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### ***A day in the life of...*** Ivonne Garza, Legal Fellow at the Rapporteurship for the Rights of Migrants of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

*“Working with statelessness in the Americas is different from other parts of the world because our continent is mainly characterized by the integration of jus soli –acquisition of nationality by being born on a territory- in our legal frameworks. As such, the biggest challenges rely on policies and their execution, rather than in the reforms of legal frameworks to ensure nationality rights.”*

**Read the full interview in this month’s “A day in the life of...” at the bottom of this bulletin.**

### Update on Rohingya Crisis

As of 25 November 2017, [624,000 Rohingya refugees](#) had fled to Bangladesh to escape the ongoing atrocity crimes against them in Myanmar. 3,000 were registered since 22 November. The Bangladesh state Immigration Department has biometrically registered 663,694 persons. This figure includes refugees who have been in the country longer-term. The situation in Bangladesh continues to be described as a “critical humanitarian emergency”, with inadequate resources to provide the necessary protection and aid to refugees.

Throughout November, new research unearthed further evidence of the scale and severity of the crimes against humanity being inflicted against the Rohingya. The 1 November report “[I Thought I Would Die](#)” by the Burmese Rohingya Organisation UK provided physical evidence of atrocities against the Rohingya. On 12 November, the UN Special Representative to the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict announced that she would [raise sexual violence against the Rohingya](#) with the International Criminal Court. A rare television report from within Myanmar’s Rakhine State unearthed the [shocking conditions](#) faced by Rohingya stranded in the country. On 15 November, Fortify Rights and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum published a new report “[They tried to kill us all](#)” which documents mounting evidence of genocide against the Rohingya. On 20 November, the International Commission of Jurists issued a Briefing Note on [Human Rights Law in Rakhine State](#). On 21 November, Amnesty International published its findings of a two-year study – [Caged Without a Roof](#) – which looked into the crime of apartheid in Rakhine State. Meanwhile, Photographer Greg Constantine’s photo-essay “[The Rohingya Crisis in Black and White](#)” and ISI Co-Director Amal de Chickera’s article [Ten Reflections on the Rohingya Crisis](#) provide further insight into the situation and the civil society response.

Despite mounting evidence to the contrary, on 13 November, the Myanmar army released the findings of its [internal investigation](#), in which it absolved itself of any misconduct. Furthermore, Southeast Asian leaders at the 20<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Japan Summit on 13 November [failed to address the Rohingya crisis](#). On 23 November, Myanmar and Bangladesh announced the signing of a [deal](#) which would allow for the repatriation of Rohingya

refugees. This announcement was welcomed by the [European Union](#), but human rights groups and [UNHCR](#)— have raised serious concerns about the forcible return of the Rohingya. Six weeks prior to this Announcement, the Institute issued a [comment listing seven criteria](#) that must be met before Rohingya repatriation could be considered. There has been no positive movement on any of these criteria. Also in November, Human Rights Watch issued [Ten Principles for Protecting Refugees and IDPs](#), which also addresses the issue of return and *refoulement*.

[Pope Francis](#) who is visiting Myanmar from November 27-December 2, was advised by high profile figures— including Myanmar’s Cardinal Charles Maung Bo and former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan— not to use the term ‘Rohingya’ while in the country. He did not use the word in a [speech](#) on 28 November, but he did call for *"a peace based on respect for the dignity and rights of each member of society, respect for each ethnic group and its identity, ... none excluded."*

### Latest on statelessness in the UN Human Rights System

On 16 November, the **Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)** and the **Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** adopted two **Joint General Comments, which include useful language clarifying treaty norms relating to childhood statelessness**. The Comments follow many months of consultations and preparations. The first, [‘Joint General Comment No. 3 of the CMW and No. 22 of the CRC in the context of International Migration: General principles’](#) includes explicit references to statelessness as a basis of protection for children in such a context. The other, [‘Joint General Comment No. 4 of the CMW and No. 23 of the CRC in the context of International Migration: States parties’ obligations in particular with respect to countries of transit and destination’](#) goes into detail on the right to nationality. Importantly for the realization of the right to a nationality in a migration context, it calls for the repeal of nationality laws that discriminate with regard to the transmission or acquisition of nationality in relation to not only the child and/or their parents’ race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, but also migration status. It goes on to state that States should ensure that every child’s right to a nationality is respected, protected and fulfilled, by implementing all nationality laws in a non-discriminatory manner, including with regard to residence status and reaffirms that States should strengthen measures to grant nationality to children born in their territory in situations where they would otherwise be stateless.

