

**Centre for Social Justice and Change  
and  
MA in Refugee Studies  
School of Law and Social Sciences  
University of East London**

**are pleased to announce the symposium**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century London Outcasts  
Austerity and its Impact on Refugee Families Living  
in London**

**The symposium is organized in collaboration with:  
Centre for Education for Racial Equality in Scotland,  
University of Edinburgh  
Department of Sociology, University of Leicester**

**Wednesday, February 5, 2014  
2:30 – 5:15 pm  
University of East London  
Docklands Campus  
East Building, Ground Floor  
Room EB.G16 [Map](#)**

In light of the findings of recent research project '*Welfare Reforms and Their Impacts on Refugee Families Living in London*', this symposium will bring together academics, policy makers, practitioners and local activists to explore and debate the ways in which the current economic crisis and austerity measures are impacting on new refugee families in the United Kingdom. Recent changes to the welfare system have made welfare more inaccessible and exclusionary, leaving many refugee families without sufficient support to meet their basic living needs. Presenters will explore welfare reform's implications for refugee families and examine grassroots efforts to mitigate the effects of austerity on migrant groups. Participants will be invited to consider what role third sector organisations can play in responding to austerity and how these agencies can be supported in their work with refugees and their families.

14.00 Registration

14.30 Welcome and Opening Remarks  
Dr Maja Korac-Sanderson  
Co-Director Centre for Social Justice and Change  
Co-Leader MA in Refugee Studies

*Plenary talks*

Chair: Professor Hilary Sommerlad, University of Birmingham

14.45 *Report on Findings from the Welfare Reforms and Their Impacts on Refugee Families Living in London research project*

Ms Indira Kartalozzi, Director, Chrysalis Family Futures

15.15 *Austerity and Social Justice: A Critical Analysis*

Dr. Akwugo Emejulu, University of Edinburgh and Dr. Leah Bassel, University of Leicester

15.30 *Plenary Discussion*

Chair: Professor Hilary Sommerlad, University of Birmingham

16.00 Coffee Break

16.15 *Looking to the Future for Refugee Families: The Third Sector in Uncertain Times*

Facilitator: Professor Hilary Sommerlad, University of Birmingham

17.00 *Closing remarks*

Professor Hilary Sommerlad, University of Birmingham

Ms Indira Kartalozzi, Director, Chrysalis Family Futures

17:15 Close

Please note spaces are limited. To book a place and for further information contact: Julia Layzell ([j.layzell@uel.ac.uk](mailto:j.layzell@uel.ac.uk))

Speakers:

**Dr. Leah Bassel** is a New Blood Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Leicester. Her research interests include the political sociology of gender, migration, race and citizenship and intersectionality. She is the author of 'Refugee Women: Beyond Gender versus Culture' (2012) and her work has also been published in journals including Politics & Gender, Ethnicities, Government and Opposition, French Politics. She is an Assistant Editor of the journal of Citizenship Studies.

**Dr. Akwugo Emejulu** is a Lecturer at the Moray House School of Education, University of Edinburgh and a Co-Director of the Centre for Education for Racial Equality in Scotland. Her primary research interests are in two areas: investigating racial and gender inequalities in a comparative perspective and exploring the dynamics of social welfare political mobilisations in Europe and America. Her monograph, 'Community Development as Micropolitics: Comparing Theories, Policies and Politics in America and Britain' will be published by Policy Press in 2015.

**Ms Indira Kartalozzi** is Director of Chrysalis Family Futures, a social enterprise working in collaboration with charities and agencies to provide intensive support services to vulnerable

families and children. Indira has 15 years experience as a senior advice worker on welfare rights, housing and immigration for homeless families, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. In 2012-13 Indira did a MA in Refugee Studies at the School of Law and Social Sciences, University of East London. The 'Welfare Reforms and Their Impacts on Refugee Families Living in London' project was her MA Dissertation research, which she successfully completed in September 2013. Originally from Kosova, Indira arrived as a refugee in the UK in 1992.

**Dr. Hilary Sommerlad** is Professor of Law, Centre for Professional Legal Education and Research (CEPLER) at the University of Birmingham. She is Articles Editor of *Legal Ethics*, serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Law and Society* and the *International Journal of the Legal Profession*, and is a member of several international research groups. She practised as a legal aid lawyer, and this experience is reflected in her research interests; these include the cultural practices of the professional workplace, diversity in the legal profession, and legal aid and access to justice. She has published widely on these issues; her most recent papers on legal aid are (with Sanderson, P) 'Colonising Law for the poor: reconfiguring legal advice in the new regulatory state' in V. Bryson & P. Fisher (eds) *Redefining Social Justice: New Labour Rhetoric and Reality* (Manchester, Manchester University Press 2011), and 'Access to justice and the Big Society: rising need, individual responsabilization and the commercialisation of the voluntary sector' *Journal of Social Work and Family Law* (forthcoming).