The year 2022 is undoubtedly a year of transition. Straddling the years between the pandemic, when most of the work was done via virtual platforms, and the period when we returned to the office, 2022 was a year of great achievements for the Centre, taking advantage of the opportunities and logistical means "imposed" by the pandemic, but also re-establishing academic and interpersonal contacts with our various members and partners. In addition to the online courses that attracted 104 registrations, the Centre followed the University’s recommendations by organizing numerous in-person events, starting with those organized in celebration of the Centre’s 40th anniversary. The organization of the 14th edition of our Summer School on International Humanitarian Law in collaboration with the Canadian Red Cross was an ideal opportunity to welcome internationally renowned researchers and professionals to our institution and to offer students and professionals, both Canadian and foreign, a theoretical and empirical education and training of excellent academic quality. The activities initiated and/or organized by our different structures during the past year deserve to be greatly highlighted. The work done by our members Salvador Herencia and Slava Balan in the Human Rights Clinic, of which they are respectively the director and deputy director, is just one example. In fiscal year 2022, the clinic’s members worked on six projects of international scope. These projects range from the interaction between business law and human rights to judicial independence and the rule of law in Canada and elsewhere in the world, including Latin America. The Scholars at Risk uOttawa Program, led by our Associate Director Viviana Fernandez, has become a model for other Canadian universities. Thanks to this program, the University of Ottawa has been able to host four researchers from countries experiencing political and economic crises (Yemen, Afghanistan and Ukraine).

Aware of the Centre’s role in promoting human rights on a global scale and to be a meeting place for debates on current international issues, we have succeeded, in record time, in organizing and supporting activities and projects on sensitive - and topical - issues, such as the war in Ukraine (Germain-Brière Day) or the political and constitutional crisis in Peru. We have also given, both in our activities and in our communications, a special place to the international, cultural and academic Francophone space to reflect the diversity of our institutional and academic approaches and realities.

The year 2022 was also a year of questioning the structures and functioning of the Centre. This is why we have initiated, in the fall of 2022, a project to amend the Centre’s Constitution to ensure better support for these activities and commitments. This work, which we hope will continue in the coming years, will be the result of a collective effort and the commitment that all of us here at the Centre have to the values of equity, diversity, transparency and justice.

We are proud of our accomplishments, but we know very well that the promotion of human rights is a long-term endeavour and a struggle that must always be renewed.

Professor Jabeur Fathally, Interim Director
Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC)
University of Ottawa
The Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC) was created in 1981 and is one of the oldest such Centres in Canada and North America. During the academic year 2021-2022, HRREC celebrated its 40th anniversary with a series of high-profile events, research and outreach activities and launching new projects involving our members and partners, reaching well beyond our normal constituents. In that context, the Centre redefined its mission statement:

We ‘REACH’ — Research, Educate, Advocate & Convene for Human Rights.

By promoting human rights through a dynamic and rigorous action-research approach, HRREC adds value to global and national progress on human rights through the original research and outreach activities of our members, and our partners. By building on links with relevant actors in government, civil society, Indigenous communities and academia for events, knowledge exchanges, research projects and other initiatives, the Centre also offers training opportunities for students and civil society organizations on cutting edge concepts and methodologies.

The Centre comprises researchers in law, social sciences, management/business and the arts and places a particular emphasis on issues of public policy and social justice. Areas of preponderant interest among Centre’s members are: Diversity, Identity, Inclusion & Equality; Conflict, Violence, (In)Security & War; Governance, Rights & Rule of Law; and Development, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The HRREC benefits from a bilingual and plurilegal environment. Its strategic location in a G7 Capital supports the Centre at all levels of its initiatives, whether local, national or international.

Our 71 members are academics, students and actors in the wider community. We are especially pleased with, and benefit from, the diversity of our members comprising over thirty nationalities and over forty languages, and our female: male ratio of 1.3:1.

