



The Social Cost of National Security: Assessing the Impact of Counter-Terror Initiatives on Canadian Society

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Canadian Arab Institute and the International Human Rights Law Program at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law, are co-hosting a conference entitled *The Social Cost of National Security: Assessing the Impact of Counter-Terror Initiatives on Canadian Society*; to be held on October 19th, 2012, at the University of Toronto, Bennett Lecture Hall, Flavelle House, 78 Queens Park, Toronto, Ontario. A diverse audience of lawyers, legislators, government officials, academics, service providers, activists and organizers is targeted.

The Conference will consider the impact of counter-terrorism initiatives on all members of Canadian society:

The conference will feature panel discussions with journalists, practitioners and academics in the fields of law, social sciences, human rights and the humanities. ***The Keynote Speaker is Mr. Ben Emmerson Q.C., UN Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism.*** The Conference will seek to establish the policy context within which to assess 'social costs' by overviewing national security changes to criminal, privacy, administrative, immigration and refugee laws and policies, that have had an impact on Canadian society and access to justice. Panel discussions will examine how this impact has spread to affect health, education, employment, travel, public safety, public discourse, and media coverage of security issues and the Canadian Arab and Muslim communities. The Conference aims to draw lessons, and to make policy recommendations for governments, public agencies, service providers and various sectors of civil society.

The Conference organizers invite papers from academics and practitioners in the fields of law, journalism, health, mental health, social sciences and the humanities to address such themes including:

- Financial and Social Costs and/or Benefits of the Security Agenda – impact upon one or more of health, mental health, education, employment, travel, and social services sectors
- Privacy Rights, Information Sharing and National Security – accountability of national security agencies in 2012 and cross-border information sharing
- Human Rights– have Canada's human rights commissions responded adequately? Have security agencies implemented adequate safeguards for the protection of human rights?
- Islamophobia and Canadian society - assessing public discourse and media coverage of the debates over the Niqab, honour killings, 'home grown terrorism' and radicalization of youth, and corresponding impacts felt in schools and workplaces



Up to six (6) papers will be selected for presentation at the Conference. Up to twelve (12) papers will be published in conference proceedings, and may be presented as posters at the Conference. We request that all abstract submissions be sent to events@ccla.org by May 30th, 2012. Successful applicants will be notified by June 15, 2012. Papers must be fully drafted and ready for circulation to participants by September 14th, 2012. Questions regarding the conference may be directed to events@ccla.org

Please include the following details in your submission:

- Name, title and contact information (including email)
- Brief bio (no more than 200 words) explaining your interest and background in dealing with the research topic of your choice
- Proposed topic and sub-themes to be explored in your paper
- Potential relevance to policy recommendations
- Research methods informing the production of your paper, including sources of information