



Invitation

of The Duesseldorf Institute for Foreign and Security Policy (DIAS), the Friends of the Duesseldorf Faculty of Law and Heinrich-Heine University Group of Amnesty International

5. Uni Talk

Guantánamo detainees and the right to habeas corpus - where do we stand?

Pardiss Kebriai,

Center for Constitutional Rights, New York

Wednesday, 24 June 2009

12:30 PM

**Großer Vortragsraum der Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek in Düsseldorf
("Large Lecture Room" of the main library of the University of Duesseldorf)
Building 24.41 on the Campus der Heinrich-Heine-Universität)**

Introduction: **Prof. Andrew Hammel, LL.M. (Harvard)**
Junior Professor for American Law, Heinrich-Heine University

Admission free!

The Lecture

There are still more than 220 people imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay. Who are the men who remain, including the approximately 60 men who cannot return to their home countries for fear of persecution? What are the current conditions at Guantanamo and have they improved? What is the legal position of the Obama administration with respect to whom the government believes it can detain in the global "war on terror," and how is it different from his predecessor George W. Bush? When the United States and the world finally close the chapter on Guantanamo and the torture that occurred there and in other prisons, will there be accountability for what happened? These and other questions will be the subject of the lecture and the following discussion.

The Lecturer

Pardiss Kebriai is an attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) in New York, where she represents men detained at Guantanamo Bay. Her work on their behalf includes representing them in their habeas corpus petitions before U.S. federal courts and in their complaints to international bodies, advocating for their repatriation or resettlement vis-à-vis foreign governments, and meeting with them regularly at Guantanamo. She also represents the families of two prisoners who died at Guantanamo in 2006 in their case against former U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and other U.S. government officials. With her colleagues at CCR, she also helps to coordinate a network of hundreds of lawyers from around the United States who represent other Guantanamo detainees. In addition to Guantanamo, she has investigated U.S.-run prisons in Afghanistan, including Pulecharki prison near Kabul where former prisoners from Guantanamo and Bagram have been transferred. Prior to joining CCR, she was the legal advisor for international litigation at the Center for Reproductive Rights in New York for five years, and has taught courses on international human rights and women's rights at the City University of New York. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School.