominate their worlds just as Standard Oil and AT&T once did. Should they be broken up?

#### Americans' Trust in Mass Media Sinks to New Low

## **Bias: US News Media**

#### Harvard study: General election media coverage 'overwhelmingly negative' in tone

By KELSEY SUTTON | 12/07/2016 09:45 AM EST

The coverage of the 2016 general election was marked with overwhelming negativity, leading according to a new report from The Harvard Kennedy School Shorenstein Center, released Wednesday.

The study, which analyzed news reports on the main newscasts from the major cable and broadcast networks along with major daily newspapers like The New

York Times and The Wall Street Jour was the "corrosive effect" of mostly 1

"Negative news has partisan conseq wrote. "Given that journalists bash l would be neutral. It's not ... If everyt there's a leveling effect that opens tl helped citizens recognize the differe

#### **Publics Globally Want Unbiased News** Coverage, but Are Divided on Whether Their News Media Deliver

Deep political divides in many nations on satisfaction with nours modice are atest is in the U.S. Most Americans say social

#### media is making the news MONS, KATERINA EVA MATSA AND LAURA SILVER



#### **BERKMAN KLEIN CENTER**



Partisanship, Propaganda, and Disinformation: Online Media and the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election Published August 16, 2017

lal Roberts, Bruce Etling, Nikki Bourassa, Ethan Zuckerman, Yochai Benkle

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Poll: Americans don't think media is doing its job

#### AARON DICKENS

SHARE

happy with the impact of social media on the news.

A survey reveals that the majority of Americans polled aren't

worse

## **4.** Bias: The Academy

### Universities: social sciences, humanities & law

on U.S.

and Popublican loaning

#### University presidents: We've been blindsided

Leaders of top institutions acknowledge that perceptions of elitism have hurt their brand. By BENJAMIN WERMUND | 12/19/2017 05:11 AM EST



The Problem Research Solutions ~ Ab Home

() 26 December 2017

American universities have leaned left for a long time. That some people with a different political perspective in every eventually, someone will challenge claims that reflect ideol

But things began changing in the 1990s as the Greatest Ge Republicans) retired and were replaced by the Baby Boom shows, in the 15 years between 1995 and 2010 the academ ly on the left. (The 12% in the red line for 2014 is mos eering and other professional schools; the percent cc e departments is closer to 5%. For more data on the: ons, 2007; Inbar & Lammers, 2012; see latest study,

Universities could face fines over free speech curbs

> 🖸 📢  $\sim$





Indicators, 2016 · American Academy of Arts & Science



# IL AND IHRL DEFINITIONS IL Sources & IHRL Core Instruments

## **DEFINITION 1: PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW**

#### What is international law?

- Traditionally defined as the law between sovereign nation-states, especially within the context of the laws of war, peace and security, and protection of territories.
- Still paramount concerns for states, but classic definition has expanded to include more diverse subjects & broader scope of activities: international organizations (IGOs, NGOs), private entities, individuals
- Sources & instruments include: treaties, custom, general principles, judicial decisions, administrative law, soft law, global regulatory tools
- Primary forum for IL development are states, conferences among states, IGOs (UN), codification of customary law by way of international treaties The UN develops, creates and enforces international law in many levels.

## **DEFINITION 2: HUMAN RIGHTS:**

#### What are human rights? (UN High Commissioner of Human Rights)

- Inalienable/natural rights inherent to all human beings regardless of nationality, residence, sex, ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status.
- All humans equally entitled to human rights without discrimination by virtue of being human
- Expressed & guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles & other IL sources, which lay down obligations of Governments to act in certain ways or refrain from certain acts, in order to promote & protect human rights & fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.

## **DEFINITION: HUMAN RIGHTS 2:**

#### **5 Features/Traits:**

Oniversal: the principle of universality of human rights is the cornerstone of IHRL, 1<sup>st</sup> emphasized in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948, reiterated across human rights conventions, declarations, & resolutions. E.g. 1993 Vienna World Conference on Human Rights noted it the duty of States to promote & protect all human rights & fundamental freedoms, regardless of their political, economic & cultural systems. All nation states (193 by UN definition) have ratified at least one HR instrument.