### About HRREC

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### WHO WE ARE

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#### Academic members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nadia ABU-ZAHRA</th>
<th>Faculty of Social Sciences</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Management Committee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane BAILEY</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori G. BEAMAN</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer BOND</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magda DONIA</td>
<td>Telfer School of Management</td>
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<td>Karen ELTIS</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<td>Jabeur FATHALLY</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larisa KURTOVIĆ</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>André LALIBERTÉ</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie LIEW</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ravi MALHOTRA</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacifique MANIRAKIZA</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathalie MONDAIN</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaac NAHON-SERFATY</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darren O’TOOLE</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>John PACKER</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mona PARÉ</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justin Piché</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>François ROCHER</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott SIMON</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penelope SIMONS</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>(GFH Chair in Human Rights &amp; Management Committee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joanne ST. LEWIS</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karine VANTHUYNE</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>João VELLOSO</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valerie STEEVES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie-Ève SYLVESTRE</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meredith TERRETTA</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<td>Sophie THÉRIAULT</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<td>David WISEMAN</td>
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### Fellows

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Faculty/Unit</th>
<th>Position/Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pierre Gilles BÉLANGER</td>
<td>Lawyer, Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Law</td>
<td>Civil Law Section, uOttawa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Van ARMENIAN</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stéphanie BACHER</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaeceslav (Slava) BALAN</td>
<td>Faculty of Law (Management Committee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tenille BROWN</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corinna Simeoni BUHAY</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fu-Wei CHANG</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrea KHAN</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oonagh E. FITZGERAL</td>
<td>Senior Fellow</td>
<td>President, International Law Association of Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omid B. MILANI</td>
<td>Creator of Contekst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anoush F. TERJANIAN</td>
<td>Former Special Adviser to the Vice-President</td>
<td>International and Francophonie, uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy WILDEMAN</td>
<td>Research interests in peace, conflict studies,</td>
<td>Middle East Politics, Canadian foreign policy and international relations.</td>
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### Student members

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Faculty/Unit</th>
<th>Position/Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olabisi AKINKUGBE</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Dalhousie University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammed AL-SHUWAITER</td>
<td>Co-founder &amp; Executive Director of Qānūn, the</td>
<td>Arabic human Rights platform</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kawkab AL-WADEAI</td>
<td>Researcher &amp; Mental Health Counsellor (Gender,</td>
<td>Peace &amp; Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catalina ARANGO</td>
<td>Project Coordinator, HRREC Human Rights Clinic,</td>
<td>uOttawa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ramon BLANCO-BARRERA</td>
<td>Ph.D., Artist, Interim Professor, Faculty of</td>
<td>Fine Arts, University of Seville (Spain)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aboubacar DAKUYO</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Law</td>
<td>uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David DESBAILLET</td>
<td>Policy Analyst, Canadian Human Rights Commission</td>
<td>(CHRC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordi Feo Valero</td>
<td>Project Coordinator, HRREC Human Rights Clinic,</td>
<td>uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emilie Di GRAZIA</td>
<td>Technical Officer, Gender, Equity and Human</td>
<td>Rights, World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsten FISHER</td>
<td>GFH Postdoctoral Fellow (2012-13), Associate</td>
<td>Professor, University of Saskatchewan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam R. HOUSTON</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Law</td>
<td>uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rasha JARHUM</td>
<td>Co-founder and Director, Peace Track Initiative</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Graciela JASA SILVEIRA</td>
<td>GFH Postdoctoral Fellow (2014-15)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Janine LESPÉRANCE</td>
<td>Independent External Decision-Maker, App. by</td>
<td>Canada’s Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer LOPES</td>
<td>Part-time Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences,</td>
<td>uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson Arturo OVALLE DIAZ</td>
<td>Part-time Professor, Faculty of Law</td>
<td>uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob TATSITSA</td>
<td>Ph.D. in political history of Africa, Department</td>
<td>History, Faculty of Arts, uOttawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Ynès ADA TCHOUKOU</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Law, uOttawa &amp; Assistant Professor,</td>
<td>Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, uOttawa</td>
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### Community members

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jabeur FATHALLY</td>
<td>Interim Director</td>
<td>(2022-2023)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline FAUCHER</td>
<td>Specialist, Communications and Advisory Services</td>
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| Caroline FAUCHER         | Specialist, Communications and Advisory Services  |                                                                              |
FEATURED PROFILES

Selected profiles from our members and visiting researchers.

JULIA HERNANDEZ
Fulbright Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice 2022

Julia Hernandez was appointed Fulbright Canada Chair during Winter 2022. She is Associate Professor of Law at the CUNY School of Law and practices in and writes about the family regulation system in its various iterations, targeting migrant families, in Native communities and in state-based systems in communities across the United States. Prior to joining CUNY’s faculty, Julia was an attorney with Brooklyn Defender Services’ Family Defense Practice where she represented parents in child neglect and abuse proceedings. Her research project focused on movement lawyering in the landmark Caring Society case.

