

Aidan J. Simardone

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Education

York University

2018 - 2021

Juris Doctor, Osgoode Hall Law School

- Medico-Legal Society of Toronto Prize for student with highest standing in Disability & the Law course (2021)
- The National Association of Japanese Canadians & Roger Sachio Obata C.M. Prize in International Human Rights Law (2020)
- The Ursel Phillips Fellows Hopkinson LLP Prize for the best paper in Sexuality and the Law (2020)

University of Toronto

2016 - 2018

Master of Global Affairs, Munk School of Global Affairs

- Admission Scholarship (2016)
- Academic Scholarship (2017)

University of Toronto

2012 - 2016

Honours Bachelor of Arts: Political Science and Economics (cGPA 3.84/4.0)

- Graduate of High Distinction (2016)
- Dean's Honour Roll (2013, 2014, 2015)
- Department of Economics Honour Roll (2013)
- Entrance Scholarship (2012)

University of Toronto

Summer 2018

School of Continuing Studies: *Journalism Essentials*

London School of Economics and Political Science

Summers 2014, 2015

Courses: *Crisis, Reform and the International Role of the European Union; Protest and Change*

Work Experience

Volunteer Immigration Legal Caseworker, Justin J. Toh, Barrister & Solicitor

March - May 2021

- Drafted country condition reports and examined precedent for danger opinions
- Attended client interviews and determined best strategies to gain legal status and avoid deportation

Intern, International and Transnational Law Intensive Program, Anti-Racial Discrimination Section – Office of the United Nations

Jan. - April 2021

High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) – Geneva, Switzerland

- Conducted research and wrote a report on developing a treaty to protect against religious discrimination, which would be used to guide future negotiations between states at the OHCHR
- Analyzed, summarized and provided input to meetings and events regarding racism and international law

Research Assistant to Professor Craig Scott, Osgoode Hall Law School

Summer 2020

- Conducted research on democratic decision making, climate change and environmental law
- Summarized and gave analysis on over 30 academic articles on Indigenous rights and climate change

Research Assistant to Professor Heidi Matthews, Osgoode Hall Law School

Summer 2019, 2020

- Summarized and provided critical commentary on over 150 academic articles on sexual assault law
- Analyzed and summarized over 50 scholarly works on international Indigenous rights; provided a written opinion on the best means for representatives of the Innu Council to have their grievances heard at the UN

Junior Research Fellowship, NATO Association of Canada

Jan. 2017 - Sept. 2018

- Published thoroughly researched, weekly articles of 500-700 words communicating the importance of global security issues for the general public in Canada
- Topics: Russian foreign policy in Eastern Europe, ethnic conflict in the Balkans, and the expansion of NATO



Writer, Organization for World Peace

Jan. 2017 – June 2018

- Produced in-depth articles of approximately 1,000 words on global conflicts and ways to establish peace
- Topics include separatist movements, far-right extremism, and freedom of speech

Intern, The Canada Institute at the Wilson Center, Washington D.C.

Summer 2017

- Conducted research on topics involving Canada – United States relations, planned events featuring politicians from Canada and developed infographics on cross-border trade
- Managed social media on Twitter and Facebook and provided a news briefing three times a week

Research Assistant to Steven Bernstein, Director Environmental Governance Lab University of Toronto, Department of Political Science

Summer 2016

- Conducted literature review and provided analysis of more than 60 studies examining green initiatives
- Wrote short summaries of 500 words on 20+ environmental organizations, focusing on the actors involved and the scope of their impact

Video Cataloguer, Course World

Summer 2016

- Assisted building a library of videos on architecture, gender-studies, music, and philosophy
- Wrote descriptions for videos and reviewed submissions from colleagues

Peer Academic Leader, University of Toronto, Residence Life

2013 - 2014

- Academic resource for 50 international and domestic students
- Planned, coordinated, and facilitated seminar series and peer-assisted study sessions

Community Involvement

Junior Editor, Journal of Law and Social Policy

2018 - 2019

- Provided biweekly review of article submissions, focusing on content, grammar and organization

Moderator, Munk School of Global Affairs, Poli-Sci Film Festival

2016 - 2017

- Guided discussions of political science theories in popular films

Founder, Munk School of Global Affairs, Intersectional Feminist Group

2016 - 2017

- Moderated discussions that explored and validated experiences regarding race, gender, and religion

Host, CFRE Radio, University of Toronto

2012 - 2016

- Hosted weekly show, mentored new broadcasters, produced programs with range of international genres
- Awarded “Best New Show” (2012), “Most Innovative Programming” (2013), “Best Hip Hop Show” (2014)

Languages

Basic French reading, writing, and speaking

Publications

The Schizophrenia Coincidence: A book review of Hidden Valley Trail by Robert Kolker

Speakeasy

<https://spkesy.ca/binge/books/08/2021/the-schizophrenia-coincidence/>

Abolishing the monarchy would not end Canada's treaties with Indigenous peoples

Rabble

<https://rabble.ca/news/2021/03/abolishing-monarchy-would-not-end-canadas-treaties-indigenous-peoples>

