LECTURE

ADDRESSING THE PARADOX OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: THE VICTIMS’ DIRECTIVE & THE COLLAPSE OF LABELS “VICTIM” AND “OFFENDER”

How well suited are EU legislative frameworks for delivering transformative approaches to criminal justice?

Join DR. THEO GAVRIELIDES, Founder & Director, the IARS International Institute, London, UK, to find out more.

This event is free and open to the public. Reception to follow. Please RSVP to euce@ualberta.ca

SYMPOSIUM

RECALIBRATING VICTIMHOOD: RESTORATIVE JUSTICE, VICTIMS’ RIGHTS AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE EU AND CANADA

GEORGE PAVLICH, Canada Research Chair in Social Theory, Culture and Law, Professor of Law and Sociology, U of A
RONNIE LIPPENS, Keele University, UK
GERRY JOHNSTONE, University of Hull, UK
AMANDA NELUND, MacEwan University, Edmonton
JOAO SALM, Governors State University (GSU), Illinois, US
IVO AERTSEN, KU Leuven Institute of Criminology, Belgium
THEO GAVRIELIDES, IARS International Institute, London, UK
SUSAN SHARPE, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, US
BRENDA MORRISON, Centre for Restorative Justice, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada

For agenda and to attend the symposium please RSVP to euce@ualberta.ca

This event has been co-funded with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this announcement are the sole responsibility of the organizers of the event and can not be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.
Recalibrating Victimhood: Restorative Justice, Victims’ Rights and Social Transformation in the EU and Canada

Senate Chamber, Old Arts Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2C9

**SYMPOSIUM AGENDA**

**DAY ONE**  
Monday, Feb 22

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<td>9:30-10:00</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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| 10:00-10:30 | Welcome, opening comments, and introductions by:  
**LORI THORLAKSON,** Director of EUCE, Associate Professor and 
Jean Monnet Chair, Department of Political Science, U of A  
**GEORGE PAVLICH,** Canada Research Chair in Social Theory, 
Culture and Law, Professor of Law and Sociology, U of A |
| 10:30-11:30 | **IVO AERTSEN,** KU Leuven Institute of Criminology, Belgium  
Shaping restorative justice through victim policies? A report from Europe. |
| 11:30-12:30 | **THEO GAVRIELIDES,** IARS International Institute, London, UK  
Restorative Justice in Europe: Lessons for Canada |
| 12:30-1:30  | Lunch                                                                   |
| 1:30-2:30   | **RONNIE LIPPENS,** Keele University, UK  
What Pollock and Rothko may have announced and  
Restorative Justice may have to deal with: sovereign victim culture. |
| 2:30-3:30   | **BRENDA MORRISON,** Centre for Restorative Justice, School of 
Criminology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada  
The space between us: justice, identity and belonging for victims of crime |
| 3:30-3:45   | Coffee Break                                                            |
| 3:45-4:30   | Discussions                                                              |
EUCE University of Alberta Symposium  
February 22-23, 2016

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| 5:00-6:30     | Public lecture by THEO GAVRIELIDES, Founder & Director, the IARS International Institute, London, UK  
**Addressing the Paradox of Restorative Justice: The Victims’ Directive & the collapse of labels “victim” and “offender”**  
Room 1-05, Business School, U of A |
| 7:30-9:30     | Speaker dinner at The Common (www.thecommon.ca)                     |

**DAY TWO**  
Tuesday, Feb 23

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<tr>
<td>8:30-9:00</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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| 9:00-10:00    | GERRY JOHNSTONE, University of Hull, UK  
**Building Bridges?** |
| 10:00-11:00   | SUSAN SHARPE, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, US  
**Recalibrating Ownership: Rights, Relations, and the Place of Victims’ Justice Needs** |
| 11:00-11:15   | Coffee Break                                                        |
| 11:15-12:15   | JOAO SALM and ADRIANE MARIE COELHO, Governors State University (GSU), Illinois, US  
**Revisiting the governing paradox: a critical discourse analysis of a declaration on restorative justice** |
| 12:15-1:00    | Lunch                                                                |
| 1:00-2:00     | AMANDA NELUND, MacEwan University, Edmonton  
**Alternative Identities in Community Justice Programs** |
| 2:00-3:45     | Roundtable Policy Discussion, summary and conclusions               |
| 3:45-4:30     | Planning discussions for publications (closed group)                |

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PUBLICATION

ADDRESSING THE PARADOX OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: THE VICTIMS’ DIRECTIVE & THE COLLAPSE OF LABELS “VICTIM” AND “OFFENDER”
Theo Gavrielides

Abstract

National laws do not exist in a vacuum. Independently of whether we subscribe to national law theory or legal positivism, we must accept that all laws are born and indeed contextualised within the given society that they are meant to regulate. This is also true for regional laws such as those passed by the European Commission. In November 2015, the Victims’ Directive came into force to strengthen the position of the victim in criminal proceedings while adding new rights and safeguards. This super-law was the outcome of decades of campaigning, political battles and lobbying by victims and feminis groups. Civil liberties and human rights NGOs also play a key role in bringing this law to what we have now come to call “European society”.

Within this regional law and European society, restorative justice is regulated so that it is provided safely, consistently and according to standards. Here, I identify a paradox (2015a). It is my view (and indeed of many others) that one of the key reasons that restorative justice resurfaced was to empower all those involved in harm to face what happened and collectively find a way forward (and even try to restore). Within this understanding of “parties in conflict”, the modern criminal justice labels of “victim” and “offender” collapse (Gavrielides, 2015b). Therefore, I must ask how reconcilable is the new super-law with the original intentions of restorative justice?

As the restorative justice movement leaves the era of innovation and enters the new reality of integration, I propose a new paradigm of co-existence with existing criminal justice priorities and philosophies (Gavrielides, 2015c).

