

**ALEXANDRA F. DUFRESNE**  
**alexandra.dufresne@cornell.edu**

## **EDUCATION**

**University of Chicago Law School**, J.D. with Honors (June 1999).

**El Colegio de México**, *Programa de Estudios México - Estados Unidos – Canadá* (Summer 1996).

**Yale University**, Bachelor of Arts, Distinction in History (May 1996).

## **CLERKSHIP**

**United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Chambers of Hon. Martha Craig Daughtrey** (September 2001- September 2002).

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

7/22- Senior Lecturer, Jeb E. Brooks School of Public Policy, Cornell University

8/20 -7/22 Director, International NGO Law and Policy Project, **ZHAW, Zurich University of Applied Sciences**, Winterthur

- Created and direct first-of-its-kind international NGO law and policy clinic in Switzerland, in which Bachelor's students provide strategic, legal, policy, advocacy, fundraising and communications services to NGOs working in Switzerland, Europe, Africa and North America. Supervise approximately 24 clinical students each year, who receive academic credit for their work. Clients include Save the Children Switzerland, the Global Detention Project, the Humanitarian Supply Chain Management Lab at ETH, the Resilient Civic Design Collective, AsyLex, Asylos, New Women Connectors, IRIS-Integrated Refugee and Immigrants Services, SpringACT and more.
- Led successful advocacy initiative before the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the extraterritorial effects of the Netherlands' tax and financial policies on the realization of children's rights abroad (2022): designing, with Swiss advocates, a similar campaign before CEDAW (2022).

- 2/18- Lecturer (Permanent Position), Department of Business Law, **ZHAW**, **Zurich University of Applied Sciences**, Winterthur
- Winner of the 2021 Teaching Prize for the School of Management and Law.
  - Teach Anglo-American Law to approximately 130 Bachelor's students each semester; supervise thesis projects; guest lecture in Master's law and business law programs.
  - Teach Private and Public International Law to approximately 130 Bachelor's students each semester.
  - Teach International NGO Law and Policy Project (described above).
  - Writing a textbook on U.S. law, to be published open access under the auspices of ZHAW (in progress).
- 9/18 - Lecturer, **University of Zurich Faculty of Law**, Zurich
- Teach Children's Rights to Master's students (Fall 2020, Spring 2022).
  - Co-Teach Model U.N. to Master's students (2018-2019; 2020-2021).
  - Guest lecture on Children's Law and Business in summer program for law students and lawyers (2019).
- 8/17-6/18 Senior Scientific Writer, Immigration Policy Lab, **ETH**, Zurich
- Responsible for writing grant proposals to Swiss and European Institutions, including the Lab's successful European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant application for 1.5 million Euros, based on the Lab's cutting-edge research on the causal effects of European integration policies.
- 9/06- 1/16 Lecturer in Political Science and Ethics, Politics, and Economics (EP&E), **Yale University**, New Haven
- Taught Political Science and Ethics, Politics and Economics seminars to third and fourth year students at Yale University. Courses were "Child Law and Policy," "U.S. Immigration Law and Policy" and "Refugee Law and Policy." Advised senior essays.
  - Received outstanding formal written course evaluations from students. **Students frequently described these seminars as "the best class" they have taken at Yale.** Nominated by students for a Teaching Prize. *Written course evaluations are available upon request.*

- 1/13-1/16 Attorney, Child Fatality Review Panel, **State of Connecticut**, Hartford
- Appointed by Connecticut Senate Majority Leader to serve as attorney on a multidisciplinary panel charged with reviewing unexpected deaths of children in Connecticut.
  - Investigated child deaths; designed policy responses; made formal recommendations to executive and legislative branches for policy reforms to reduce child deaths.
- 10/12-1/16 Staff Attorney, Child Abuse Project, **Center for Children's Advocacy**, Hartford
- Responsible for the Center's legislative and administrative advocacy for infants and toddlers.
  - Led three successful legislative advocacy campaigns in Connecticut.
  - Represented abused and neglected children of all ages in child protection proceedings.
  - Authored an extensive commissioned report recommending reforms to the educational services provided to youth in Connecticut's juvenile justices system; presented the report results to the Connecticut Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee.
  - Presented at training seminars to recent court-appointed child protection lawyers, social workers, therapists, and other professionals in child policy fields, hosted by the Center for Children's Advocacy.
  - Appointed by Department of Social Services Commissioner to serve on the interagency child abuse prevention task force (formerly the Children's Trust Fund).
  - Assisted with clinical and classroom teaching of the Child Advocacy class at the University of Connecticut Law School.
- 7/07-8/12 Senior Policy Fellow, **Connecticut Voices for Children**, New Haven
- Responsible for Connecticut Voices for Children's juvenile justice and child welfare research, writing and advocacy (2008-2012); co-led Voices' K-12 education research and advocacy (2008-2011)
  - Led and co-led successful legislative campaigns to preserve Connecticut's suspension law; ensure "school stability" for youth in Connecticut's foster care system, and to give youth in foster care the right to visit with their siblings weekly.
  - Co-led successful administrative advocacy campaign to reduce congregate care of abused and neglected children under 6.
  - Developed and drafted proposed legislation; led legislative and administrative advocacy campaigns; performed cost analyses.