Down with the Crown

Ricochet

<https://ricochet.media/en/3532/down-with-the-crown>



Looking to India to Understand Race in America

Speakeasy

<https://spkesy.ca/binge/03/2021/looking-to-india-to-understand-race-in-america/>

We can't rely on Big Tech to stop racism

Spring Magazine

<https://springmag.ca/we-cant-rely-on-big-tech-to-stop-racism>

The coup comes home

Canadian Dimension

<https://canadiandimension.com/articles/view/the-coup-comes-home/>

Beyond 'trusting the experts'

Canadian Dimension

<https://canadiandimension.com/articles/view/beyond-trusting-the-experts>

Permanent peace in Serbia: Russia, Kosovo, Republika Srpska and the right to self-determination

The Organization for World Peace

<http://theowp.org/permanent-peace-in-serbia-russia-kosovo-republika-srpska-and-the-right-to-self-determination/>

A partner on the Adriatic: why Montenegro's accession matters for the Balkans

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/a-partner-on-the-adriatic-why-montenegros-accession-matters-for-the-balkans/>

Eastern Europe's other conflict part 1: why should Moldova concern NATO?

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/eastern-europes-other-conflict-part-1-why-should-moldova-concern-nato/>

Eastern Europe's other conflict part 2: how can NATO prepare for conflict in Moldova?

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/eastern-europes-other-conflict-part-2-how-can-nato-prepare-for-conflict-in-moldova/>

Hate speech is not free speech: the violence of Holocaust denialism and why it should be illegal

The Organization for World Peace

<http://theowp.org/hate-speech-is-not-free-speech-the-violence-of-holocaust-denialism-and-why-it-should-be-illegal/>

The Trans-Nationalization of Far-Right Extremism, Part 1: Ideology, Online Communication, and Black Markets

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/the-trans-nationalization-of-far-right-extremism-part-1-ideology-online-communication-and-black-markets/>

The Trans-Nationalization of Far-Right Extremism, Part 2: Potential Solutions

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/the-trans-nationalization-of-far-right-extremism-part-2-potential-solutions/>

Crisis in Macedonia: Democracy, Geopolitics, and Ethnic Tensions

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/crisis-in-macedonia-democracy-geopolitics-and-ethnic-tensions/>

Scotland: Out of the UK and into NATO?

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/scotland-out-of-the-uk-and-into-nato/>

Conflict in the Caucasus, Part 1: Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Regional Security

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/conflict-in-the-caucasus-part-1-armenia-azerbaijan-and-regional-security/>

Conflict in the Caucasus, Part 2: What can the Euro-Atlantic do?

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis



<http://natoassociation.ca/conflict-in-the-caucasus-part-2-what-can-the-euro-atlantic-do/>

Anti-Americanism in Turkey: An Opportunity for the United States

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/anti-americanism-in-turkey-an-opportunity-for-the-united-states/>

Not Georgia, Not Crimea: Ethnic Russian Discrimination In Estonia And Latvia

The Organization for World Peace

<https://theowp.org/not-georgia-not-crimea-ethnic-russian-discrimination-in-estonia-and-latvia/>

It Could Happen Here: The Rise of the Far-Right in Canada

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/it-could-happen-here-the-rise-of-the-far-right-in-canada/>

The Nexus Between Ukraine, Energy Security, and Russia

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/it-could-happen-here-the-rise-of-the-far-right-in-canada/>

The Far-Right, Not Islam, Is The Face Of Canadian Terrorism

The Organization for World Peace

<https://theowp.org/the-far-right-not-islam-is-the-face-of-canadian-terrorism/>

More than Security: NATO and the Rules-Based International Order in the Post-Cold War Era

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/more-than-security-nato-and-the-rules-based-international-order-in-the-post-cold-war-era/>

The Vote to Separate: Why States Should Allow Referendums on Independence, Even When Under No Legal Obligation

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/the-vote-to-separate-why-states-should-allow-referendums-on-independence-even-when-under-no-legal-obligation/>

Melting Ice, Thawing Relations: How International Law Can Ensure Peace In The Arctic

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/melting-ice-thawing-relations-how-international-law-can-ensure-peace-in-the-arctic/>

Ineffective And Arbitrary: Why Canada Must Repeal The Listing Of Terrorist Groups

The Organization for World Peace

<https://theowp.org/ineffective-and-arbitrary-why-canada-must-repeal-the-listing-of-terrorist-groups/>

Legality or Justice? Why NATO Must Uphold the Responsibility to Protect, Even Without Authorization

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/melting-ice-thawing-relations-how-international-law-can-ensure-peace-in-the-arctic/>

Russian Federation No Longer: The Decline of Federalism and Autonomy in Russia

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/russian-federation-no-longer-the-decline-of-federalism-and-autonomy-in-russia/>

Serbian Citizenship: A Solution to the Kosovo Dispute

NATO Association of Canada, NATO's Arc of Crisis

<http://natoassociation.ca/serbian-citizenship-a-solution-to-the-kosovo-dispute/>