

CURRICULUM VITAE

VIAENE, Lieselotte

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• EDUCATION

- January 2011 PhD in Law, Law Faculty, Ghent University – Belgium, grade not applicable
PhD dissertation: 'Voices from the shadows'. The role of cultural context in transitional justice processes: Mayan Q'eqchi' perceptions in post-conflict Guatemala
- 2003 Master in Comparative Cultural Studies, Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, Ghent University – Belgium, *With grand distinction*
- 2001 Master Degree in Criminology (licentiaat), Law Faculty, Catholic University of Leuven – Belgium, *with distinction*
- 1999 Bachelor in Criminology (Candidate), Law Faculty, Catholic University of Leuven – Belgium

• CURRENT POSITION

- 2019- Principal Investigator RIVERS - *Water/human rights beyond the human? Indigenous water ontologies, plurilegal encounters and interlegal translation* funded by the European Research Council (Grant agreement: ERC-2018-StG-804003)
Department of Social Sciences, Carlos III University Madrid, Spain.

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITION

- 2016-2018 Marie Curie Research Fellow, Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra, Portugal
- 2011-2018 Associate post-doctoral researcher, Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium
- 2006-2010 PhD Researcher, Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium

• PREVIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTITIONERS POSITIONS

- 2010-2013 Human Rights Support Officer, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), Quito, Ecuador
- 09-12, 2005 International intern – Peruvian National Human Rights Institution (Defensoría del Pueblo de Perú), Protection to Population Affected by Political Violence Programme
- 04-08, 2005 Social worker, Project for asylum seekers and people without a legal residence status, General Health Centre (CAW), Brussels, Belgium
- 2003-2004 Social worker, Residential Red Cross Refugee Centre, Brugge, Belgium

• PREVIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS CONSULTANT POSITION

- March 2015 Consultant Indigenous Peoples and Mega Projects Natural Resources, Guatemala
- 04-10, 2014 North-South department of the Municipality Herent, Belgium, in coordination with Human Rights Centre, Ghent University, Belgium/Guatemala
- 08-11, 2007 Consultant Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Guatemala Peace Process Support Programme (PCON)

• FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2019-2024 Starting Grant European Research Council (ERC)
- 2016-2018 Marie Curie Individual Fellowship, European Commission, H2020 framework
Research project: '[Challenges of Grounding Universal Human Rights. Indigenous epistemologies of human rights and intercultural dialogue in consultation processes on natural resource exploitation \(GROUNDHR\)](#)', Supervisor: Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Centre for Social Studies, University of Coimbra, Portugal
- 2002 Travel grant for ethnographic field research MA thesis, Flemish Interuniversity Council- University Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS), Belgium

- **PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE**

- 2011-'12 OHCHR activities of UN inter-agency Programme for Development and Cultural Diversity (2009-2012) – Millennium Development Goals Funds
Co-responsible for financial management, supervision consultants, monitoring implementation activities
- 2012-'13 Project 'Watching over racism. Critical community monitoring of anti-discriminating public policies of Ecuador' – OHCHR Ecuador
Co-responsible for design project, financial management, monitoring implementation activities
Implementation: Observatory of Racial Discrimination and Ethnic Exclusion of Ecuador (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) y Institucion Nacional de Estudios Superiores (IAEN))
Funding: Anti-discrimination Unit of OHCHR
- 2006-'10 Research project 'Cultural context and transitional justice: the role of non-western legal traditions in dealing with gross human rights violations in post-conflict countries.' – Human Rights Centre, Ghent University
Responsible for financial management, research design, fieldwork activities, data capture, training and supervision of 5 local interpreters (Q'eqchi' – Spanish)
Funding: grand Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)

- **PUBLICATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS (Social Sciences Citation Index and Scopus)**