The **28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)** was held from 6-17 November 2017. The following countries were under review by the Human Rights Council during this Session: **Argentina, Benin, Czechia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Japan, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Ukraine and Zambia**. Ahead of the Session, ISI and its partners made country submissions on the right to nationality and human rights of stateless persons in [Japan](#), [Switzerland](#) And [Ukraine](#). In addition, the Institute compiled and disseminated an [all country summary report](#) highlighting key issues and recommendations for all countries under review. At UPR28 a total of 39 recommendations related to the right to nationality, birth registration and statelessness were made, with 12 of the 14 countries under review receiving at least one recommendation. Click here to download [our analysis of recommendations relevant to nationality and statelessness](#) made during this UPR session.

During its **76<sup>th</sup> Session in September 2017, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** considered the implementation of the rights in the Convention on the Rights of the Child for six of its States Parties: the **Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, and Vanuatu**. The Concluding Observations relevant to CRC76 included a total of 4 recommendations relevant to nationality, birth registration and statelessness issues that were made to 3 different countries. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea received two of those recommendations, one relevant to children’s right to have their birth registered and acquire nationality when born abroad to mothers with DPRK citizenship, and another on acceding to the two UN Statelessness Conventions. That latter recommendation was also made to Tajikistan. Denmark was additionally recommended to provide nationality to all children born on the territory who would otherwise be stateless. Ecuador, the Republic of Moldova and Vanuatu did

not receive any relevant recommendations. The Committee did make recommendations on birth registration to the latter two countries, but those recommendations were not related to nationality or statelessness. For more information on statelessness and nationality issues brought up at CRC76 see our [full summary](#) and for more about the Committee's work on this issue see our toolkit and analytical database, available at [www.statelessnessandhumanrights.org](http://www.statelessnessandhumanrights.org).

## #ibelong Campaign Anniversary

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, the third anniversary of the #ibelong Campaign to end statelessness was commemorated at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. On that day [UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi](#) launched the report "[This is our home](#)": Stateless minorities and their search for citizenship. The report is based on consultations conducted in May and June 2017 with members of stateless, formerly stateless or at risk minority groups in Madagascar, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Kenya. These groups were selected as examples to highlight the issues faced by the world's stateless. The report warns that discrimination, exclusion and persecution are experienced by many of the world's stateless minorities, and calls for immediate action to secure a nationality for all. The report received widespread news coverage, including from [Reuters](#), [TodayOnline](#), and [AlJazeera](#). The different speakers at the reception at the Rijksmuseum were able to tell a varied story about statelessness, with the relationship between discrimination and statelessness a central theme throughout. The reception also included a spoken word performance by the US-based Sudanese slam poet, Emi Mahmoud and an address by museum director Taco Dibbits who related art to statelessness. Besides the celebrations in Amsterdam, the anniversary was also marked in a number of other places, such as in Kenya, where citizenship issues affecting minority groups were discussed at a panel event.


The momentum generated by the main UNHCR celebrations and photo exposition at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam was additionally used by Dutch organisation ASKV/Refugee Support, the European Network on Statelessness and the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion to organise an event focusing on statelessness in the specific Dutch context ahead of the evening celebrations. At this event, NGOs, lawyers, academics and other actors discussed mobilising to address statelessness in the Netherlands, with at its core the law proposal currently making its way through parliament relevant to establishing a statelessness determination procedure (SDP) and strengthening the right of option for Dutch nationality for stateless children born in the country. The draft bill as it stands would fall significantly short of international standards and guidelines, so this was another important opportunity to discuss how to mobilise to achieve a more satisfactory outcome in this law-making initiative.



