

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### HOW CAN THE LAW HELP REDUCE GROUP-BASED INEQUALITIES?

WORKSHOP  
14-15 MAY 2009

The Centre for Research in Inequalities, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE) at the University of Oxford is organising a two day workshop on the theme of the law and group inequalities on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (the location will be confirmed in November 2009). We would like to invite interested researchers to submit paper abstracts of up to 500 words by 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008. Travel accommodation and subsistence at the workshop will be covered for successful applicants, who will be expected to submit completed papers by 15<sup>th</sup> April 2009.

CRISE has investigated group based inequalities and their relationship with violent conflicts. Over the past twelve months, the focus of our research has shifted to identifying the instruments and policies which reduce group based inequalities. We are convening a workshop to explore how the law and legal instruments can assist in playing such a role. By inviting scholars from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas, we are hoping to gather an array of perspectives and insights on legal policies and inequalities from a variety of contexts. The central theme is that of using the legal system to reduce group inequalities, paying particular attention to:

- Equal Status Law
- Human Rights (notably socio-economic and cultural rights)
- International law and instruments and finally
- Legal policies in the context of weak institutions.

Within this broad remit, we are expecting papers to explore key issues such as:

- The role of international and domestic law
- Monitoring, compliance and enforcement
- Tensions between group and individual rights
- Contradictions between international and domestic law

Proposals are welcome from any disciplines and from both theoretical and empirical perspectives. We will consider proposals from all regions and countries but favour a focus on the developing world. We are particularly interested in papers that examine how and in what context the law and legal instruments can have a positive impact on equity.

Further information about CRISE and workshop updates can be found at our website:  
<http://www.crise.ox.ac.uk>

Submissions should be e-mailed to the CRISE administrator Nicola Shepard, at [Nicola.shepard@geh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Nicola.shepard@geh.ox.ac.uk) and enquiries directed to Dr Corinne Caumartin at [corinne.caumartin@geh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:corinne.caumartin@geh.ox.ac.uk)