

Unlearning Intolerance Seminar Series

“Challenging Assumptions”

Organized by the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI)

Monday, 13 May 2013, 1.15-2.45 pm

In Conference Room 3 (Conference Room Building)

United Nations Headquarters

(Live and on-demand webcast coverage to be available at : <http://webtv.un.org>)

Discussion

Anh Nguyen, Associate, Harvard Shorenstein Center, Founder, The Boston Global Forum, Cambridge, MA, USA

Harriet Mouchly-Weiss, UNICEF-USA

James Breiding, formerly of the “Wall Street Journal”, author of the book ‘*Swiss Made*’;

Roland Schatz, Founder and Chairman, Media Tenor International, Zurich;

Vu Nguyen Dang Le, Founder and Chairman of Trung Nguyen Tuan Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

About the Series

The *Unlearning Intolerance Seminar Series* was initiated by the Department of Public Information in 2004. The series aimed to examine manifestations of intolerance as well as explore means to promote respect and understanding among peoples. As its name suggests, the “Unlearning Intolerance” series offers opportunities to discuss how intolerance, wherever it exists and for whatever reason, can be “unlearned” through education, inclusion and example.

Please register for the seminar by e-mail to academicimpact@un.org

Thank you!

The United Nations Academic Impact
<http://outreach.un.org/unai>

as·sump·tion

uh-suhmp-shuh noun

1. something taken for granted; a supposition.
Synonyms: presupposition; hypothesis, conjecture, guess, postulate, theory.
2. the act of taking for granted or supposing.
Synonyms: presumption; presupposition.
3. the act of taking to or upon oneself.
Synonyms: acceptance, shouldering.
4. the act of taking possession of something;
the assumption of power.
Synonyms: seizure, appropriation, usurpation, arrogation.
5. arrogance; presumption.
Synonyms: presumptuousness; effrontery, forwardness,

Assumptions. We make them all the time. Not all may be wrong, not all offensive. But the ease with which they can be made, and the effortless way in which they can slip into popular belief, invite scrutiny, interrogation and challenge.

In this seminar, we hear five perspectives on assumptions with which the speakers are familiar and which will, we hope, spur a wider conversation