- Met with legislators, senior executive agency officials, local education leaders, youth in foster care and senior staff of the Governor’s office.
- Testified before committees of the General Assembly.
- Spoke publicly about children’s issues; respond to internal and external requests for information and technical assistance.
- Supervised and managed 2-3 full-time policy fellows.

8/05-6/07 Dean, Morse College, **Yale University**, New Haven

- Responsible for advising and counseling approximately 470 students with respect to academic, career, interpersonal, emotional and psychological matters.
- First responder in emergencies, including mental health crises; responsible for ushering students withdrawn for academic, personal, or health reasons through the readmission process.
- Responsible for counseling and “representing” students in disciplinary proceedings.
- Responsible for administering academic regulations, managing Morse College Dean’s Office and organizing various Morse College events.

8/03-8/05 Detention Attorney, **Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC) and Boston College Law School**, Boston

- Responsible for all detention-related projects of the immigration clinic at Boston College Law School, including case selection, project development and management.
- Represented low-income refugees and immigration detainees in removal proceedings, custody determinations, and federal court litigation.
- Won five of five asylum/withholding/CAT/refugee waiver cases in Immigration Court on behalf of detainees and former detainees.
- Recruited and qualified thirteen expert witnesses.
- Conducted "Know Your Rights" presentations and prepared “Self-Help” materials for unrepresented detainees. Counseled hundreds of detainees and their families, including many low-income detainees with criminal records and mental health challenges.
- Taught and supervised teams of law students who participated in immigration clinic for credit. Advised and mentored law and college students, including summer law students from Georgetown, NYU and BC.
- Assisted with teaching advanced immigration law seminar. Guest lectured on detention issues for immigration law class.

10/02-8/03 Associate, Litigation Department, **Hale and Dorr**, Boston

- Researched and developed legal theories, presented results to colleagues, and drafted substantive motions to federal courts. Focused on intellectual property and antitrust cases.
- Supervised junior associates, managed discovery, interviewed potential witnesses, conducted factual investigations, and handled day-to-day relationships with clients. Helped manage team of 25 attorneys in 750,000-page document collection, review, and production.

6/01-8/01 Volunteer Legislative Attorney, **Lawyers Committee for Human Rights**, Washington D.C.

- Worked with a coalition of nongovernmental organizations to promote the International Right to Know Act (IRTK).
- Wrote the Lawyers Committee's IRTK position paper and advocacy materials. Helped revise portions of the proposed legislation. Modeled projected costs of the proposed legislation and drafted coalition's memo to members of Congress detailing same.

10/99-4/01 Associate, **Latham & Watkins**, Chicago and Washington D.C.  
6/98-8/98

- Outlined and drafted substantial portions of briefs to federal and state appellate courts. Conducted extensive legal research. Drafted discovery requests and responses.
- Successfully represented a family of refugees in a NACARA case as pro bono counsel at Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center.

6/99-8/99 PILI Fellow, **Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center** (now named National Immigrant Justice Center), Chicago, IL

- Interviewed clients in Spanish, prepared documentation, wrote substantive motions, and assisted at immigration hearings.
- Wrote portions of handbook explaining NACARA law and process for *pro bono* counsel.

3/99-5/99 Law Clerk, Executive Office for Immigration Review, **U.S. Department of Justice**, Chicago

- Researched issues in immigration law, presented results to immigration judges, and drafted decisions for immigration judges in one asylum and one Torture Convention case.

- 6/97-8/97      Legal Intern, **Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law**, Chicago
- Researched and analyzed legal issues involving children's rights, education, and gender and race discrimination.
- 6/94-8/94      Volunteer, **Brigada Universitaria de Servicios Comunitarios**, Nayarit, Mexico
- Lived, taught literacy, and worked on development projects in an indigenous (Huichol) village in Nayarit, Mexico with a Mexican nongovernmental organization of university students. Funded by a Richter Fellowship.