ASHLEY BARNES
Gordon Henderson Postdoctoral Fellow 2022-2023

Ashley Barnes is a lawyer and scholar whose work focuses on access to justice and remedies under international law. She completed her SJD at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. Her research was supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Canadian Council of International Law, among others. In 2017, she was a Visiting Scholar at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge. She was previously a Schulich Fellow at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University. During her fellowship at the HRREC, she will be expanding her work into new access to justice challenges, including the timely issue of compensating those directly harmed by climate change in domestic and international forums.

GHUNA BDWI
Alex Trebek Postdoctoral Fellow 2022-2023

Ghuna Bdiwi is a lawyer and a human rights activist with legal practice experiences in both Syria and Canada. In Syria, her practice focused on cases that involved arbitrary detention and torture of political detainees, while in Canada her legal work focuses on refugee and immigration law. She is a member of the Syrian Constitutional Committee that is mandated to draft a new Constitution for Syria. Ghuna has a Ph.D., LL.M. (research), LL.M. from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, and a Master’s in International Banking and Finance from Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV, France. Ghuna joined the Changing Orders: Shaping the Future and Securing Rights in a World in Transformation project co-led by HRREC in January 2022.

Pierre Gilles Bélanger became an HRREC Fellow in fall 2022. His doctorate focused on criminal law reforms to provide a more legitimate approach to the penal process, particularly for groups or individuals traditionally vulnerable to the rule of law. He has been a member of the Barreau du Québec since 1988 and was appointed adjunct professor at the Faculty of Civil Law in 2021. Pierre Gilles created a program with some Latin American universities called The political-legal order in Latin America and its relations with Canada which allows students and academics from Canada and the region to discuss issues of rights with a common lens.
During 2022, HRREC offered three online courses in the Winter term, and two courses in the Fall term involving 104 students. After a two-years pause due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Centre offered the 14th edition of the annual Summer School on International Humanitarian Law (a joint initiative with the Canadian Red Cross) between May 30 to June 3, 2022. During the course, two bimodal presentations open to the participants and the public analyzed the situations of Canadians arbitrarily detained in Northeast Syria for suspected Islamic State ties and violations committed in the war in Ukraine.

During the past year, nine contracts or bursaries for teaching assistants/course coordinators/project coordinators were funded by the Centre, most of which benefited graduate students in Law. Students also worked in specific activities linked to the 40th anniversary programme and the Human Rights Clinic.

**Online courses**

**DCC2303 | Legal Aspects of Human Rights (Offered in English.)**

**DCC2703 | Dimensions juridiques des droits de la personne (Offered in French.)**

Historical origins of international human rights law. Presentation of international law as a legal system that includes rules, principles and requirements, as well as specific methodological research tools.

**DCC3110 | Inter American System of Human Rights (Offered in English.)**

Introduction to the Inter American system of human rights protection by subject areas including womens’ rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, the right to democracy and social rights.

**DCC4119 | Selected Topics in Law: International Human Rights (Offered in English.)**

Problems and challenges affecting the realization and/or implementation of international human rights in contemporary contexts. The first edition focused on *Human Rights and governance: Human Rights Based Approach to Policy, Law and Development.*
During 2022, the Human Rights Clinic worked on six projects involving 30 students, working under the direction of Salvador Herencia and Slava Balan, Ph.D. candidates in Law, as Director and Assistant Director of the Clinic respectively and a group of dedicated Project Coordinators. The projects addressed or supported the following topics:

- Business and Human Rights in Latin America;
- Canadian Partnership for International Justice;
- Independence of Judges and Lawyers;
- Scholars at Risk in the Americas;
- Support to the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues; and,
- Strengthening the Equality Council of Moldova.

The project focuses on the responsibility of home States for the activities of private companies operating in Latin America. During 2022, the Clinic supported human rights defenders in the Americas by submitting 2 amicus briefs to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on cases regarding environmental pollution and its impact on the health of rural communities (case of La Oroya vs Peru) and on a case regarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation (Case of the Tagaeri and Taromenane Indigenous Peoples vs. Ecuador). Both decisions are expected in 2023. In addition, the Clinic partnered with different legal clinics and NGOs to secure the release of six environmental defenders in Honduras in February 2022, following 914 days of arbitrary detention in a maximum-security prison for opposing mining projects affecting their community, territory and access to clean water of the Guapinol river.

This Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) partnership will officially close in winter 2023 whereas the Clinic’s participation in the project ended in fall 2022. It benefitted from the work of key partners: the Canadian Centre for International Justice (Université Laval), the former Canadian Partnership for International Justice and Lawyers Without Borders Canada. HRREC members João Velloso, Penelope Simons and John Packer were part of this initiative, acting as academic advisors and, Aboubacar Dakuyo, Ph.D., worked as project coordinator. On December 1st, SSHRC presented the 2022 Partnership Award to the CPIJ. The award recognizes the contribution of a SSHRC-funded partnership that, through mutual co-operation and shared intellectual leadership and resources, demonstrates impact and influence within or beyond the social sciences and humanities research community.

Starting in December 2016, the Clinic provided research support to Mr. Diego García-Sayán, UNSR on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, under the direction of Professor John Packer and former HRREC Fellow Jordi Feo, Ph.D., researching and drafting thematic reports. Mr. García-Sayán concluded his 6-year mandate in October 2022, concluding the collaboration with HRREC. For 2022, the team contributed to two public reports:

In addition to Professor Julia Hernandez (see Selected profiles), the Centre welcomed Ümmühan Elçin Ertuğrul, Associate Professor of International Public Law at Kırıkkale University in February 2022 for a year. Elçin is a lawyer registered at the Ankara Bar, Turkey and completed her Ph.D. about the state's responsibility for peremptory norms of International Law, in International Public Law at the Gazi University in Ankara. She teaches International Law, Human Rights Law and Law on Foreigners and Citizens, the Law of International Armed Conflict and the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. The purpose of her visit was to research the issues of burden-sharing linked with refugee law, temporary protection status, and the collective action and cooperation of the international community.

Starting in 2018, the Clinic has monitored situations that may affect academic freedom in seven countries: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela under the direction of Professors Isaac Nahon-Serfaty and João Velloso with support from Project Coordinator Catalina Arango and Clinic Director Salvador Herencia. In fall 2022, new Coordinator Fiorella Rabuffetti joined the team and expanded the scope of the project to nine countries: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

During 2022, HRREC, the University of Monterrey (Mexico) and the Scholars at Risk Network (New York) have continued to be part of an academic network from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to provide technical assistance and contribute to the development of the Inter-American Human Rights System. Work related to this academic network included creating a report of incidents or attacks to academic freedom in the Americas with was submitted in December. In terms of advocacy actions, the focus was on highlighting attempts by the Mexican government to control universities through political interference, affecting university autonomy and academic freedom. This included the organization of webinars, participation in a conference with members of the Mexican Senate and writing op-eds.

Support to the UNSR on minority issues | Since 2022

This project aims to support the mandate of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, Dr Fernand de Varennes. John Packer is academic advisor and Ph.D. candidate Slava Balan is the Project Coordinator. The aim is to inform communications sent by the mandate to governments regarding alleged violations of minority rights. Research outputs developed to date focus on issues concerning alleged persecution of minority rights defenders, violations of linguistic and cultural rights of minorities in over a dozen countries in Asia, Europe and Africa.

Strengthening the Equality Council of Moldova | Since 2021

This project was created thanks to a partnership with the Equality Council of Moldova, with Professor John Packer as academic advisor and Slava Balan as Project Coordinator. The project aims to support the resolution of interethnic conflict and prevent discrimination through research and advisory papers on human rights and discrimination issues under examination of the Moldovan Equality Council. Papers developed to date include issues concerning discrimination on linguistic grounds, potential discrimination on the ground of COVID-19 vaccination status and a comparative study of hate speech regimes.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

Visiting scholars
Our Student Travel Fund benefitted five doctoral students from the Faculties of Social Sciences, Music and Law, and members of the Centre. Thanks to this support, they participated in several national and international events: the 8th Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators, Gramado, Brazil (May 25-27); the Charter Conference organized by HRREC in Ottawa (16-17 June); The Hague Academy of International Law Summer Courses, The Hague, The Netherlands (August 1-19); and the conference Children in armed conflict: How can they be protected in a multilevel international framework? as well as meetings with the Centre on Conflict & Child Rights at University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe OSCE in Amsterdam, The Netherlands (November 21-24).