## KENYA'S STATELESS MINORITIES THE SHONA & THE PEMBA



A PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION BY  
TOBIN JONES & ROGER ARNOLD  
VILLAGE MARKET ROOFTOP GALLERY  
NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A PANEL DISCUSSION:  
THIS IS OUR HOME: A CONVERSATION WITH KENYA'S STATELESS MINORITIES  
**#IBelong** TRIBE HOTEL - NOVEMBER 23 (5:30PM)   
RSVP [munaata@unhcr.org](mailto:munaata@unhcr.org)

## ISI Statelessness Summer Course 2018

ISI convenes an annual [Statelessness Summer Course](#) for practitioners from around the world, during the first week of August, at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. The **2018 edition of the Summer Course will be held from 30 July to 3 August 2018.**



The Course looks at statelessness globally, and draws participants from all regions of the world, which in the past this has proven to be an effective way of sharing good practices and experiences between everyone at the Course. This year, the Course will start by offering a reflection on the history and concepts of nationality and statelessness, before moving on to deal with a wide array of legal and policy issues associated with statelessness today. The Course addresses the status of stateless persons, their human rights and right to international protection.

In addition, the Course takes an in depth look at a number of specific questions relating to statelessness, such as children’s right to a nationality, the interaction between statelessness and forced migration, the place of statelessness in the Sustainable Development Goals, UNHCR’s statelessness mandate and #ibelong campaign, and the problem of arbitrary deprivation of nationality.

Here is what some of the 2017 Course participants had to say about the Course:

*“A really informative and interesting course for anyone working on statelessness at any level. Great facilitators, practical and useful for my work.”* – Nina Murray, European Network on Statelessness

*“The course has equipped me with relevant tools and resources to continue and strengthen my work on statelessness issues; as well as renew my commitment to advocate and contribute to finding solutions”* – Johanna Roldan, UNHCR Thailand

Interested in participating in our 2018 Summer Course? Please find more information on our website, [www.InstituteSI.org/Courses](http://www.InstituteSI.org/Courses). Applications are welcome until 15 March 2018.

## What’s new: Law and policy

**Change promised in Bahamas on nationality rights of women:** The government of The Bahamas intends to amend the Immigration Act to ensure that all children born outside of the country to Bahamian women—irrespective of marital status—automatically receive Bahamian nationality. Developments with regard to migrants with an irregular status in the country are however worrying, with reported stop, search and raids conducted in pursuit of people perceived as irregular migrant following the Prime Minister’s announcement on October 11 that irregular migrants will have until December 31 2017 to regularise their status or face aggressive pursuit and deportation. Several leading international human rights organisations have issued a [statement](#) against the immigration ultimatum, calling for immediate halt to deportations and he development of a written immigration policy that respects human rights and international norms.

**MENA Civil Society Calls for Gender-Equal Nationality Rights:** The Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights and civil society organizations from the Middle East-North Africa and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region, have welcomed the Declaration of the First Conference for Arab States on Good Practices and Regional Opportunities to Strengthen Women’s Nationality Rights.

**British aid workers in Syria stripped of nationality:** At least three British aid workers have been stranded in Syria after being deemed to 'present a risk to national security of United Kingdom' by the home secretary. All three aid workers say they are not engaging in the conflict in Syria but providing humanitarian aid. At the moment, legal appeals are being mounted in order to restore their British nationality.

**164th Extraordinary Period of Sessions of the IACHR at the public hearing “Legal and Judicial Process for the Recognition of Refugees, Stateless Persons, and Beneficiaries of Complementary Protections in the Americas”:** At the hearing, Red ANA presented the relevant developments in the Americas regarding the

adoption of procedures for the determination and identification of the stateless population. The obstacles that still exist to achieve the implementation of such procedures were also highlighted.

**[400 former Chinese nationals now stateless in Argentina](#)**: Approximately 400 former Chinese nationals living in Argentina are now reportedly stateless as a result of a fraud case. They were offered the possibility of fast-tracking their naturalisation processes to become Argentinian, and renounced their Chinese nationality in the process. However, it has become apparent that the court clerk faked signatures of court officials to hasten the naturalisation. This resulted in the revocation of their Argentinian nationality, rendering them stateless as they had renounced their Chinese nationality.

