CONFERENCE PROGRAMME – DRAFT

The Xinjiang Crisis: Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, Justice
The Boiler House, Newcastle University

WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

09:00-09:10 OPENING REMARKS:
Jo Smith Finley, Reader in Chinese Studies, Newcastle University
Prof. Peter Hopkins, Professor of Social Geography, Newcastle University

09:10-09:30 CONTEXT
Prof. James MILLWARD (Georgetown University):
History of the Crisis in the Uyghur Autonomous Region: Trends in Development and Assimilation

09:30-10:30 PANEL 1: Difficulties around Evidence Gathering

Vanessa FRANGVILLE (Universite libre de Bruxelles):
The Role of Testimonies in Documenting and Assessing the Uyghur Crisis

John SUDWORTH (BBC China Correspondent, TBC)
Obstructions to Gathering Evidence on the Ground in the Uyghur Region

Imogen ROGERSON COSTELLO (The Rights Practice):
‘Expose the judicial activities of the court to the sun’ (SPC President Zhou Qiang in 2016):
Limits to judicial transparency in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Chair: Prof. John HEATHERSHAW, University of Exeter

10:30-10:45 COFFEE BREAK

10:45-11:30 CLOSED SESSION 1: Issues Relating to Testimonial Evidence (Robert Boyle Lecture Theatre, G.42, Ground Floor, Armstrong Building)

11:30-13:00 PANEL 2 Evidencing Linguistic, Cultural and Religious Destruction

Nathan RUSER (Australian Strategic Policy Institute) and Prof. James LEIBOLD (La Trobe University):
Cultural Erasure & Re-writing: How China is Using State Cultural Protection to Erase Islamic and Indigenous Cultures from Xinjiang

Ablimit BAKI ELTERISH (University of Manchester):
Reshaping the linguistic and cultural landscape of Kashgar
Hanna BURDORF (Newcastle University):
*From ‘Bilingual Education’ to ‘National Language Education’ in Xinjiang: A ‘Creeping’ Linguicide*

Dilmurat MAH MUT (McGill University) and Jo SMITH FINLEY (Newcastle University):
*Corrective ‘Re-Education’ as (Cultural) Genocide in the Uyghur Region: Content Analysis of Children’s Textbook *Til-Ädäbiyat* (rev. 2018)*

Timothy A GROSE (Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology):
*‘Uyghurs are Uyghurs. They Aren’t Muslim, and We Must Make This Concept Clear:’ Secular Conversions in Xinjiang*

**Chair: Prof. Nick Megoran (Newcastle University, TBC)**

**13:00-14:00 LUNCH**

**14:00-15:15 PANEL 3: Evidencing Birth Prevention and Forced Labour**

Nathan RUSER (Australian Strategic Policy institute) and James LEIBOLD (La Trobe University) - presented by James Leibold
*Family De-planning: The Coercive Campaign to Drive Down Indigenous Birth-rates in Xinjiang*

Darren BYLER (Simon Fraser University):
*‘Smart’ Workhouses, Unfree Labor and Uyghur Futures in Northwest China*

Adrian ZENZ (European School of Culture and Theology; Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation):
*Coercive Labor and Forced Human Displacement in Xinjiang’s Cross-Regional Labor Transfer Program*

Nyrola ELIMÄ (Supply Chain Analyst, Helsingborg, Sweden):
*In Broad Daylight: Researching Supply Chains Affected by Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region*

Chair: Yonah DIAMOND (Counsel, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, virtual)

**15:15-16:45 PANEL 4: Evidencing Psychological (or Mental) Harm**

Sam TYNEN (Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences):
*Crimes Against Humanity: Mental and Psychological Harm and Survival*

Rahima MAH mut (World Uyghur Congress):
*Gendered Violence: Experiences of Uyghur and Kazakh Women*

Rian THUM (University of Manchester):
*Residential Schools, Orphanages, and the Forcible Transfer of Children in Xinjiang*
Emily UPSON (Newcastle University):
*Uyghur Proof-of-Life Videos and their Implications for International Concern*

Dilnur REYHAN (Universite libre de Bruxelles; European Uyghur Institute, Paris):
*Why is the designation of genocide important to Uyghurs? Horror viewed from the perspective of victims*