In the context of the project Changing Orders: Shaping the Future and Securing Rights in a World in Transformation, postdoctoral fellow David Hughes initiated the Forced Displacement Workshop for junior scholars in fall 2021. This interdisciplinary network of 25 early career academics from across the world continued their exchanges under the direction of postdoctoral fellow Ghuna Bdiwi during 2022. The work was presented in two panels at the 14th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS) which took place (virtually) at the University of Waterloo in November.

Assistant Director Viviana Fernandez has served in the Executive Board of the Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI) since September 2021. In this capacity, she is leading a working group on institutional development and cooperation. Viviana attended the 2022 AHRI Annual Conference (September), hosted by the University of Pretoria, South Africa, under the theme Human Rights and Technology.

The Centre holds a permanent position on the Steering Committee of the Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child (IRLRC) and, starting in October 2020, supports the Laboratory in operational matters and communication related tasks. HRREC is also a founding member of the Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes (CAHRI, 14 members across the country).

HRREC has held organizational responsibility for the Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa Program since 2014. Assistant Director Viviana Fernandez was a member of Canadian Section (SAR Canada) Steering Committee from 2016 until 2022 (Chair in 2020-2022) and has participated in SAR’s International Advisory Committee since 2016.

During 2022, the SAR uOttawa Program hosted four scholars: Dr. Faisal Al-Kamali, a communications engineering scholar from Yemen (December 2021 to November 2023); Shabnam Salehi, former Commissioner of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and recipient of the 2022 Diane von Furstenberg Award which recognizes and supports extraordinary women who are dedicated to transforming the lives of other women (May 2022 to April 2023); Zahra Hakimi, Afghan scholar in nursing (December 2022 to December 2024); and Dr. Olha Chernovol, a lawyer from Ukraine hosted by the Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section (July 2022 to July 2023).
These placements were made possible thanks to an allocation from the Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation (OVPRI), in addition to two grants funded by Scholars Rescue Fund (US$50,000, total allocated to Professor Claude D’Amours, Faculty of Engineering) and contributions from the Association of Professors of the University of Ottawa (APUO) and individual donors.

The program also includes a Remote Scholars option which focuses on Venezuela. During 2021-2022, two scholars were chosen in the fields of science policy and infectious diseases. A new cohort of scholars should begin their terms in 2023. The SAR uOttawa Program also spearheads the work of an academic freedom monitoring team through our Human Rights Clinic (m details on this work is available on the previous pages).

An important part of the work for the past year also had to do with the development of the Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA). This is an initiative jointly led by the HRREC, the Universidad de Monterrey and the Scholars at Risk Network. The project seeks to increase awareness and advocacy in defense of academic freedom across the Americas, aimed at developing and concretizing relevant human rights standards, both as a means of protecting higher education spaces in the western hemisphere, and modeling best practices elsewhere. The partners held several virtual events and organized the 1st Conference on Academic Freedom in the Americas that took place in Monterrey (November 10-11). A special issue in the Revista Internacional de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales (U. de Monterrey) is in progress as a deliverable from the conference. This in-person event gathered participants from several countries in the Americas region, Europe and Asia. A website and social media presence were launched, and the group elected Assistant Director Viviana Fernandez as its representative for the SAR International Advisory Committee. A second grant from the Open Society Foundation was approved in spring and will extend the work of the Coalition through 2024.

Events & related engagements

Viviana Fernandez presented about SAR Canada and the work of the uOttawa Human Clinic at a virtual roundtable organized by York University and titled Scholars At Risk: Academic Freedom and the University (February 3). She also participated in a round-table titled Strategies to Protect Academic Freedom organized by CAFA (March 23) and presented at the University of Windsor about SAR uOttawa’s program (October 25).

Viviana attended the 2022 Philipp Schwartz Initiative & Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum, held in Berlin (May 10-11) in her role as member of the SAR’s International Advisory Committee. Viviana was interviewed by Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) to showcase the situation of scholars at risk in Canada (Supporting scholars at risk | February bulletin) and by University Affairs to discuss the impact of the war in Ukraine in Canadian academia (April).

Salvador Herencia, Catalina Arango and Viviana Fernandez organized and participated in the first CAFA conference in Monterrey, Mexico (November 10-11) which featured the global launch for the SAR Free to Think Report 2022.

FUNDING & RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

During 2022, the Centre participated in seven grant applications to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Open Society Foundation.