- Co-editing with Denisse Roca-Servat ((Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Colombia) Special Issue "Water and other knowledges: Water and other knowledges: making the plurilegality of the right to water visible" - Antípoda - Revista de Antropología y Arqueología (University los Andes, Colombia), forthcoming 2019 (*Scopus, Q2*)
- Viaene, L. and Fernández-Maldonado, G., 2016, Hacia una ley de coordinación y cooperación entre la jurisdicción indígena y la jurisdicción ordinaria en Ecuador. Un análisis del proceso y de los nudos críticos desde los estándares internacionales de derechos humanos, *Inter-American and European Human Rights Journal*, Vol. 9, No 1, pp. 63-93
- Viaene, L., 2015, Visiones indígenas sobre el impacto del proyecto de la represa Xalalá a los derechos humanos de los pueblos indígenas en Guatemala, *Boletín (In) Justicia Hídrica: conflictos y resistencias en América Latina*, pp. 22 – 27.
- Viaene, L., 2015, La transformación de la matriz energética de Guatemala vs. los derechos humanos de los pueblos indígenas maya, *Iberoamericana: América Latina-España-Portugal*, Vol. 16, Núm. 59, pp 178-182. (*Social Sciences Citation Index*)
- Viaene, L., 2013, La relevancia local de procesos de justicia transicional. Voces de sobrevivientes indígenas sobre justicia y reconciliación de Guatemala posconflicto, *Antípoda No 16, Revista de Antropología y Arqueología – Universidad de los Andes, Colombia*, Enero - Junio, pp 85-112 (*Scopus, Q2*)
- Viaene, L., 2011, Dealing with the Legacy of Gross Human Rights Violations in Guatemala: Grasping the Mismatch between Macro Level Policies and Micro Level Processes, *International Human Rights Journal*, Vol. 15, Issue 7, pp 1160-1181 (*Scopus*)
- Viaene, L., 2010, Life is Priceless: Mayan Q'eqchi' Voices on Guatemalan National Reparations Program, *International Journal of Transitional Justice*, Vol 4, No. 1, pp 4-25 (*Social Sciences Citation Index*)
- Viaene, L., 2010, The Internal Logic of the Cosmos as 'Justice' and 'Reconciliation': Micro-Perceptions in Post-Conflict Guatemala, *Critique of Anthropology*, Vol 30, No. 3, pp 287-312 (*Social Sciences Citation Index*)
- Viaene, L., and Brems, E., 2010, Transitional Justice and Cultural Context: Learning from the Universality Debate, *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights*, Vol. 27, No. 2, pp 199-224 (*Social Sciences Citation Index*)

- **BOOKS**

Viaene, L., 2019, *Nimla Rahilal. Pueblos indígenas y justicia transicional: reflexiones antropológicas*, Universidad de Bilbao (España), forthcoming

Viaene, L., 2015, *Voces desde las sombras. Visiones indígenas q'eqchi' sobre justicia transicional en Guatemala*, Guatemala, Centro Ak'kutan.

- **BOOK CHAPTER**

Viaene, L. and Fernández-Maldonado G, 2018, 'Legislating coordination and cooperation mechanisms between indigenous and ordinary jurisdictions: reflections on progress and setbacks in Ecuador', in Corradi, G., De Feyter K., Desmet E. and Vanhees K. (eds.), *Critical indigenous rights studies. New directions in indigenous rights research*, Routledge, pp. 201 – 226.

- **POLICY REPORTS**

Viaene, L., 2015, *La Hidroeléctrica Xalalá en territorios maya q'eqchi' de Guatemala ¿Qué pasará con nuestra tierra y agua sagradas? Un análisis antropológico-jurídico de los derechos humanos amenazados*, Herent Municipality (Belgium), Human Rights Centre, Ghent University (Belgium), p. 131

Viaene, L., 2007, 'Justicia Transicional y Contexto Cultural en Guatemala: Voces Q'eqchi'es sobre el Programa Nacional de Resarcimiento', en *Primer Informe Temático 2006-2007 del Programa Nacional de resarcimiento: La vida no tiene precio. Acciones y Omisiones de Resarcimiento de Guatemala*, Ciudad de Guatemala, Programa Nacional de Resarcimiento, UNDP, GTZ-PCON, pp 133-171.