Inalienable: Intrinsic & not to be stripped from human beings except under specific conditions & due process e.g. right to liberty restricted if found guilty of a crime

## **DEFINITION: HUMAN RIGHTS 3:**

- Interdependent & indivisible: whether civil-political rights, equality before the law, freedom of expression, or socio-economic & cultural rights (right to work, social security, education), or collective rights (selfdetermination), improvement in one (or restriction) facilitates advancement or decline in others
- Equal & non-discriminatory: cross-cutting principle present in all major treaties; prohibits discrimination on the basis of a list of non-exhaustive categories such as sex, race, ethnicity etc., The principle of nondiscrimination is complemented by principle of equality, as per Art. 1 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "All human beings are born free & equal in dignity & rights."
- Status assume duties on domestic & IL to respect, protect & fulfill their HR obligations.

## **CORE IL SOURCES & INSTRUMENTS**

- 1. (a) Treaties between States;
- 2. (b) Customary international law derived from the practice of States;
- 3. (c) General principles of law recognized by civilized nations; and, as subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law:
- 4. (d) Judicial decisions and the writings of "the most highly qualified publicists".

## **9 CORE IHRL INSTRUMENTS:**







The Core International Human Rights Treaties



UN Charter/ Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)	26 June 1945/10 Dec 1948
1. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)	21 Dec 1965
2. International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights (ICCPR)	16 Dec 1966
3. International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights (ICESCR)	16 Dec 1966
4. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	18 Dec 1979
5. Convention against Torture & Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)	10 Dec 1984
6. Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)	20 Nov. 1989
7. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers & Members of Their Families	18 Dec 1990
8. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	20 Dec 2006
9. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ICRPD)	13 Dec 2006



## **GLOBAL TRENDS**

IL, IHRL & EMPIRICS/DATA How is IL faring globally in the world right now? Do those conditions influence human rights? If so, how? Great aspirations, what about global empirical trends? (recall: Posner)

- 1. Global Conflict Dynamics (UN Charter/UDHR)
- 2. Violence, Terrorism, FTF & Irregular Conflict
- 3. Return to Nationalisms: Building Walls
- 4. Forced Migration & displacement
- 5. Climate Change
- 6. Declining Democracies, Freedoms, Failed States, Rule of Law
- 7. Rising religious & Sectarian Oppression & Persecution
- 8. Global Economic slowdown: Trade, BRICS?









#### 1. What do these have to do with IHRL?

- EXAMPLE: UDHR ART. 3. "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."
- EXAMPLE: UN CHARTER ART. 1. The Purposes of the United Nations are: "To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace..."

# Violence, Terrorism, FTF & Irregular Conflict Resulting Security Challenges? **Implications for IHRL?** Indicators: Radicalization; **Democratic Retreat: Low-Tech Terrorism**





#### Our world today: radicalization effects us all...

Terrorist Attacks, 2015 Concentration and Intensity

High

Intensity value is a combination of incident fatalities and injuries Low

Source: Global Terrorism Database

### Hot Spots by State/Region...

#### Countries with Most Attacks, 2014

Country	# Attacks	# Fatalities
Iraq	3925	13076 🚊
Pakistan	2146	2409
Afghanistan	1820	5411
Ukraine	889	1396
Somalia	862	1582
India	859	488
Yemen	760	1349 💈
Libya	729	690
Nigeria	713	7774
Philippines	597	472



Ferrorist Incidents 1,777: 2000 4,784: 2010 14,806: 2015



Presence of Well-Organized Terrorist Groups:

Source: Institute for the Study of War, Global Security, Stratfor Global Intelligence, ICCT, BBC experts
### **ISIS Global Presence**

Countries where ISIS holds territory

Countries where local groups have pledged allegiance to ISIS

Countries from where large numbers of ISIS supporters have been arrested



Note: "Presence" is defined as ISIS holding territory; local groups having either pledged allegiance or actively cooperated with ISIS; or large numbers of ISIS supporters having been arrested. Sources: Heritage Foundation research and various media reports.

