



International
Humanitarian
Law Project



“Meeting the new humanitarian challenges of the 21st century”

Sir John Holmes

**UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs
and Emergency Relief Coordinator**

Respondent: **Professor James Putzel**

Chair: **Dr Margot Salomon**

**Monday 28th April
6.30pm**

New Theatre, LSE, Houghton St, WC2A 2AE

Emergency relief efforts face multiple challenges in the next five years: preserving “humanitarian space” and staying independent of political/military action in places like Darfur, Iraq and Somalia; increasing effective coordination of the many humanitarian actors in the field; rising to the challenge of ever more natural disasters from the effects of climate change; and coping with the immediate consequences for the poorest of the recent structural shift upwards in food prices. How central a role can the UN play in addressing these challenges, and how can UN agencies, international and national NGOs and the Red Cross/Crescent movement work together most effectively?



Sir John Holmes is a career diplomat who was recently appointed as the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. Prior to joining the UN, Sir John was the British Ambassador to France, a post he held since October 2001. He was awarded a knighthood in 1999, primarily for his role in the Northern Ireland peace process and the Good Friday Agreement.

This event is free and open to all with no ticket required. For further information call 7955 6814 or 7849 4631.