Asymmetric Warfare of Forever War
Enemy Personality and the Paradox
A-symmetry of Emile Simpson
Israel-Palestinian Conflict
You Just Can’t Compare,
Lital Levy
Panel Two
Lawfare and Provocation in an Insurgency
Jeremy Waldron, Asymmetric War:
5:00pm, Chair
Eliminate the Right of Self Defense,
Moshe Halbertal, Asymmetric Warfare:
opening remarks
2:30pm

Symposium
Faisal Devji, Moral Challenges of Asymmetric Warfare
Elaine Scarry, Nuclear Weapons Eliminate the Right of Self Defense
Noah Feldman, Chair
5:00pm

Keynote Lecture
Jeremy Waldron, Asymmetric War:
Lavitt and Provocation in an Insurgency
Panel Two 6:45pm

Cultures of Asymmetry
Faisal Devji, ISIS: A Politics of the Surface
Lital Levy, You Just Can’t Compare: On the Double Edges of Comparison in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Emile Simpson, A-symmetry of Enemy Personality and the Paradox of Forever War
Homi Bhabha, Chair

Andrew J. Bacevich is Professor of History and International Relations Emeritus at Boston University. A graduate of the US Military Academy, he received his PhD in American diplomatic history from Princeton. He is the author of Breach of Trust: How Americans Failed Their Soldiers and Their Country (2013), Washington Rules: America’s Path to Permanent War (2010), The Limits of Power. The End of American Exceptionalism (2008), and The New American Militarism: How Americans Are Seduced by War (2005), among other books.

Homa K. Bhabha is Anne F. Rothenberg Professor of the Humanities and Director of the Mahindra Humanities Center, and Senior Advisor to the President and Provost at Harvard University. He is a leading cultural and literary theorist and the author of numerous works exploring postcolonial theory, cultural change and power, cosmopolitanism, human rights, and various other themes. In The Location of Culture (1994), he presents a theory of cultural hybridity to understand the connections between colonialism and globalization, and recognizes concepts such as colonial mimicry, hybridity, and social liminality to argue that cultural production is always most fertile where it is most ambivalent and transgressive. His forthcoming books will include a collection of essays on contemporary diasporic artists and another on culture, security, and globalization.

Faisal Devji, is Reader in Modern South Asian History and Fellow of St. Antony’s College at the University of Oxford, where he is also Director of the Asian Studies Centre. He has held the Yves Ollotamaire Chair at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, as well as positions at Yale and the New School for Social Research, and is an Institute of Public Knowledge Fellow at New York University and a CISAS Fellow at the University of the Witwatersrand. Devji is the author of four books on global Islam, militancy, and Indian political thought: Landscapes of the Jihad, The Terrorist in Search of Humanity, The Impossible India, and Muslim Zion.

Moshe Halbertal is Professor of Jewish Thought and Philosophy at Hebrew University. He is the author of many books, including Idolatria (co-authored with Avishai Margalit, 1992), People of the Book: Canon, Meaning, and Authority (1997), Conscience and Revelation: Exorcism in Jewish Tradition and its Philosophical Implications (2007), On Sacrifice (2012), Mammonides: Life and Thought (2013), and several books on the role of the hyphenated Jew in Hebrew, including Interpretative Revolutions in the Making (1997) and By Way of Truth: Mahammadians and the Creation of Tradition (2000). Halbertal was the recipient of the Michael Bruno Memorial Award of the Rothchild Foundation and the Goldberg-Goren Book Award for the best book in Jewish thought in the years 1997 to 2000. In 2010, he was named a member of Israel’s Academy for the Sciences and the Humanities.

Lital Levy, is Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at Princeton University, where she teaches Hebrew and Arabic literatures and literary theory. Previously, she was a Junior Fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows. She specializes in contact zones and literary theory. Currently, she teaches in the Best American Essays of 2007, 2005, and 2004. Her work focuses on the problem of citizenship in the face of intentionally inflicted injury: torture, war, and the monarchical structures in place since the invention of nuclear weapons.

Emile Simpson is an Ernest May Fellow in History and Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. He is the author of War From the Ground Up: Twenty-First-Century Combat as Politics (2012), which was shortlisted for the Royal United Services Institute and British Army Book of the Year. He is also a columnist at Foreign Policy. He formerly served in the British Army as an infantry officer, completing three tours in Afghanistan. His current research is in the history of international law.

Jeremy Waldron is University Professor (in the School of Law) at New York University. He previously taught at Edinburgh, Berkeley, Columbia, and most recently as Chichele Professor of Social and Political Theory at Oxford. His books include Liberal Rights (1993), The Dignity of Legislation (1999), Law and Disagreement (1999), Torture, Terror, and Trade-offs (2010), The Harm of Hate Speech (2012), and Dignity, Rank and Rights (2012). He is the author of many published articles and reviews. Particularly well-known are his essays on constitutionalism, homelessness, judicial review, and the rule of law, and his historical writings on John Locke, Immanuel Kant, and John Stuart Mill. Professor Waldron is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Fellow of the British Academy. Earlier this year he delivered the 2015 Gifford Lectures at Edinburgh on the theme “One Another’s Equals: The Basis of Human Equality.”