DePaul Migration Collaborative

DMC

Advocating for Justice, Educating for the Future

Monthly Newsletter

WHO WE ARE: The DePaul Migration Collaborative engages scholars, practitioners, students and alumni to find solutions to society's most pressing problems in the areas of migration, mobility and human rights.

Events

Events

5/1 @8:30am *Broken by Design: Refuge and Responsibility* 2026 Symposium

Registration Page: Broken by Design: Refuge and Responsibility Tickets, Fri, May 1, 2026 at 8:30 AM | Eventbrite

Non-DMC Events

2/19 @2:40 pm Muralism in the Chile Solidarity Movement: A Conversation with Francisco Letelier

Location: SAC 161

2/26 @5:30pm COE Winter Forum 2026: "School Communities Organize: Supporting Immigrant Students & Families"

More Information and RSVP: **HERE**

News

2026 Symposium: Featured Panel

Join us on May 1st, 2026, for our powerful one-day symposium *Broken by Design: Refuge and Responsibility.* Discover the work driving solutions, fostering resilience and supporting those forcibly displaced.

Date: Friday, May 1st, 2026

Time: 8:30am to 5pm

Location: 1 E. Jackson Blvd Suite 8005

Registration: Broken by Design: Refuge and Responsibility Tickets, Fri, May 1, 2026 at 8:30 AM | Eventbrite

Morning Breakout Panel:
This panel brings together former immigration judges to share firsthand experiences and insights into the systemic pressures facing the immigration judiciary, discussing how political interference, court backlog, and the erosion of due process threaten the rule of law. Panelists will highlight the real-world consequences for migrants, legal practitioners, and the broader justice system, offering an urgent call to safeguard judicial independence.

Speakers Include: Judge Espinoza, Judge McNulty, Judge Peyton, and Judge Fujimoto

Stay tuned to learn about other panels and speakers who will be attending our 2026 Symposium.

Dr. Bekteshi Introduces CIAS Toolkit Framework to Law Clinic Students

Dr. Venera Bekteshi, DMC Practitioner in Residence, recently joined Marianne Joyce, a licensed clinical social worker and social services manager with the Kovler Center, to speak with students in the Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic about the asylum process and the importance of trauma-informed interviewing and care.

Dr. Bekteshi shared insights into the development of her Practitioner's Toolkit, *Contextual Influence in Acculturative Stress (CIAS)*, designed for interdisciplinary teams serving asylum seekers. The toolkit translates an evidence-based framework into practical tools — including assessment templates, structured interview guides, and a contextual analysis matrix. These resources help legal advocates and social workers consistently document trauma, resilience, cultural strengths, and structural barriers in a culturally responsive and systematic way.

By integrating legal advocacy with trauma-informed social service practices, the presentation highlighted how collaborative, context-sensitive approaches can strengthen both client care and legal outcomes for individuals navigating the asylum process.

Alumni Conversations on Immigration Court and the Rule of Law feat. Judge Espinoza

In August 2025, the DePaul Migration Collaborative spoke with DePaul Law alum and former immigration judge, Judge Carla Espinoza about the state of immigration courts and the growing threats to the rule of law. Drawing from her experience on the bench, Judge Espinoza describes how political interference, expedited removal, court backlogs, and enforcement inside courthouses have reshaped the immigration system—placing immense pressure on judges and undermining due process protections for noncitizens. She reflects on the broader consequences of weakening legal institutions and underscores why safeguarding judicial independence and constitutional guarantees matters far beyond immigration law.

Judge Espinoza served as an Immigration Judge from 2023 until 2025 and now is a Managing Attorney at the Immigration Law Offices of Moises Barraza.

➡ Listen to the full interview on our YouTube channel!

Youtube Link: Immigration Court and the Rule of Law | Judge Carla Espinoza | DMC

In Case You Missed It

Resources and Calls to Action

Resources
IL IMMIGRATION INFO | Know Your Rights

Immigration Resources | DePaul Migration Collaborative | Centers, Institutes & Initiatives | Academics | College of Law | DePaul University, Chicago

Frequently Asked Questions Related to Immigration and Customs Enforcement Officers on DePaul University Property | Immigration | Services | Office of the General Counsel | DePaul University, Chicago

ReadyNow! -Emergency Alert System for Immigrant Families

Calls to Action
Volunteer — IL IMMIGRATION INFO

How to Help MIBFC — Midwest Immigration Bond Fund

Share Know Your Rights Information with family, friends, and community members.

Migration News

With Paywalls

How Spain Is Carving a Different Path on Immigration - The New York Times

U.S. Deports Nine Migrants in Secret, Ignoring Legal Protections - The New York Times

Bulgaria Is at the Heart of Europe's Harsh New Approach to Immigration - The New York Times

Without Paywalls
Immigration Enforcement in the First Nine Months of the Second Trump Administration – Deportation Data Project

2026-Health-in-Immigration-Detention.pdf Immigration

officials plan to spend $38.3 billion to boost detention capacity to 92,000 beds | AP News

New Routes, No Change: Rohingya Escapes from the Bangladesh Refugee Camps – The Diplomat

UNHCR seeks support for solutions as 5.4 million Afghans return since late 2023 | UNHCR

EU lawmakers approve tougher asylum rules as anti-migration feeling grows | Reuters

Pregnant women describe miscarrying while in ICE custody – NBC Los Angeles

ICE agents use facial recognition on targets and bystanders

Habeas Petitions Filed in Second Trump Term Hit Historic High — ProPublica

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