The Protection Project would like to welcome Dr. Vali Nasr as the new Dean of Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies. A distinguished scholar, foreign policy advisor, and political commentator, Dean Nasr lends practical experience and theoretical insight to the study of international relations.

On August 25-26, 2012, The Protection Project participated in a conference in Dushanbe, Tajikistan entitled “Comparative Law: Legal Foundations, Investment, Competition, and Commercial Law in Islam and Other Major Legal Systems.” This forum directly engaged legal experts from Tajikistan, the Middle East, and Europe in exploring the synergies among Islamic and Western legal frameworks with a focus on international human rights law and commercial law.

Chaired by Ambassador-at-Large Luis CdeBaca, Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the US Department of State, The Protection Project hosted an Embassy Luncheon on July 24, 2012 to present the findings of the US Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report 2012. The event, with over 250 participants, included the attendance of Ambassadors, embassy representatives, government officials, various NGOs, and members of the media. To download a copy of the TPP Review of the Trafficking in Persons Report 2012, please visit our website at www.protectionproject.org.

To encourage states to periodically monitor the status of trafficking in women, on July 20, 2012, The Protection Project hosted a side event in cooperation with the UN CEDAW Committee at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City and presented a publication titled “Reporting on the Status of Trafficking in Women in Accordance with Article 6 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women: Guidelines on the Interpretation of the Text of Article 6 of the Convention.” The ultimate purpose of this initiative is to create an effective mechanism ensuring government promises to combat trafficking in women materialize into action and that corresponding legal and administrative provisions are implemented. Please visit our website to download a copy of the Guidelines.

In cooperation with the Global Alliance for Justice Education, The Protection Project hosted a conference May 27-28, 2012 entitled, “Middle East Regional Colloquium on Clinical Legal Education: Developing Clinical Programs and Expanding Access to Justice.” Held in Amman, Jordan, esteemed academics and professionals from across the Middle East joined TPP to discuss expanding the capacity of clinical legal education in the region. Please visit our website for more information.

In cooperation with its partner organization, The International Center for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), The Protection Project convened the 6th Expert Panel on “A Model Law on Child Protection – Best Practices: Protecting Children from Neglect, Abuse, Maltreatment, and Exploitation” on April 2-3, 2012 in Alexandria, Virginia. The Panel brought together representatives from child protection agencies and civil society organizations, including universities, concerned with rendering services to and protecting children in the U.S. and Canada. The 5th draft of the Model Law was discussed and options of incorporating child protection into institutions of higher education were explored. For a copy of the 5th Draft of the Model Law, please visit our website.

On March 3-4, 2012, TPP traveled to Alexandria, Egypt to facilitate the visit of a delegation from the Islamic University Gazah to Alexandria University Faculty of Law. Students and staff of the Legal Aid Clinic of the Islamic University Gazah traveled to Alexandria to learn from the experience of Alexandria University Legal Clinic, the first legal clinic established in Egypt. TPP organized a workshop on “Clinical Legal Education and Curriculum Reform in Arab Universities” for members of the Palestinian delegation and students and staff of Alexandria University Legal Clinic.
Upcoming Conferences and Call for Papers

With a vested interest in promoting a globalized dialogue centered on issues pertinent to human rights, such as human trafficking, legal education, access to justice and enhancing the capacity of human rights protections, The Protection Project will host a number of conferences in the upcoming months:

September 9-10, 2012  
Beirut, Lebanon  
The conference will address a variety of issues which include, but are not limited to: the place of Islamic law in the legal family, Islamic law as a source of international principles of the law, reservations made by Muslim countries to international conventions, the merging of common law and civil law principles in the areas of contract law and secured transactions law, human rights and business law, human rights and contract law, international trade law and the rule of law, incorporating the human rights perspective in standard-setting in private international law, the effects of improvements in international trade law on human rights, model laws as effective means of harmonization of the law, and related topics.

The Protection Project's Seventh Annual Symposium on “Prosecution of Cases of Trafficking in Persons: Comparative Models and International Standards”  
November 6, 2012  
Washington, D.C.  
The symposium will investigate the procedural and substantive elements of prosecuting trafficking cases in the United States and abroad. Law professors, prosecutors, practicing lawyers, legal clinics providing aid to victims, and NGOs representing victims of trafficking are encouraged to submit a paper addressing different aspects of prosecuting trafficking cases.

The Protection Projects Regional Conference on “Reforming Legal Education in the Arab World”  
November 18-19  
Amman, Jordan  
The conference will host deans and professors of law and pedagogy experts to discuss legal education reform in addition to efforts and challenges within this endeavor, in leading Arab universities across the Arab world.

“Corporate Social Responsibility in the Arab World”  
December 5-6, 2012  
Beirut, Lebanon  
The conference will bring together business representatives, law professors, and representatives from NGOs and other elements of civil society to discuss a broad array of topics related to corporate social responsibility, specifically in the 22 countries members of the League of Arab States.

“Access to Justice”  
December 19-20, 2012  
Alexandria, Egypt  
The event will bring together professors of law, religion and social sciences and representatives from NGOs and other elements of civil society to discuss a broad array of topics related to access to justice.

Please visit our website for more information:  
http://www.protectionproject.org/get-involved/calls-for-papers/
Resources

New Publications

- The Protection Project Review of the US Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report 2012
- Understanding Trafficking in Persons in the MENA Region: Training Manual to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2012)

Recent Speeches and Commentaries

- Challenges in the Implementation of the Egyptian Law on Combating Human Trafficking No. 64, 2010, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, Cairo, Egypt, August 14, 2012

Partnerships

In an effort to promote international human rights advocacy and foster a sustainable approach to human rights education, the Protection Project encourages the establishment of partnerships with institutions of higher learning which share the same commitment to human rights.

- TPP paired with the Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies’ International Law and Organizations Program to offer its first International Human Rights Clinic. In the Spring 2012 semester, TPP and SAIS partnered with faculty and students from Salah El Din University in Iraq and Baghdad University in Iraq to develop a chapter on the rights of vulnerable populations and worked in cooperation with the legal clinic at United Arab Emirates University to draft a model law on the rights of the elderly. Findings were presented at the regional conference on May 27-28 in Amman, Jordan.


- Dr. Mohamed Mattar, Executive Director of The Protection Project met with Dean Hassan Okour of Qatar University Faculty of Law, also in August 2012. An MOU was signed to establish an academic exchange program and to advance clinical legal education at the University.
Fundraising:

The activities of The Protection Project are funded through both public and private grants. All funds support The Protection Project’s mission to promote human rights values throughout the world.

We deeply appreciate any and all contributions, and know that with your continued support, we can continue our work and strive to make an impact.

If interested in donating today, please visit:

http://www.protectionproject.org/get-involved/donate/

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