- **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

L. Viaene and B. Izquierdo (2018), [Decolonizing transitional justice from indigenous territories](#), *Peace in Progress*, N 34, Instituto Catalán Internacional para la Paz (ICIP)

Belkis Izquierdo y Lieselotte Viaene, [Descolonizar justicia transicional desde los territorios indígenas](#), *Peace in Progress*, N 34, Instituto Catalán Internacional para la Paz (ICIP)

Blog (2017) [Ríos: seres vivos y personalidad jurídica. Nuevos argumentos legales en la defensa de los territorios de los pueblos indígenas](#), Plaza Pública – Guatemala (republicado por Servindi)

Blog (2015) [Aterrizar los estándares internacionales de derechos humanos sobre el derecho a la consulta. El caso del proyecto de represa Xalalá en Guatemala](#), Centro de Información de la Consulta Previa, DeJusticia-Colombia

Interview (2015): "[El modelo de desarrollo en Guatemala excluye a los indígenas](#)", MO* Magazine on Global News

Blog (2015) [Energía versus los derechos humanos de los pueblos indígenas](#), Plaza Pública – Guatemala

- **PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/FORA**

2017 Santiago de Chile, Chile, *Knowledge/Culture/Ecologies International Conference*, Institute for Culture and Society, Western Sydney University, Australia; hosted by Universidad Diego Portales, <https://knowledgeculture.org/>

'Más allá del derecho humano al agua: reflexiones antropológicas desde Guatemala y Colombia'

2015 Belgium, Ghent, organization Human Rights Centre, Ghent University; Human Rights Institute, Duesto University; Law and Development Research Group – University of Antwerp, *Sixth Multidisciplinary Meeting on Indigenous Peoples (EMPI): "Tensions and opportunities generated by the inter-relation between indigenous and non-indigenous views"*

'Grounding international human rights standards on the right to consultation. Indigenous visions on the Xalalá hydroelectric project in Guatemala.'

2014 Guatemala, Programa del Acompañamiento a la Justicia de Transición PAJUST – UNDP
Invited speaker: *'Hacia una Justicia Transicional Intercultural en Guatemala'*

2012 USA, San Francisco, *XXX International Conference of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA)*

- Invited speaker roundtable discussion *'Restitution, Reparations, and Reconciliation in Latin America: Challenges for Theory, Policy and Practice'* (Organization: U.S. Institute of Peace)
- 2010 UK, University of Cambridge, The Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), *"Legal Subjectivity, Popular/Community Justice and Human Rights in Latin "*
'Localizing reparation after gross human rights violations: Maya Q'eqchi' Voices on the National Reparations Programme of Guatemala'
- 2009 UK, University of Oxford, Oxford Transitional Justice Research, *"Taking Stock of Transitional Justice"*
'The internal logic of the cosmos as 'justice' and 'reconciliation': indigenous perceptions from post-conflict Guatemala'
 Guatemala, Oficina de Derechos Humanos de Arzobispado de Guatemala (ODHAG), *"Eduquémonos para el Nunca Más'. La importancia de la memoria histórica, su inclusión y abordaje en los pensum de estudios."*
'La pedagogía de la memoria histórica desde la organización comunitaria: una experiencia Q'eqchi' (con Alfonso Huet)
 Switzerland, Commission on Legal Pluralism, *"Legal Pluralist Perspectives on Development and Cultural Diversity"*
'Localizing Transitional Justice in Guatemala: micro-perspectives on justice and reconciliation after gross human rights violations'
- 2008 Colombia, Red Latinoamericana de Antropología Jurídica (RELAJU), *"Diversidad étnica y cultural: desarrollos constitucionales, políticas y prácticas nacionales"*
'La vida no tiene precio: voces indígenas sobre reparación y resarcimiento en Guatemala post-conflicto'
 Belgium, International Peace Research Association (IPRA), *"Building sustainable futures. Enacting peace and development "*
'Beyond Reconciliation and Justice: Maya experiences from post-conflict Guatemala'
- 2007 Guatemala, Programa Nacional de Resarcimiento – GTZ – UNDP, *"Foro internacional: Reflexiones sobre Resarcimiento, Reconciliación y Paz"*
 Invited presentation: *'Justicia Transicional y Contexto Cultural en Guatemala: Voces Q'eqchi'es sobre el Programa Nacional de Resarcimiento'*

- **QUALITATIVE RESEARCH**

Ethnographic field research among Arhuaco, Sierra Nevada, Colombia: Marie Curie research (6 weeks 2017-2018).

Multi-sited ethnographic field research among Maya Q'eqchi' survivors in Guatemala: MA research (6 weeks, 2002); PhD research (22 months between 2006-2010); Consultancy research (2 months, 2014; 3 months 2007); Marie Curie research (2 months, 2017-2018).

MA qualitative research (4 months, 2001): Regional Police Service Rotterdam-Rijnmond, the Netherlands