SR 180 🖀 heritage.org

#### **Countries from** which citizens or BELGIUM NETHERLANDS SWEDEN residents have 296 152 FINLAND NORWAY reportedly gone UNITED 20 to fight. KINGDOM 40 ESTONIA 488 DENMARK IRELAND 84 26 POLAND GERMANY 240 CANADA UKRAINE FRANCE 70 50 AUSTRIA 412 UNITED HUNGARY 60 KAZAKHSTAN STATES RUSSIA KYRGYZSTAN 130 BOSNIA 800 ROMANI 30SPAIN ITALY SERBIA UZBEKISTAN 60 CHINA 95 50 BULGARIA 00 GEORGIA ALBANIA TAJIK. AZERBAIJAN 148 TURKMEN RMENIA TURKEY MOROCCO 400 1.500 AFGHANISTAN TUNISIA 233,000 ALGERIA IRAN SYRIA 250LEBANON 890 PAKISTAN ISRAEL 20 IRAQ 330 247 LIBYA JORDAN KUWAIT 71 556 EGYPT 2.089 358 INDIA BAHRAIN 12 QATAR 15 U.A.E. 14 OMAN SAUDI ARABIA INDONESIA 2.500 60 SUDAN CHAD 96 AUSTRALIA YEMEN 250 110 ERITREA Note: Figures for fighters from Western Europe are from the International Center for the Study of Small numbers of fighters are also SOMALIA Radicalization's high estimate category. reported to have come from Bangladesh. All other numbers are from the Soufan 68 Chile, Ivory Coast, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Group, Per-country fighter estimates deter-New Zealand, Philippines, Senegal, Singapore mined from a date range of Dec. 2013 to Oct. and Trinidad and Tobago. These countries are 2014. not shown because they are off the map.

### Foreign Fighter Flows to the Levant (ICSR-Soufan 2014)

### From Europe to Syria and Iraq

#### Foreign fighters who embarked from European countries in 2014 and 2015

Based on data released December 2015 by intelligence consultancy, The Soufan Group



Unexpected Contributions: European highoutput states (Soufan 2015)

## **Global security threats & designations**



WORLD | ASIA

### Hard-Line Strain of Islam Gains Ground in Indonesia, World's Largest Muslim Country

Rally against Christian governor of Jakarta draws estimated 100,000 people



An aerial view of a protest Friday called by hard-line Muslim groups against Jakarta's incumbent governor, Basuki Tjahaja Purnama, an ethnic Chinese Christian running in the upcoming election. *PHOTO: REUTERS* 

By **BEN OTTO** and **ANITA RACHMAN** Nov. 4, 2016 4:29 a.m. ET 109 COMMENTS

JAKARTA, Indonesia—The biggest street protest in years shook this sprawling capital on Friday in a stark display of the more conservative, militant strain of Islam taking hold in the world's largest Muslim country.

Police said an estimated 100,000 people turned out for a rally called by hard-line Muslim groups against the capital's Christian governor, whom they accuse of having committed blasphemy. Breaking up with ye current finance and system can be hard. when it's time, it's t

Start now





Is life getting worse for women in

**Erdogan's Turkey?** 

() 4 March 2015 Europe

There have been mass street protests, and hundreds of thousands of w tweeted #sendeanlat - "tell your story" in Turkish - to share their experie abuse. Human rights groups say there has been a dramatic rise in viole women during the rule of the current president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Leader of the AKP, he was elected as prime minister in 2002 and last ye the country's first elected president. He has called violence against won bleeding wound of Turkey", and vowed to launch a new campaign again has also said that **women are not equal to men**.

So is life getting worse for women in Erdogan's Turkey? Four expert wit spoke to the BBC World Service's **The Inquiry**.

