



November 09, 2018
Law-Health Interdisciplinary Focus Groups

First Forum of
Transforming Refugee Mental Health: Improving the Legal Treatment of Refugees and Asylum Seekers through Science



Join our focus group discussions to identify ways in which legal treatment of (re)traumatized refugees and asylum seekers could improve through greater interprofessional knowledge and collaboration between legal and health practitioners and researchers. The discussions will explore how legal knowledge could inform the way health professionals or researchers treat or study refugee and asylum seekers and, vice versa, how knowledge of science could inform lawyers and the legal system improve treatment, asylum adjudication and advocacy.

Friday, November 9th
 10:00-4:30 pm.
 Medical Education Bldg.
 Lecture Hall 1204
 4610 X Street, Sacramento

ABOUT THE HOSTS

Raquel E. Aldana, JD is Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Diversity at UC Davis and a Professor of Law at the School of Law. She joined UC Davis in 2017. Aldana is a graduate of Arizona State University (earning a bachelor's degree in English and another in Spanish) and Harvard Law School. She was a professor at the William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, before joining the McGeorge School of Law faculty in 2009. Her scholarship has focused on transitional justice, criminal justice reforms, and sustainable development in Latin America, as well as immigrant rights in the United States. She has taught immigration law and international human rights, lawyering for immigrants, "Crimmigration," criminal law and procedure, international labor law, Latin American comparative law, international public law, international human rights, statutes and regulations, and the Central American migration corridor. She founded and directed the McGeorge School of Law's Inter-American Program, which trains bilingual and bicultural lawyers for transnational careers or to work with the growing Latino population in the United States. She served as the school's associate dean for faculty scholarship, 2013-17. She is co-editing *From Extraction to Emancipation: Development Reimagined*, a forthcoming book from the American Bar Association. She serves on the Latin American and Caribbean Council of the ABA's Rule of Law Initiative, and was recently elected to the Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline. Aldana is a Fellow of the American Bar Association, previously served as the co-president of the Society of American Law Teachers, and was a Fulbright Scholar in Guatemala in 2006 and 2007.

Marius Koga, MD, MPH is Director of Refugee Health Research at UC Davis Department of Public Health Sciences in the School of Medicine. In the past twenty years Dr. Koga's work has centered on the mental health of traumatized war refugees and immigrants both abroad and in the US including transcultural psychiatry research and evaluations of newly arriving Afghans, Iraqis, Iranians, Syrians, Burmese, and Congolese at Sacramento County Refugee Health Clinic. Marius Koga has a first-hand experience of oppression, political imprisonment, and torture having lived in Ceausescu's communist dictatorship of Romania before he escaped to freedom in 1988 in neighboring Yugoslavia. A former Dean of International Medicine at Cambridge Overseas Medical Training Programme in UK, and an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Tulane School of Medicine, Dr. Koga's work spanned wide geographical areas from Kyrgyzstan to Russia, Iran, South Africa, Serbia, and Turkey focusing on cultural modulators of resilience in PTSD, idioms of distress, and post-resettlement consequences of migration on refugees and on host populations. Educated at University of Timisoara, Faculty of Medicine, Romania, and Tulane School of Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana, Dr. Koga is member of the World Psychiatric Association, the Athena Network, and a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health, London. An affiliated faculty member of UCD/UCB Migration and Health Research Center (MAHRC) Dr. Koga co-directs his *Ulysses Refugee Project* in partnership with University of Barcelona, Spain, and with California State University East Bay, Hayward.

Lunch provided by the
 Office of Global Affairs.

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Next Forum:
 Spring 2019