

ROBERT F. HARNEY PROGRAM IN ETHNIC, IMMIGRATION AND PLURALISM STUDIES  
MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS  
2015 - 2016 HARNEY LECTURE SERIES IN ETHNICITY

# Sule Tomkinson

## At the Heart of Refugee Hearing: Adjudication of Refugee Status in Canada

Thursday October 29, 2015 2-4 p.m.  
Room 720, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work  
246 Bloor Street West, University of Toronto



**Abstract:** The Refugee status determination is among the most difficult, discretionary and inegalitarian areas of decision-making in the modern legal system. Although research by legal scholars tackles the complexity of adjudication of refugee status, concrete asylum proceedings, and their consequences remain understudied. Through a focus on the practices of everyday life at the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, this presentation will offer an in-depth exploration of how refugee decision-makers identify if a refugee claimant qualifies for refugee status or not.

**Sule Tomkinson** is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Policy and Social Research at the University of Kansas. She completed her doctoral studies in the Department of Political Science at the Université de Montréal. Her dissertation is based on the first empirical study of refugee hearings in Canada. Sule also holds an MA degree in Theory and Practice of Human Rights from University of Essex.

This event is open to the public.  
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Registration: <http://munkschool.utoronto.ca/ethnicstudies/harney-lectures/>