**[UAE lowers age requirement to acquire nationality for children born to Emirati mothers and non-Emirati fathers from 18 to 6](#)**: Shaikh Khalifa of the United Arab Emirates issued a decree on the amendment of some provision of the Law on Nationality and Passports, according to which Emirati citizenship may be granted to the children of an Emirati women married to non-Emiratis after a minimum of six years following birth, instead of the previous requirement that allowed application for citizenship after reaching the age of 18. The amendments also allow citizenship to be granted to the daughters of Emirati women married to foreigners who are themselves also married to non-Emiratis.

**[Activists call to end suffering of statelessness after South Sudan independence](#)**: Sudanese activists have launched a campaign to end the situation of persons denied Sudanese nationality after the independence of South Sudan, especially of those born to Sudanese mothers. Following South Sudan's 2011 independence, Sudanese authorities withdrew the nationality of South Sudanese children born in Sudan, and those born to Sudanese Mothers and South Sudanese fathers. According to the article there currently are 300 court cases pending against the Sudanese government on deprivation of nationality.

**[Statelessness in Malaysia](#)**: An [opposition lawmaker](#) has insisted that the number of undocumented Indians ranges into hundreds of thousands, after the government [claimed](#) that it received only 2,500 applications for nationality from the community. A government official claimed that only a fraction of the 300,000 alleged cases of undocumented ethnic Indians were resolved. [Prime Minister](#) Datuk Seri Najib Razak has described the allegations as false.

**[ENS collaboration with UK faith groups calling on UK government to support the stateless](#)**: The European Network on Statelessness (ENS) during the UK's Interfaith Week (12-19 November 2017) worked with faith groups to produce a [faith leaders' joint statement on statelessness and #LockedInLimbo](#). Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim representatives have supported the statement, [a full list of which can be found here](#). The statement is calling for action by the UK Government to review its policies towards stateless people as many end up in prolonged and pointless detention while the Home Office tries to remove them from the UK. It received widespread coverage and you can read more about the initiative [here](#).

## What's new: Publications, tools, and resources

**[Report on arbitrary deprivation of nationality](#)**: This document by Amnesty International is a collection of summarised contributions presented during a seminar titled "The International Human Rights Challenge of Arbitrary Revocation of Citizenship", held in London on 31 October 2016. The ground-breaking seminar was the first time that the arbitrary deprivation of citizenship was examined in a comparative manner, with case studies from across the globe, including the Dominican Republic, and through the analysis of international standards.

**[UNHCR Good Practices Paper - Action 7: Ensuring birth registration for the prevention of statelessness](#)**: UNHCR's Good Practices Papers each correspond to one of the 10 Actions proposed in UNHCR's Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014 – 2024. This paper considers the ensuring of birth registration for the prevention of statelessness.

[Bringing Rwandan Refugees 'Home': The Cessation Clause, Statelessness, and Forced Repatriation](#): Article by Lindsey Kingston, published by the International Journal of Refugee Law, which argues that human rights protection—including protecting the 'right to a nationality' and preventing statelessness—must be of central concern for the repatriation of refugees.

[The Right to Nationality and the Reduction of Statelessness – The Responses of the International Migration Law Framework](#): Article by Nafees Ahmad that was published by the Groningen Journal of International Law and which discusses the responses of the international migration law framework in terms of statelessness.

[The Practice of Immigration and Nationality Law: Setting Boundaries of Specialization at the Margins](#): Devyani Prabhat and Jessica Hambly wrote this piece considering specialisation within immigration and nationality law as having contradictory effects of consolidating professional values, as well as potentially leading to deprofessionalisation.

[5 reasons you should care about statelessness](#): This article lists 5 reasons why everyone should care about statelessness. It follows a [meeting in the European Parliament](#) where a cross-party group of parliamentarians called on EU member states and the European Commission to solve statelessness in the Western Balkans by providing birth certificates and nationality to Roma children and adults. At the event, the [#RomaBelong research](#), a joint project between ENS, the European Roma Rights Center and the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, was presented to parliamentarians, EU commission and other European stakeholders including government missions in Brussels. The event was hosted by Soraya Post MEP who also wrote this [EUObserver op-ed piece](#) covering some of the issues raised during the event.