### DAILY NEWS LEADING ME WIS SOURCE FOR TURKEY AND THE REGIO

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Sub Categories: » HOMEPAGE / TURKEY/ CRIME

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#### 35 women killed in September in Turkey

ISTANBUL





A total of 35 women were killed in September and 44 others were subjected to sexual violence, according to a report released by the Kadın Cinayetlerini Durduracağız Platformu, a women's rights activist organization that keeps track of violence against women.

Violence against women and murders have been on the rise and a total of 15 children were abused in September, the report also said.

"Women continue to be killed by the people closest to them when they want to make decisions regarding their own lives," the report said, adding that 59 percent of the murders in September were carried out by women's husbands, boyfriends and relatives.



What do terrorism & political violence have to do with IHRL?

> Nationalism on the March? Globalism's Retrenchment? Indicators: Brexit, Walls, Global Trade, **Twilight of Cosmopolitan Political Elites**?



### Number of Separation Barriers Initiated Around the World, 1945-2014



# **Building Walls...**

U.S.-Mexico border fence, near Naco, Arizona

# 65 countries & counting...

Moroccan border with Western Sahara, s& wall, the 'Berm', surrounded by mines to stop Polisario Front fighters crossing: 2<sup>nd</sup> in length only to Great Wall of China

### Migrants Try to Cross, Morocco & North African Spanish Enclave of Melilla

© Laura T rraga





### Egypt-Gaza Strip, Rafah Crossing

### **EU: Spain-Morocco**



Turkey 'months' from finishing 900km Syria border wall

#### TURKEY'S BORDER SECURITY TO BE BOOSTED BY CONCRETE WALL

The Turkish Armed Forces are boosting security on the Turkish side by putting up concrete walls and, on the Syrian side with coalition air forces, through **Operation Euphrates Shield** SIRNAK SANLIURFA MARDIN ANTED Turkish Armed Forces units are erecting modular walls along the Turkish-Syrian SYRIA borderline between Suruc, Sanliurfa and Karkamis, Gaziantep The wall will be 3.60 meters high and include barbed wire







United Nations buffer zone, seen from the Greek Cypriot-controlled area of central Nicosia. Cyprus is split by the buffer zone east to west, with ethnic Greeks living in the south & Turks in the north

# Macedonia-Greece, 2015



# Iconic Berlin Wall being torn down—Start of Globalization? (1961-1989): Is Globalization Over?

# **Always Bad?**

Ukrainian border guards patrol the Senkivka border post: 125 miles north of capital Kiev to sea Ukraine's porous 1,200-mile frontier with Russia (announced March 2014 after Moscow seized Crimea peninsula from Kiev & supported separatists in country)

# IHRL and Economics/Global Trade Cosmopolitan Political Elites?

CNBC HOME U.S. V NEWS MARKETS INVESTING TECH MAKE IT VIDE

WTO cuts 2016 world trade growth forecast to 1.7%

Tuesday, 27 Sep 2016 | 4:57 AM ET

C REUTERS



The World trade Organization cut its forecast for global trade growth this year by more than a third on Tuesday, reflecting a slowdown in China and falling levels of imports into the United States.

The new figure of 1.7 percent, down from the WTO's previous estimate of 2.8 percent in April, marked the first time in 15 years international commerce was seen lagging the growth of the world economy, the trade body said.

The figures should be a wake-up call for governments, WTO Director-General Roberto Azevedo said in the six-monthly trade outlook report.

"We need to make sure that this does not translate into misguided policies that could make the situation much worse, not only from the perspective of trade but also for job creation and economic growth and C 2015 International Monetary Fund

WP/15/6

IMF Working Paper

Strategy, Policy and Review Department

The Global Trade Slowdown: Cyclical or Structural?

Prepared by Cristina Constantinescu\*, Aaditya Mattoo^, Michele Ruta\*

Authorized for distribution by Martin Kaufman

January 2015

This Working Paper should not be reported as representing the views of the IMF. The views expressed in this Working Paper are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent those of the IMF or IMF policy. Working Papers describe research in progress by the author(s) and are published to elicit comments and to further debate.

