



ELDH

European Association of Lawyers
for Democracy and World Human Rights



International Conference

Peoples in Motion: Self-Determination and Secession

**Saturday 5th June 2010, 9am-5pm
Hilton Hotel (Lisburn Suite), Belfast**

Organized by

**European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Rights (ELDH)
and the Transitional Justice Institute, University of Ulster, Belfast**

Supported by

Campaign against Criminalising Communities (CAMPACC)

This one day international conference, drawing together experts from Europe and beyond, will engage with the highly controversial issues surrounding the contemporary exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination.

Speakers will include:

- **Urko Aiertza Azurtza** (*Basque Country*)
- **Prof. Bill Bowring** (*London*)
- **Prof. Christine Bell** (*TJI, Ulster*)
- **Prof. Colm Campbell** (*TJI, Ulster*)
- **Dr Catriona Drew** (*SOAS, London*)
- **Dr Haluk Gerger** (*Turkey*)
- **Richard Harvey** (*London*)
- **Prof. Hassan Jouni** (*Lebanon*)
- **Prof. Hèctor Lopez Bofill** (*Catalonia*)
- **Dr Fabio Marcelli** (*ISGI, Italy*)
- **Prof. Fionnuala Ní Aoláin** (*TJI, Ulster*)
- **Dr Ephraim Nimni** (*QUB, Belfast*)
- **Prof. Norman Paech** (*Germany*)
- **Speaker from Western Sahara**

The right to self-determination was enshrined as a legal right in the two UN human rights Covenants of 1966. In its 2004 Advisory Opinion on the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, the International Court of Justice declared that self-determination is a right erga omnes, in respect of which every state has a clear obligation. But what does this mean for the Basques, Kurds, and Palestinians – and peoples entitled to self-determination world-wide? And what are the implications of the Good Friday Agreement which provides for the exercise of the right of self-determination by the people of the island of Ireland jointly, north and south?

In three plenary sessions and a round table session, the speakers will present an overview of the historical development of the right, and the present trends. All participants will have the maximum opportunity to seek to formulate politically and legally useful definitions of what the right to self-determination should include, and, crucially, how it should now be operationalised.

Attendance at the conference is free of charge

Please RSVP to: Elaine McCoubrey – e.mccoubrey@ulster.ac.uk

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