## Announcements and events

[PhD scholarship at the Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness](#): The newly established Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness based at Melbourne University has issued a call for applications from suitably qualified scholars for a PhD scholarship under the supervision of Professor Michelle Foster. This scholarship is open to both domestic and international students. Research proposals should identify an innovative research question relevant to the themes of the Centre on Statelessness. **Deadline: Monday 19 February 2018.**

[Job vacancy at the Refugee Law Initiative](#): Refugee Law Initiative (RLI) is currently recruiting for a [Field/Legal Researcher](#) and a [Research Project Support Officer](#) to support their work on RECAP (Research capacity building and knowledge generation to support preparedness and response to humanitarian crises and epidemics project). **Application deadline is Wednesday 6 December 2017.**

[Human Rights Council 27th special session](#): On 28 November, the Human Rights Council announced the convening of a 27<sup>th</sup> special session on the human rights situation of the minority Rohingya Muslim population and other minorities in the Rakhine State of Myanmar, to be held on Tuesday 5 December 2017. For those organisations interested and eligible, **inscription on the list of speakers will open on Monday 4 December at 2pm Geneva time.**

[Debate roundtable: rights of stateless persons in the Americas](#): This roundtable, open to whom wants to attend, will provide an analysis of nationality laws in the Americas, international law and the rights of refugees and stateless persons, along with the standards of the Inter-American human rights system. The roundtable will take place on **4 December 2017**, from 14:00-16:00, at room 804 of the GSB building of the Organisation of American States in Washington DC.

[Webinar: Navigating the New \(Canadian\) Citizenship Act- What you need to know](#): The webinar, to be around 60 minutes, includes a presentation by Jennifer Stone followed by a Q&A session. The webinar takes place on **Wednesday, December 6, 2017**

[Call for papers, Austrian Journal of South-East Asian Studies \(ASEAS\) on Forced Migration in Southeast Asia](#): The Austrian Journal of South-East Asian Studies (ASEAS) has issued a call for papers for its upcoming edition, which will deal with forced migration in South East Asia. **Deadline for submission is 31 December 2017.**

**[Human Rights Community Youth Fellowship for applicants based in Czech Republic](#)**: The Youth Exchange together with the Human Rights Initiative are accepting applications for their Community Youth Fellowships. The Community Youth Fellowships offers up to three awards for applicants between 18-30 years old who are based in the Czech Republic and who want to implement their own project in the Czech Republic that address the intersection between the Roma and disability communities, and the various challenges and forms of discrimination faced by these communities. **Deadline for letters of intent is January 10, 2018.**

## A day in the life of...

### Ivonne Garza

#### Legal Fellow at the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

#### Can you give us a description of the type of work you do and what type of statelessness activities you and your organisation are involved in?

The Rapporteurship for Migrants of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has the mandate to monitor statelessness in the Americas. As such, our daily work varies around issuing press releases, undertaking research projects, drafting documents for reports and events that we participate on, lecturing classes, participating in the discussions of cases that go through the individual petition system and the precautionary measures system, holding meetings with other international organizations, civil society organizations and States, and planning and carrying out visits to countries to directly monitor the situation of human rights.



#### How did you get involved in working on statelessness?

I first learned about statelessness as a legal issue when I was studying my LL.M. at Georgetown Law. The Human Rights Institute at Georgetown had been working with statelessness in the Dominican Republic and I found it very interesting. At graduation, I got the offer to work with the Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA) and that was the moment when I officially decided to start working full time on statelessness issues. At Red ANA I had the opportunity to learn about how statelessness arises in the Americas, how people in our continent are affected by it and how States address it, from the way in which they design and execute laws to how they think on policies that will affect the lives of stateless persons. My experience working at Red ANA really confirmed my interest in the topic. I now continue to work with statelessness at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and I hope to continue doing so in the years to come.

