

Human Rights Day Conference The UN Human Rights Council: Commissions of Inquiry

1 DECEMBER 2011

*The House of Parliaments – Chemin du Pommier 5 – Grand-Saconnex
Bus 5, 28, 53 or F from Gare Cornavin to Grand-Saconnex-Place or Bus 3 from Bel-Air-Pont to Maison des Parlements*

To participate please RSVP to celine.glutz@graduateinstitute.ch until 28 November

2.00. p.m. Welcome / Coffee

2.30 p.m. Opening remarks

Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Professor, University of Geneva Law School,
President of Academic Platform Switzerland UN

Alexandre Fasel, Ambassador, Chief, Multilateral Division, Permanent Mission of
Switzerland to the UN, Geneva

2.45 p.m. **Fact-finding missions and Commissions of Inquiry: questions of authority, mandate,
standard of proof, witness protection, archives, reporting, budget and follow-up**

Moderation: Alexandre Fasel, Ambassador, Chief, Multilateral Division, Permanent
Mission of Switzerland to the UN, Geneva

***Presentation of the topic from an academic and institutional point of
view***

Mona Rishmawi, Chief, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-discrimination Branch, Office of
the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Steven Wilkinson, Researcher, author of the report "Standards of Proof in
International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Fact-Finding employed by
Commissions of Inquiry" /Jonathan Somer, Legal Advisor, Geneva Call

Michael Bothe, Professor, President of the International
Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission

4.00 p.m. Coffee break

4.30 p.m. **Round-table with members of Commissions of Inquiry**

Moderation: Andrew Clapham, Professor, Director Geneva Academy of International
humanitarian law and human rights

Reed Brody, Counsel and Spokesperson for Human Rights Watch in Brussels,
member of the UN Commission of Inquiry on the Democratic Republic of Congo, 1997

Philippe Kirsch, Former President of the International Criminal Court, Head of
Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Human Rights Council to investigate human
rights violations in Libya

Vitit Muntarbhorn, Professor, Head of Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Human
Rights Council on Côte d'Ivoire

5.50 p.m. **Concluding remarks**

Laura Dupuy Lasserre, Ambassador, President of the Human Rights Council,
Permanent Representative of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay to the UN, Geneva

6.00 p.m. Distribution of the Award 2011

6.10 p.m. Cocktail