Chair: Nury TURKEL (Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute, Washington DC)

**16:45-17:00 COFFEE BREAK**

**17:00-18:00 PANEL 5: Is What’s Happening in Xinjiang ‘Genocide’?**

Magnus FISKESJÖ (Cornell University):
*Genocide and Cultural Genocide in China*

David TOBIN (University of Manchester):
*Anti-Colonial Genocide in Xinjiang*

Rune STEENBERG (Palacký University, Czech Republic):
*Mass Incarceration in Xinjiang in a Global Perspective: Metaphors, Propaganda and Context*

Chair: A. Dirk MOSES (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

**18:30 – 20:00 INTER-FAITH SOLIDARITY EVENT, Newcastle Central Mosque – with Rabbi Aaron Lipsey (Chair, Newcastle Council of Faiths), Jo Smith Finley, Hanna Burdorf and Nick Megoran (Newcastle University) and Rahima Mahmut (World Uyghur Congress)**

**20:30 CONFERENCE DINNER**
Ottoman Turkish Restaurant, 32 Clayton St West, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 5DZ
0191 340 2838, info@ottomanturkish.co.uk (Omar)
THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

09:00-10:15 PANEL 6: NGO Reports: Crimes Against Humanity (CAH) in Xinjiang

Maya WANG (Human Rights Watch)
‘Break Their Lineage, Break Their Roots’: China’s Crimes against Humanity Targeting Uyghurs and Other Turkic Muslims

Jonathan LOEB (Amnesty International)
‘Like We Were Enemies in a War’: China’s Mass Internment, Torture, and Persecution of Muslims in Xinjiang

Aina SHORMANBAYEVA (International Legal Initiative, ILI):
The Xinjiang Crisis through Victims’ Eyes

Chair: Prof. Eva PILS (King’s College London, TBC)

10:15-10:30 COFFEE BREAK

10:30-11:45 PANEL 7: Demonstrating State Intent to Genocide

Adrian ZENZ (European School of Culture and Theology; Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation):
Birth Prevention and Population Control in Xinjiang: An Analysis of Additional Evidence

Ondřej KLIMEŠ (Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences):
Does China’s ethnic governance in Xinjiang manifest an intent of genocide?

Elise ANDERSON (Uyghur Human Rights Project):
The Question of Intent in the Uyghur Genocide

SEAN R. ROBERTS (George Washington University):
Why is China doing what it is doing in its Uyghur region?

Chair: Prof. Azeem IBRAHIM (Newlines Institute for Strategy and Policy)

11:45-12:30 KEYNOTE SPEECH 1

Schona JOLLY QC (Chair of the Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales):
Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity and the Responsibility of States to Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, China: Can international law step in where diplomacy stands still?
12:30-14:00 LUNCH

[13:15-14:00 Simultaneous session: Campaigning Workshop, (Seminar Room 1.06, 1st Floor Armstrong Building)
With Mia Hasenson-Gross (Rene Cassin), Rahima Mahmut (World Uyghur Congress), and Dilnur Reyhan (IODE)
For students of Newcastle University Student Union, regional Momentum / trades unions activists; and students from elsewhere]

14:00–15:30 ROUNDTABLE 1: How Does Xinjiang Compare with Earlier Genocides?

Roger LU PHILLIPS (Syria Justice and Accountability Centre)
Political Persecution or Genocide: Lessons from the Khmer Rouge Tribunal

Hanno SCHEDLER and Jasna CAUSEVIC (Referent für Genozid-Prävention und Schutzverantwortung)
Denialists: Lessons from the Genocide in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Daniel FEIERSTEIN (Centro de Estudios sobre Genocidio, Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero) - Discussant

Penny GREEN (Queen Mary University of London) - Discussant

Mark LEVENE (University of Southampton) - Discussant

Chair: A. Dirk MOSES (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

15:30-15:45 COFFEE BREAK

15:45-16:45 ROUNDTABLE 2: Upholding UK and US responsibilities to protect in Xinjiang - What does this mean in policy terms?

