Public Talk: Informers Up Close

Informers contribute to the power of repressive regimes. While informers may themselves be victims, and are enlisted by the state, their actions cause other individuals to suffer significant harm. Informers, then, are central to the proliferation of endemic human rights abuses.

In this public talk, Mark A. Drumbl will present his forthcoming book Informers up Close: Stories from Communist Prague co-authored with Barbora Holá. Through a case-study of Communist Czechoslovakia (1945-1989)—and drawing from secret police archives, oral histories, and a broad gamut of secondary sources—this book unearths what fuels informers to speak to authorities in repressive times and considers how transitional justice should approach informers once repression ends and a successor regime emerges.

Mark A. Drumbl is the Class of 1975 Alumni Professor of Law and Director of the Transnational Law Institute at Washington and Lee University, Virginia, USA.

Time: Wednesday, 24 January 2024, at 15.00-16.00
Place: Room 8A.0.57, Faculty of Law, Njalsgade 76, 2300 Copenhagen S.

The talk is co-hosted by the Centre for Military Studies and the Faculty of Law at the University of Copenhagen.