#### What do you hope to accomplish through your work?

On a first moment I hope that through my work I can contribute to raise awareness of the existence of statelessness and the impact it has in people's lives. This is a very important thing to do in order to then be able to have an influence in how we shape legal frameworks and policies to facilitate access to nationality for all. I find that statelessness is an issue that is constantly remains unidentified and this is mainly due to the fact that people are not aware of it. For example, here in the United States the discussion about the Trump administration's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), has been mainly focused on the consequences it has for the children of irregular migrants that have lived here their whole lives. However, no publication has addressed the fact that DACA has also made it possible for stateless persons to have some documents to work and have a life here. Ending DACA also has an impact for the lives of stateless persons and this is not being talked about, neither the specific consequences it entails for this part of the population, like not being able to get medical services, get married, go to school, travel, among others. Ultimately, I hope that through my work I can contribute significantly to the goal of eradicating statelessness in the world.

#### What do you most enjoy about this work, and what do you find are the biggest challenges you face?

The part that I enjoy the most is when I get to do activities with people. Both when it involves stateless persons and activists, and mostly when it involves working with persons that have never heard about statelessness before. The surprise faces people make when they learn about statelessness and its impact are priceless. They do not believe something like this can even exist. I think creating these 'awe' moments are key when aiming at advancing on solutions for statelessness because that exact moment is when people get to a point where they cannot disagree that something must be done to address it. Those moments, I really, really enjoy being a part of. The biggest challenges when working on statelessness are the difficulties to bring materialized solutions for people in their daily lives. And this is very challenging because it does not mean only working to achieve nationality, but also education, social security, housing, among other very important rights. Usually when dealing with this topic, we tend to get into very complex discussions about States' sovereignty to decide on nationality and security, as well as other matters that usually have to do with the way in which we design laws and policies and how we finally adopt them. Throughout my time working on this topic I have realized that achieving solutions has more to do with the way in which we execute laws and policies, and that has to do with people. So I think that the more we will be able to work with people to raise awareness, the more effective our efforts, at any level, will be to achieve the ultimate goal of eradicating statelessness.

**Could you say something about how your work on statelessness is different in the Americas than it would be in other parts of the world?**

Working with statelessness in the Americas is different from other parts of the world because our continent is mainly characterized by the integration of *jus soli* –acquisition of nationality by being born on a territory- in our legal frameworks. As such, the biggest challenges rely on policies and their execution, rather than in the reforms of legal frameworks to ensure nationality rights. I do have to say that we still have a big goal ahead of us in ensuring nationality rights for all and the existence of statelessness determination mechanisms in the region. We have to keep on working to eliminate discrimination from nationality laws, whether it is related to gender, race or other conditions, like migration status. Furthermore, only 4 countries – Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico- in the Americas have statelessness determination procedures, and among them 3 of got these mechanisms in the last year. This means that a lot still has to be done. However, I am very optimistic that the region will achieve this goal as it continues to witness the implementation of effective programs like the *Chiriticos* project in the border of Costa Rica and Panama and the *Chile Reconoce* program in the northern part of Chile, policies that have successfully achieved birth registration, thus ensuring access to nationality for stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness.

**What advice would you give to someone who wants to get involved in / others working on statelessness?**

It is very important to increase the knowledge and advocacy on statelessness around the globe, and we need a lot of human resources to do so. I would advise people interested on statelessness to approach institutions that are addressing it, like the Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness (Red ANA) and its equivalents around the globe, and of course the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion. There is a lot of information that these organizations are constantly producing that can be accessed for free, and workshops and training courses that people can participate in to learn more. I would invite them to do so and to get in depth knowledge about nationality rights and their relevance. For people that want to work on the field, I would say that there are a lot of things to be done to address statelessness and the community of people working on this topic is not very big. I would invite professionals of any field, from lawyers to technicians, to economists, teachers, doctors and state agents, to start working on the issue, whether it is through international organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and governments, a lot can be done to improve nationality regulations and to improve the lives of stateless persons, which give meaning to our work.

Contribute to the Statelessness Monthly Bulletin via  
[news@InstituteSI.org](mailto:news@InstituteSI.org) or visit [www.InstituteSI.org](http://www.InstituteSI.org)