## **AWARDS**

- Winner of 2021 Teaching Prize for the School of Management and Law, Zurich University of Applied Science (ZHAW).
- Named “Detention Attorney of the Year (2005)” by the Political Asylum and Immigrant Representation Project (PAIR) in Boston.
- Awarded Avi Soifer prize for practitioner who contributed most to students at Boston College Law School (2005).

## **BOARD LEADERSHIP IN SWITZERLAND AND EUROPE**

- 2/21 -9/22      Chair of Board of Trustees, **Asylos**, Amsterdam
- Provide strategic, policy, communications, legal, governance and fundraising advice to Asylos, an international NGO dedicated to ensuring equity in asylum determinations through the provision of high-quality, individualized, in-depth documentation of human rights conditions. (Advisory Committee Member, then Trustee, since 3/18; return to non-Chair Trustee expected in 9/22)
  - Led Board through successful fundraising campaign, significant expansion in projects and staff, and merger with a partner NGO.
- 2021 -            Executive Committee Member, **The Global Detention Project**, Geneva
- 2021 -            Advisory Board Member, **Project Legal Help**, University of Zurich

- 2020 - Advisory Board Member, **AsyLex**, Zurich
- 2020 - Advisory Board Member, **New Women Connectors**, Amsterdam
- 3/17-12/20 Founder and Executive Board Member, **Action Together: Zürich, CH**
- Founded a group of over 550 (40 active) American and Swiss volunteers interested in civic engagement and increasing voter turnout among U.S. citizens abroad, particularly in midterm elections.
  - Organized human rights demonstrations and protests.
  - Led advocacy campaigns, covered or mentioned in the *Tages Anzeiger*, *New York Times* (photo only), *USA Today*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Independent* (UK), *The Local* (Switzerland), *Watson.ch*, *TeleZüri*, *ZüriNews*, *SRF*, and *Teen Vogue*.

## **BOARD LEADERSHIP IN THE UNITED STATES**

- 4/11-1/16 Board Member, **Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services**, New Haven, CT

## **INVITED TALKS AND SPEECHES**

- “U.S. Constitutional and Administrative Law”, Europa Institute, Certificate of Advanced Studies, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland (November 6, 2021).
- “Moving to Switzerland Made Me a Feminist”, University of Freiburg, Lunchtime Gender Mentoring Series for doctoral students in law, organized by Professor Sarah Progin-Theuerkauf, Freiburg, Switzerland, (April 22, 2021).
- “The Outlier: How a Comparative Law and Policy Approach Can Promote the Recognition of International Human Rights in Practice”, Zurich Model United Nations Conference, Keynote Speaker, Zurich, Switzerland (April 15, 2021).
- “Legal Representation and Systemic Advocacy for Asylum-Seekers and Immigration Detainees: A Comparative U.S., Swiss, and International Perspective”, AsyLex training conference. Switzerland (February 13, 2021).
- “A Constitution under Attack: Implications of the Storming of the U.S. Capitol”, ZHAW School of Management and Law, Master’s International Conference, Switzerland (January 21, 2021).

- “#MeToo in the United States: An Exploration of the Legal Dilemmas Involved in Protecting Women and Girls from Sexual Assault and Harassment in U.S. Corporations, Schools, Nonprofits, Churches, and Educational Institutions”, University of Zurich Law School (November 2020).
- “What Happens Legally if Neither Presidential Candidate Concedes?”, University of Zurich Political Science Club, Karl der Grosse, Zurich (November 3, 2020).
- “Impeachment in the United States,” University of Zurich Faculty of Law (Fall 2019).
- Training for Child Welfare Professionals, Issues in Representing Young Children (Spring, 2015), seminar sponsored by Connecticut Public Defender.
- Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy, Lecture Series, Yale Child Study Center, “Children’s Advocacy in Connecticut: Practical Strategies that Work” (March 1, 2013).
- Invited Guest at Liman Public Interest Workshop at Yale Law School for specific Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 classes; invited teacher at Professor James Forman’s juvenile justice clinic class at Yale Law School, Fall 2012; invited teacher on legislative advocacy at Professor Sarah Russell’s clinical education class at Quinnipiac Law School (Spring 2013, Spring 2014).
- Invited Panelist at Congressman Chris Murphy’s Conference, August 2010, Meriden, Connecticut.
- Invited speaker at Governor’s Prevention Partnership, Best Practice Alternatives to Out-of-School Suspensions, April 2010, Farmington, Connecticut.
- Invited speaker, Casey Family Services, Fora/Conferences, June 2008, Providence, Rhode Island; Boston, Massachusetts, October 2009.
- Invited Panelist at Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly Informational Forum, March 2008, Hartford, Connecticut.
- Graduation Address to Morse College Seniors, Families and Friends, May 2006, May 2007, New Haven, Connecticut.

