

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Settings: Multiple Perspectives and New Responses

Workshop, 30 November & 1 December 2017: Call for Papers

Deadline for abstracts: Monday, 18 September 2017

The aim of the workshop is to discuss the 'state' of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in humanitarian settings and varied responses from policymakers, governance institutions, academics, civil society organisations, legal reform initiatives and the media. In particular, the workshop aims to understand the key issues around varied forms of sexual practices, exploitations and abuse in humanitarian settings such as peacekeeping operations and discuss what possible new responses can be designed through dialogue and debate. This workshop is concerned to provide a critical mapping of issues in regard to sex, sexuality, violence, abuse, exploitation, transactional, and commercial sex work and engages with a range of individuals (adolescents and older) representing women and men; LGBTQI individuals; conflict-related sexual violence survivors; former combatants, displaced persons; peacekeepers; humanitarian aid and development workers; private security contractors and diplomatic staff.

The workshop will bring together key scholars, policymakers, legal advisors, civil society, academics and media working across different geopolitical contexts in order to examine how SEA is understood and should be approached in the current global era. It seeks to bring together emerging work on the formation, contestation and critical transformation of humanitarian settings where forms of SEA have been identified.

Key questions for exploration include:

- What are the various definitions and understandings of SEA in humanitarian settings?
- What are the models of femininity and masculinity constructed, and/or contested in the context of SEA?
- What are the experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/ transsexual, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) populations of SEA in humanitarian settings?
- What are the experiences of victims and survivors of SEA in regard to redress?
- How does the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda address (or not address) issues related to SEA in the context of humanitarian settings?
- How do relationships between Security Council, donor, troop contributing and host nations relate to the treatment of SEA, and vice versa?
- How does SEA relate to war, humanitarian, postconflict and peacekeeping economies?
- Currently, what are the range of responses? Legal, policy, and academic?
- What are the most effective ways to address SEA in humanitarian settings?
- What are the responses to SEA in different geopolitical settings?

Papers are encouraged that consider one or more of these issues. Both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome.

Deadline: Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be sent by **18 September 2017** to Dr Punam Yadav at p.yadav4@lse.ac.uk with the email subject heading 'SEA: Multiple Perspectives and New Responses'.

Workshop: The workshop will be held on 30 November and 1 December 2017 in central London, hosted by the LSE Centre for Women, Peace and Security.

Outcome: Workshop participants may be asked to contribute to a special issue edited by Marsha Henry.