

Summer Conversation Series with Mónica Roa

***“Women’s Rights in Latin America: Impact of Strategic Litigation”***

**Tuesday, June 12, 2012 · 3:00 – 4:30 PM**

Georgetown University Law Center

E. B. Williams Library, **Room 358**

600 New Jersey Avenue, NW · Washington, DC 20001

**Mónica Roa**

*Programs Director*

*Women’s Link Worldwide*

**Moderated by Paula Avila**

*Institute Associate*

*O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law*

*“Women’s Link has afforded me the privilege of constructing new paradigms in my work, of understanding our role as the new generation of feminists who use the law as an agent of social change to make gender justice a reality. The challenge of constructing an organization with its own principles is a constant reminder that change begins at home and that the best reward is to see young men and women finding the inspiration to follow a professional path dedicated to equality and justice, whether at Women’s Link or wherever it is that they may find it.” -Mónica Roa*

Mónica Roa has a degree in law from the University of the Andes, Bogotá, Colombia and holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) as a Global Public Service Law Scholar from New York University. Since 2004, she has been the Director of Programs at Women’s Link Worldwide, where she has developed her ideas regarding the judiciary as a pivotal branch in democratic society and has worked to foster greater dialogue between civil society and the courts on how to interpret rights from a gender perspective.

Her work led her to file a petition before the Constitutional Court of Colombia, which led to the liberalization of the country’s abortion law. Her contribution to human rights and women’s rights has been recognized by the most important media outlets in the country, which have awarded her accolades including ‘person of the year’ in 2005 and 2006. In 2011, she was awarded as one of the ten best leaders of Colombia.

Monica teaches at the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at the American University, Washington, D.C. College of Law. She has participated in academic, political and legal conferences in Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia and the United States.