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

- Jens Hainmueller, Dominik Hangartner, Duncan Lawrence, Alexandra Dufresne, “Faster Asylum Processes Save Money by Catalyzing the Economic Integration of Refugees,” National Center of Competence in Research, Switzerland, On the Move, Highlights #2 (Fall 2017)
- Alexandra Dufresne, with contributions from Martha Stone, Leon Smith, Marisa Halm, and Kathryn Meyer, “Students First: Ensuring Excellence and Opportunity for Students in Connecticut’s Juvenile Justice System,” Center for Children’s Advocacy (December 2015) (commissioned for and presented to Connecticut’s Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee)

- Annemarie Hillman and Alexandra Dufresne, “Are Connecticut Schools Meeting the Needs of Hispanic Students?” Connecticut Voices for Children (July 2011)
- Alexandra Dufresne and Jacob Siegel, “Protecting Children and Youth in Connecticut’s Child Welfare System” Connecticut Voices for Children (October 2010)
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Ensuring Educational Opportunity for All of Connecticut’s Children” Connecticut Voices for Children (August 2010)
- Alexandra Dufresne, Annemarie Hillman, Cari Carson, Tamara Kramer, “Teaching Discipline: A Toolkit for Educators on Positive Alternatives to Out-of-School Suspensions” Connecticut Voices for Children (June 2010)
- Tamara Kramer and Alexandra Dufresne, “School Stability Promotes Educational Opportunity for Connecticut’s Children in Foster Care” Connecticut Voices for Children (November 2009)
- Taby Ali and Alexandra Dufresne, “Improve Discipline and Academic Performance by Retaining Connecticut’s School Suspensions Law” Connecticut Voices for Children (September 2009)
- Lauren Velasquez and Alexandra Dufresne, “The Canary in the Coal Mine: Publishing Truancy Data Will Help Keep Children in School” Connecticut Voices for Children (July 2009)
- Tamara Kramer and Alexandra Dufresne, “Children in DCF Care Should Live in the “Least Restrictive Environment” Connecticut Voices for Children (March 2009)
- Taby Ali and Alexandra Dufresne, “Implement the Expansion of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction to Sixteen and Seventeen Year Olds” Connecticut Voices for Children (March 2009)
- Tamara Kramer and Alexandra Dufresne, “Foster Care/Child Welfare Budget in Context: An Analysis of the Governor’s Proposed FY 10 Budget” Connecticut Voices for Children (March 2009)
- Joshua Hudner, Tamara Kramer and Alexandra Dufresne, “Fostering School Stability for Children in Connecticut’s Care” Connecticut Voices for Children (February 2009)
- Taby Ali and Alexandra Dufresne, “Missing Out: Suspending Students from Connecticut Schools” Connecticut Voices for Children (August 2009)

## **MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

- Interviewed on political and legal matters, in English and German, for radio, print and tv, by multiple media outlets, including the *New Haven Register*, *WNPR (Connecticut Public Radio)*, *Blick* (tv and print), *20 Minuten*, *Die Zeit*, the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, the *Tages Anzeiger*, *Swissinfo.ch*, and *USA Today*.

**OP-EDs, PUBLIC ESSAYS AND PODCAST INTERVIEWS** (*pieces relating to children, immigrant, or refugee rights are highlighted in bold*)

- Alexandra Dufresne, “Adieu, liebe Schweiz: A Foreign Feminist’s Farewell Letter to Switzerland”, *ElleXX*, July 4, 2022 (went “viral” on social media within Switzerland)
- Alexandra Dufresne, “What Can NGOs Learn from the Trial of Elizabeth Holmes?,” *Swissinfo*, February 6, 2022.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “How Irish, Swiss and Dutch Tax Policy Harms Children Abroad,” *Euronews*, November 20, 2021.**
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Tax Avoidance Is a Children’s Rights Issue” *Swissinfo*, November 6, 2021.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Dear Swiss Men: How Can Men in Switzerland Promote Gender Equality?” *Any Working Mom*, November 4, 2021.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Nestle Ruling Shows Supply Chain Human Rights Flaws” *Law360*, June 18, 2021.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Supporting Students with COVID-related Anxiety When Teaching Online” *THE Campus*, April 2, 2021.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “To Advance Gender Equality in Switzerland, Remove Family Status from CVs” *Swissinfo*, February 7, 2021.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Georgia Elections in U.S. Showcase the Nuts and Bolts of Democracy Building” *Swissinfo*, January 11, 2021.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Dear Young Swiss Women: How to Fight Gender Discrimination at Work” *Any Working Mom*, September 27, 2020.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Remembering Srebrenica” *Asylos*, June 14, 2020.**
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Extended State Foster Care is a Necessity During COVID-19” *Law360*, June 14, 2020.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “I’m a Former Dean, and I’m Worried about the New Title IX Rules” *The Independent*, May 11, 2020.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Amid COVID-19, Switzerland Should Heed Calls to Host Trapped Refugees” *Swissinfo*, April 24, 2020.**
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “If Trump Does Suspend All Immigration, U.S. Democracy -- and the Economy -- Will Suffer for Decades” *The Independent* April 22, 2020.**
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Pandemic Response Should Include Immigration Reboot”, *Law360*, April 8, 2020.**
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “There’s About to Be a Coronavirus Crisis in U.S. Detention Centers and It Won’t Just Harm the Detainees” *The Independent*, March 24, 2020.**
- **Alexandra Dufresne and Anila Noor, “It’s Time for Refugee Women to Have a Seat at the Table” *Swissinfo*, March 8, 2020.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Trump’s Controversial Pardons for White Collar Criminals Will Have Global Consequences He Can’t Even Comprehend” *The Independent*, February 20, 2020.

