



## **The Right to Life: Twenty Years of Legal Developments since *McCann v. The United Kingdom***

Seminar organised in honour of the Deputy Registrar of  
the European Court of Human Rights  
Michael O'Boyle

**13 February 2015**

European Court of Human Rights  
Press Room

**9:00 - 9:40**      **Registration**

---

**9:45 – 10:15**      **Welcome and Introduction**

---

Jean-Paul Costa, President, International Institute of Human Rights, former President of the European Court of Human Rights

**10:15 – 12:00**      **Session I. Substantive aspects of the right to life: Principal developments since the McCann judgment**

---

Chair: Sir Nicolas Bratza, Chairman, International Advisory Panel on Ukraine; former President of the European Court of Human Rights

**Issues relating to the beginning and end of life under the Convention**

Baroness Hale of Richmond, Deputy President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

**Out of harm's way : the scope of positive obligations under Article 2 of the Convention**

Linos-Alexandre Sicilianos, Judge, European Court of Human Rights

**Planning and control of operations involving the use of lethal force**

Brice Dickson, Professor of Law, Queen's University Belfast

**Discussion**

**12:00 – 13:30**      **Lunch at the Court**

---

---

**13:30 – 15:00      Session 2. Procedural obligations and the right to life**

---

Chair: Sir Declan Morgan, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland

**What is an effective remedy for violations of the right to life? An overview of the national practices in the Council of Europe Member States**

Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe

**Grave violations of human rights: comparison of the law and practice of international tribunals**

Antônio Cançado Trindade, Judge, International Court of Justice

**Investigation into the use of lethal force: standards of independence and impartiality**

Egbert Myjer, Commissioner of the International Commission of Jurists; former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights

**Discussion**

---

**15:00 – 15:30      Coffee break**

---

---

**15:30 – 17:00      Session 3. Conflicting or complementary? Interplay between international humanitarian law (IHL) and human rights law**

---

Chair: Françoise Hampson, Barrister, Professor of Law, University of Essex

**Application of human rights law in situations of conflict**

Rick Lawson, Professor and Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Leiden

**When is an act of war lawful?**

Sir Daniel Bethlehem, KCMG QC

**New types of conflict: human rights and anti-terrorism measures**

Lady Justice Arden, Judge, Court of Appeal of England and Wales

**Discussion**

---

**17:00                      Closing remarks**

---

Erik Fribergh, Registrar, European Court of Human Rights;

Dean Spielmann, President of the European Court of Human Rights

---

**17:30 – 19:00      Reception – European Court of Human Rights**

---