

MEDIA ADVISORY

Over the edge: Deadly conflict in an interconnected world – Louise Arbour to speak at Congress 2013

*Arbour to discuss a worrying trend of growing inequalities between countries and
the root causes of why this is happening*

May 31, 2013 - Victoria— Economic, social, cultural and religious differences generate conflict while personal ambitions and greed easily transform manageable conflicts into deadly ones. Ideas and institutional reforms in international conflict prevention have not kept pace with technological progress.

Universal human rights, justice, security and prosperity for all, encompassed in Roosevelt’s Freedom from fear and freedom from harm confront the war on terror, the war on drugs and the paralysis of the Security Council and the entrenchment of the concept of state sovereignty. From Syria to Mali, from the South China Sea to the Gulf of Guinea, can we begin to understand the modern faced of armed conflict, and push it back over the edge?

Ms. Arbour has had a long and prestigious legal career, both in Canada and internationally. From 2004 to 2008 she served as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. She is currently President of the International Crisis Group, an independent not-for-profit organization committed to preventing and resolving deadly conflict.

What? Louise Arbour’s “Big Thinking” lecture

“Over the edge: Deadly conflict in an interconnected world -- 2013 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Where? Farquar Auditorium, University Centre, University of Victoria

When? June 1, 2013, 12:15 - 1:20 p.m.

The [Big Thinking](#) lecture series is presented by the [Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences](#) and the [University of Victoria](#). Supporting sponsors are the [Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada](#) and the [Canada Foundation for Innovation](#).

For more information, please contact:

Laura Markle
613-282-3489
lmarkle@ideas-idees.ca

Mélanie Béchard
613-894-7635
mbechard@ideas-idees.ca

About the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences

Organized by the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Congress is the largest interdisciplinary conference in Canada. Described as a “conference of conferences,” Congress involves nearly 70 academic associations that represent a rich spectrum of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, including literature, history, theatre, film studies, education, music, sociology, geography, social work and many others.