- Alexandra Dufresne, “If You Know Anything about the Constitution, You Know Republicans Have No Choice: They Have to Subpoena John Bolton” *The Independent*, January 28, 2020.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “On Impeachment, U.S. Senators Are Bound by Oath to Do Impartial Justice” *Swissinfo*, January 16, 2020.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Why Meticulous Country Conditions Research Is Essential to Winning Asylum in the U.S.” *Asylos* blog, December 2, 2019.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Love It, Don’t Leave It: Why Foreigners Should Engage with Swiss Political Issues” *Swissinfo*, October 10, 2019.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “It’s Time to Let 16- and 17- Year Olds Vote” *Swissinfo*, May 24, 2019.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Report Shows Strategic Buy-In From Executive Leadership Is the Key to Successful Risk Mediation” *Cybersecurity Law Report*, August 7, 2019.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Employee Privacy and Off-Duty Conduct: Balancing Company Interests Against Employee Rights” *Cybersecurity Law Report*, June 26, 2019.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Moving to Switzerland Made Me A Better Feminist,” *Grok Nation*, February 4, 2019 (shared on FB over 2.9 thousand times; recommended to readers in the Swiss German-language publication, *Republik*, February 22, 2019).
- “Do The Hardest Thing,” Lisa Christen’s Interview with Alexandra Dufresne, Level Up Your Leadership Podcast, May 13, 2018, <http://christenconsulting.ch/do-hardest-thing-alexandra-dufresne/>
- Alexandra Dufresne, Yemen Can’t Wait Special Edition, *My Civic Workout*, December 7, 2018.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “A Marathon, Not a Sprint: What the Midterms Mean for American Democracy” *Swissinfo*, November 7, 2018.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Family Separation Under U.S. Immigration Law Has a Long History” *Swissinfo*, July 12, 2018.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Friends Don’t Let Friends Not Vote” *Swissinfo*, May 25, 2018.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Lonely in Switzerland?” *Swissinfo*, December 12, 2017.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Why Americans in Switzerland Need to Call their Members of Congress” *The Local -Switzerland*, October 13, 2017. Alexandra Dufresne, “Why Americans in Germany Need to Call their Members of Congress” *The Local-Germany* October 12, 2017.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “A Really Big Tent: Why the Resistance Should Focus on Fundraising” *Americans Resisting Overseas* (website), June 8, 2017.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “An Expat’s 10-Step Guide to Political Engagement” *Swissinfo*, March 9, 2017.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Make the Call” *Yale Daily News*, February 1, 2017.

- Alexandra Dufresne, “New Year’s Resolution 2017: To Become More Swiss” *Swissinfo*, January 1, 2017.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “Should You Go to Law School?” *Yale Daily News*, February 25, 2016.
- Alexandra Dufresne, “What Employers Want to Know” *Yale Daily News*, December 11, 2015.
- **Alexandra Dufresne, “Information Key to Saving At-Risk Infants” Op-Ed, *The Hartford Courant*, June 9, 2014.**
- Alexandra Dufresne, “The Hardest Thing” *Yale Daily News*, October 31, 2013.

## LANGUAGES AND BAR MEMBERSHIPS

- Experienced representing law clients in immigration, refugee, and corporate matters in Spanish.
- German C1 (advanced) course completed (Bellingua Language School, Zurich); have given media interviews in German.
- Certificate of Proficiency in the Italian language (Scuola Dante Alighieri, 1988).
- Member of the Connecticut, Massachusetts and Illinois Bars.