



American Society of International Law

Arthur C. Helton Fellowship 2025 Program Fellows



Fatima Ahmed is currently in her last semester of law school. Prior to law school, Fatima completed degrees in peace studies, education, disaster management, educational leadership, project management, and computer science. She has also explored careers in local and international community development, education and capacity development. Fatima has worked in many roles including as the Executive Director for the Inuvik Youth Centre, in Inuvik, NWT; an Organizational Development Advisor at the Botswana Network of AIDS Service Organizations, in Ghanzi, Botswana; a Women's Development Officer and an IT Training Officer for the Shefa Provincial Council, in Vanuatu, South Pacific; as a teacher at the Sautjuit School in Kangirsuk, QC and at a legal aid clinic in inner-city Saskatoon, SK. Fatima Ahmed is a fellow with Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor's Jill Knox Humor for Peace Fellowship Program. **Through this project**, Fatima hopes to continue building on the work that Justice for All has done towards getting the genocide of the Rohingya people recognized. Through this project, she will spend 3-4 days at the Kutupalong refugee camp in Cox's Bazaar collecting testimonies. Through the collection of the testimonies, she hopes to augment the work of Justice for All and Burma Task Force as they continue to remind the world and especially policy makers within North America that the genocide of the Rohingya Muslims is on-going as we speak. She will also accompany Justice for All Canada's delegation to visit the Kutupalong refugee camp in Cox's Bazaar in May 2025 where she will collect 10-20 testimonies from genocide survivors.



Khulud Alhamazani is a Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies at the Australian National University (ANU). Her research focuses on the intersection of border security and the lived experiences of Arab women crossing borders, exploring the complex dynamics of mobility, identity, and agency. Specifically, Khulud's work examines the gendered dimensions of border crossings, trafficking, and the impact of forced migration on Arab women's lives, as well as the ways in which they navigate and challenge border regimes. Through interdisciplinary approaches and qualitative methodologies, Khulud aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the human experiences shaping global migration patterns. Prior to joining ANU, Khulud was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Monash Gender,

Peace, and Security Centre and held an honorary fellowship at the Faculty of Law, University of Melbourne. **Khulud's project** investigates the lived experiences of Syrian women trafficked across borders into Turkey, focusing on their agency, resilience, and resistance to trafficking, alongside the legal and policy challenges they face. While much of the existing trafficking literature frames women as passive victims, this study aims to highlight how Syrian women actively negotiate, and sometimes subvert trafficking networks—occasionally even planning their own trafficking journeys. It also explores the ways in which Turkey's legal and policy frameworks either facilitate or hinder these women's access to protection, justice, and long-term security, with particular attention to international law and human rights protections.



Youssef Aziz is a third-year law student at NYU School of Law. Born and raised in Egypt, he emigrated to the U.S. after the Arab Spring, shaping his commitment to international law and its impact on the Third World. His work focuses on human rights and decolonial legal frameworks. He serves on the Bureau of the African Society of International Law, has assisted with ICJ matters at Foley Hoag LLP, and was a fellow at the International Law Commission. He also worked with the UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, contributing to reports on judicial integrity and upholding the rule of law. As part of the Constitutional Litigation clinic, he assisted with direct examinations and research for *Al Shimari v. CACI* to seek accountability for the torture of Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib. Thanks to the Helton Fellowship, Youssef will start his legal career in South Africa after graduation. **Youssef's project** examines Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation (SLAPP) suits in South Africa, a legal tactic that can impact public interest advocacy, particularly in environmental justice movements. In collaboration with the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS) at the University of the Witwatersrand, this research will explore the implications of SLAPP suits within international legal frameworks, including the ICCPR and ICESCR, while engaging with legal and civil society actors working on these issues. The project will examine how existing jurisprudence in South Africa may inform broader legal and policy responses regionally and globally. Youssef hopes to ground his work in an Africanist approach to international law, focusing on community empowerment and strengthening protections for public participation within advocacy efforts.



Foti Vito Foti Vito is a Judicial Law Clerk at the Court of Appeal for Ontario. He completed a Juris Doctor with Distinction at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and previously earned an Honours Bachelor of Arts with High Distinction from the University of Toronto (Trinity College), studying international relations and political science. During his studies, Foti received several academic and leadership awards, including the Ludwik & Estelle Jus Memorial Human Rights Prize, Nelson Mandela Award, and International Human Rights Program Fellowship. He also holds a Certificate from The Hague Academy of International Law. Throughout law school, Foti pursued his interests in international law, public law, and

advocacy through both professional and extracurricular activities. He served as a Senior Editor of the *University of Toronto Faculty of Law Review*, volunteered as a caseworker at Downtown Legal Services, and was a legal clinic student in the International Human Rights Program. He gained experience in international criminal law at the United Nations International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals in The Hague and in general litigation at McCarthy Tétrault LLP in Toronto. Foti also represented Canada at the international rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, where he won the Richard Baxter Award for the best applicant memorial. **With the support of the Helton Fellowship**, Foti will work with the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Pristina, Kosovo on international human rights reporting and legislative reform initiatives as part of their Human Rights and Rule of Law Program. His work will involve legal research, policy analysis, and engagement with key stakeholders to strengthen human rights protections, transitional justice, and inter-ethnic co-existence. This includes supporting civil society networks monitoring the human rights situation in Kosovo and assisting efforts to align domestic anti-discrimination laws with international human rights standards.