

# DIALOGUE

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A debate on how the power of art and satire is being used to express protest and foster revolution, at the Assembly Rooms. [assemblyfestival.com](http://assemblyfestival.com)



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## The Art of Resistance: from Belarus to Egypt

Tuesday 23rd August 10.30am

[ Location **ONE, Assembly Rooms** ]

Art and resistance go hand in hand; as Kurdish writer Yaşar Kemal has said, “Art is a rebellion. Art warns people against lies, oppression, meaningless never-ending wars and all forms of evil.”

The Arab Spring of 2011 deployed art in its most political and courageous form – expressed in the cartoons that adorn Benghazi, or by Egyptian singer Ramy Essam, ‘the Billy Bragg of Tahrir Square’, whose song ‘Irhal’ (‘Leave’) became the anthem of the revolt. This is equally expressed in the resistance of Belarus’ people – who live within the last dictatorship in Europe – spearheaded by the underground Belarus Free Theatre, whose secret performances risked arrest and persecution.

With **Natalia Koliada** – co-founder of the Belarus Free Theatre, **Ramy Essam** – Egyptian singer, **Raja Shehadeh** – author of ‘Palestinian Walks: Notes on a Vanishing Landscape’  
Chaired by **Oscar Guardiola-Rivera** – Colombian philosopher.

# LAW

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International Law in Action: a lecture and panel discussion on justice and the rule of law.

in association with The Faculty of Advocates and The Bar Human Rights Committee



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Monday 22nd August 6pm – 7.45pm

[ Tickets **FREE** – Location **Faculty of Advocates: Mackenzie Lecture Hall** ]

## The Future of Zimbabwe

A lecture on the Rule of Law in Zimbabwe, and the future of democracy

With **Mordecai Mahlangu** – Senior Advocate

## Mediating Justice in War and Peace

War Crimes and human rights atrocities have been allegedly perpetrated in countries such as Libya, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and Palestine. The International Criminal Court has issued a number of writs against leaders such as Gaddafi. When, and in what circumstances, should the UN intervene militarily in countries to save lives? How does the international community balance the need to resolve conflict through negotiation with the demands of justice to prosecute war criminals? Join the debate with a unique panel of experts.

With **Sir Kieran Prendergast** – former UN diplomat, **Marie Colvin** – Sunday Times was correspondent, **Raja Shehadeh** – Palestinian lawyer and writer, **Dr. Paikiasothy Savarvanamuttu** – Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Alternatives, Sri Lanka, **Mordecai Mahlangu** – Senior Advocate, Chaired by **Mark Muller Stuart QC** – Senior Advocate.

# POLITICS

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A panel discussion on the Arab Spring, held at the Scottish Parliament, on the progress towards democracy for Arabic countries, which for so long have had no democratic voice.

in association with the Festival of Politics



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## Where next on the Arab Spring?

Saturday 27th August 11 – 12pm

[ Tickets £6 / 3 concessions – Location Main Chamber, Scottish Parliament ]

The Middle East and North African regions are going through dramatic changes but what is next for the Arab Spring and what is the potential impact on the wider world? Is the intervention from the West enough, too little or indeed, welcomed? Libya has seen Western intervention in the bid to save lives but what constitutes to a country receiving intervention?

With **Allan Little** – BBC's Special Correspondent, **Omar Robert Hamilton** – independent film-maker, who during the Cairo revolution used Twitter to communicate images and reaction on the streets, **Mark Muller Stuart QC** – an international mediator extensively engaged in national dialogue processes relating to the Arab Spring, **Ed Ou** – photojournalist and World Press Photo winner, who documented the recent revolution in Egypt, **Dr. Florence Gaub** – Academic Coordinator of the Middle East Faculty at NATO Defense College.