#### Abstract

This paper focuses on the sluggish growth of world trade relative to income growth in recent years. The analysis uses an empirical strategy based on an error correction model to assess whether the global trade slowdown is structural or cyclical. An estimate of the relationship between trade and income in the past four decades reveals that the long-term trade elasticity rose sharply in the 1990s, but declined significantly in the 2000s even before the global financial crisis. These results suggest that trade is growing slowly not only because of slow growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), but also because of a structural change in the trade-GDP relationship in recent years. The available evidence suggests that the explanation may lie in the slowing pace of international vertical specialization rather than increasing protection or the changing composition of trade and GDP.

JEL Classification Numbers: F14, F40

Keywords: Global Trade Slowdown, Trade Elasticity

Author's E-Mail Address: iconstantinescu@imf.org, amattoo@worldbank.org, mruta@imf.org

\* International Monetary Fund; ^ World Bank.

### Global trade: three trends to watch in 2017

#### 5 January 2017 | Articles and blogs

It is shaping up to be an uncertain year for global trade, thanks to the continued trade slowdown, possible changes in US policy, and the general rise in protectionism – or, at least, protectionist rhetoric, which won't translate into immediate restrictions but certainly won't help to remove existing ones.

### 1. Sluggish trade will continue, hitting poorer countries hardest

Global trade, which has been slowing since the 2008 financial crisis, will likely continue to slow down in 2017. Even though global income may rise, this won't translate into stronger import demand.

Why not? First, the integration of production into global value chains, which has boosted trade in inputs and intermediate goods by locating stages of production in different countries, has reached its maturity.

Second, commodity prices have declined in the past three years (having been on the rise until the financial crisis). This is reducing the value of trade and the import demand in the main exporters of commodities, notably developing countries. Although some exporters are reacting to the fall in prices by cutting production n, it is unlikely that the rise in prices will benefit all commodity exporters and in the same way as before.

# IHRL and the Global Refugee Crisis, Forced Migration & Globalization



Still from *Human Flow* (2017), Ai Weiwei

### Fig.1 Trend of global displacement & proportion displaced | 1996 - 2015 (end-year)



# 



### 33,972 people

a day forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution

**9,700** staff UNHCR employs 9,700 staff (figures from December 2015) **126** countries We work in 126 countries

We are funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions, with 86 per cent from governments and the European Union.



### Fig.4 Major source countries of refugees | 2014 - 2015 (end-year)



Number of refugees (millions)

#### Fig.3 Major refugee-hosting countries | 2014 - 2015 (end-year)



end-2015

start-2015

Number of refugees (millions)

Refugee figure for Syrians in Turkey is a Government estimate.

Includes 33,300 Iraqi refugees registered with UNHCR in Jordan. The Government estimates the number of Iraqis at 400,000 individuals at the end of March 2015. This includes refugees and other categories of Iraqis.

### Map 1 Populations of concern to UNHCR by category | end-2015



### **Multi-Source Data Trends: Religion**

- Christians & Muslims, world's largest groups, most widely harassed faiths: 102 & 99 states, respectively.
- Religious persecution & hostility (discrimination, violence) on the rise globally—with some st& out victims (minorities)
- Anti-Semitism increase: "there has been a marked increase in the number of countries where Jews were harassed," to 77, a peak. The problem is more social than government, & is evident in 34 of 45
  European nations.

### Government Restrictions Around the World

Level of government restrictions in each country as of December 2013



'Latest Trends in Religious Restrictions and Hostilities," February 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

### Social Hostilities Involving Religion, by Region

Median scores on the Social Hostilities Index



#### PEW RESEARCH CENTER

### Government Restrictions on Religion, by Region

Median scores on the Government Restrictions Index



Religion = "First Freedom" (i.e. First Amendment) enabling other civil liberties; hence, religious discrimination is gateway indicator of rising state/social oppression.