Kate FERGUSON (Protection Approaches)

Sophie RICHARDSON (Human Rights Watch)

Mr Tom TUGENDHAT MP (Chair, UK Foreign Affairs Committee)

Nury TURKEL (Hudson Institute, Washington DC)
What now? Policy and Legal Options for the U.S. Government to Ending the Uyghur Genocide

Chair: Tatyana EATWELL (Barrister)
16:45-18:15 ROUNDTABLE 3: Assessing Avenues for UN Engagement on The Atrocities Against the Uyghurs

Baroness Helena KENNEDY QC (Patron: Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice)

Sarah M BROOKS (International Service for Human Rights)

Ewelina OCHAB (Coalition for Genocide Response)
Arsalan Suleman (Foley Hoag LLP)

Nicola MACBEAN (The Rights Practice): Human rights and development: are the UN SDGs helpful in challenging China’s treatment of the Uyghurs?

Chair: Michael POLAK (Barrister) (TBC)

18:30 COMMEMORATION EVENT for Turkic victims, Martin Luther King Statue
FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

09:00-10:15 ROUNDTABLE 4: Response(ibility) of International Institutions and Corporations

Siobhan ALLEN (Global Legal Action Network) and Eva PILS (Kings College London):
International legal strategies in respect of the situation in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR)

Laura MURPHY (Sheffield Hallam University):
State-Sponsored Forced Labour in The Uyghur Region and Current Failures of Corporate Social Responsibility / Due Diligence

Alicia HENNIG (TU Dresden, IHI Zittau):
The ‘Case for Ethics’ and Reflections from Business Ethics on the Situation in Xinjiang, China

Rachel HARRIS (SOAS, University of London):
Uyghur Heritage and the Charge of Cultural Genocide in Xinjiang: What Role Should UNESCO Play?

Chair: Prof. John PACKER, University of Ottawa (TBC)

10:15-10:30 COFFEE BREAK

10:30-11:45 PANEL 8: PRC Domestic Law, the Xinjiang Camps and Transnational Advocacy

Eva PILS (King’s College London):
Legal-political transnational advocacy against China’s crimes in Xinjiang

Donald CLARKE (George Washington University):
Legal Aspects of Xinjiang Detentions: Points of Argument regarding Chinese Domestic Law

TENG Biao (City University of New York):
The Concentration Camps and Genocide in the Chinese Political and Legal Context

‘Chinese For Uyghurs’ or similar representative (TBC)

Chair: Kate FERGUSON (Protection Approaches) (TBC)

11:45-13:00 ROUNDTABLE 5: Pursuing Reparations for Xinjiang Harms: International Legal Channels, and Individual vs. State Responsibility

Rodney DIXON QC (Temple Garden Chambers)
Advancing the Case at the ICC for the Uyghurs
John PACKER (University of Ottawa)
Missteps and Myths of Genocide: The International Law of State Responsibility

James GOLDSTON (Open Society Justice Initiative)
Marie MARTIN (Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network) (TBC)
Transnational Refugee Resettlement: Uyghur exiles and the principle of ‘safe’ countries of transit

Chair: Michael POLAK (Barrister)

13:00-14:30 LUNCH

[13:45-14:30 Simultaneous CLOSED SESSION: Possibilities around Universal Jurisdiction, (Robert Boyle Lecture Theatre, G.42, Ground Floor Armstrong Building)
James Goldston (OSJI), Roger Phillips (SJAC), Prof. Eva Pils, Memet Loqman (barrister@The Hague), Michael Polak (barrister), and other barristers TBC.]

14:30-16:00 ROUNDTABLE 6: States’ Responsibility To Protect Before Genocide

Luke DE PULFORD (Coalition for Genocide Response; Coordinator, IPAC):
Debating the Uyghur Crisis in the UK Parliament

Tatyana EATWELL (Barrister):
Preventing Genocide: Addressing Crimes Against Humanity and Gross Human Rights Violations through the Framework of the Genocide Convention and the Obligation to Prevent Genocide

UK MPs and/or peers (TBC)

Chair: Michael POLAK (Barrister)

16:00-16:15 COFFEE BREAK

16:15-17:15 KEYNOTE SPEECH 2

A. Dirk MOSES, Frank Porter Graham Distinguished Professor of Global Human Rights History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Senior Editor, Journal of Genocide Research
The Diplomacy of Genocide

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