The Centre continued to be actively engaged in nine research partnerships, seven funded by SSHRC, one supported by the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue and one funded by the Open Society Foundation. Themes, principal investigators, and professors members of the HRREC are listed here:
ACCÈS À LA JUSTICE DES ENFANTS ET VULNÉRABILITÉ
Led by Professor Mona Paré.

STRENGTHENING JUSTICE FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMES: A CANADIAN PARTNERSHIP
Led by Professor Fannie Lafontaine (Université Laval) including Professors Jennifer Bond, John Packer, Penelope Simons, and João Velloso.

IMPACTS - COLLABORATIONS TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS
Led by Professor Shaheen Shariff (McGill University) and including Professors Jane Bailey and Valerie Steeves.

ACCÈS AU DROIT ET À LA JUSTICE - ADAJ
Led by Professor Pierre Noreau (Université de Montréal) including Professor João Velloso.

THE eQUALITY PROJECT
Led by Professors Valerie Steeves and Jane Bailey. This SSHRC-funded Partnership has explored a range of issues that affect young people's relationship with, and experience of, digital technology since 2017. On October 1st, 2022, the project organized a Youth Summit to discuss the policy issues arising from the introduction of artificial intelligence and educational technologies in Canadian schools. This was the last public activity of the partnership, and it gathered 30 engaged youth participants, aged 15-18, and policymakers. A report on the results of the dialogue will be published in the coming months.

AUTONOMY THROUGH CYBERJUSTICE TECHNOLOGIES
Led by Professor Karim Benyekhlef (Université de Montréal) with Professor Jane Bailey.

OBSERVATOIRE SUR LES PROFILAGES
Led by Professor Céline Bellot (Université de Montréal) and Professors Marie-Ève Sylvestre and João Velloso.

CHANGING ORDERS:
SHAPING THE FUTURE AND SECURING RIGHTS IN A WORLD IN TRANSFORMATION
Jointly led by the Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), the Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP), the Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC), and The Refugee Hub, including Professors Jennifer Bond and John Packer.

COALITION FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN THE AMERICAS (CAFA) | COALICIÓN POR LA LIBERTAD ACADÉMICA EN LAS AMÉRICAS (CLAA)
Jointly led by the Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC), the University of Monterrey (Mexico) and the Scholars at Risk Network and funded by the Open Society Foundation. The two-years project involves members Salvador Herencia, Catalina Arango and Assistant Director Viviana Fernandez.

Congratulations to our members who received research funding during 2022:

ACADEMIC MEMBERS

André Laliberté and Scott Simon received a $10,975 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Connections Grant for the project The Challenge of China: Protecting Human Rights and Democracy in Global Institutions. Scott Simon also received $5,000 USD from the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy for the organization of the conference.

HRREC Director John Packer received a $11,400 grant from the Canadian Defence Academy for a research contract titled Situating the Relationship between Human Security and International Law. The research was done in collaboration with student member Slava Balan.
During 2022, the Centre hosted or partnered in fifty-five (55) activities or events (in-person or online), including two book launches, four film screenings, an art exhibition, six two-days academic conferences, and seven workshops/symposia/summits. These were organized with 53 partners representing government agencies, research groups, foundations, national and international NGOs, law firms, Embassies, United Nations Special Rapporteurs, student groups, etc. with total attendance of around 3,700 participants. The list of the Centre’s events, reports and outputs can be found on the HRREC website.

The Centre organized a virtual networking event for students and recent alumni with Alex Neve (Former Secretary-General of Amnesty International Canada) and partnered with Human Rights Watch in their annual Toronto Human Rights Film Festival. The Centre also welcomed the 2019 winner of the Embassy of Canada in Venezuela Human Rights Award, Mrs. Katherine Martinez from the NGO Prepara Familia, and the The Netherlands Ambassador for Human Rights, Dr Bahia Tahzib-Lie, and The Netherlands Ambassador to Canada, Ines Coppolose, for an exchange and brief discussion about shared interests and challenges notably of Human Rights Defenders, Activists-in-Exile and Scholars-At-Risk (SAR). Both visits took place in June 2022.

The Faculty of Law regularly uses the rooms of the Centre for classes, student activities and a series of research lunches hosted by Dean Kristen Boon (Common Law) during the fall term.

**EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS**

**40th anniversary**

The Centre continued celebrating its 40th anniversary during the first semester of 2022. A programme of activities and events spanned from September 2021 through June 2022, culminating with the conference Our CHARTER — Our RIGHTS (June 16-17) to mark the direct link between the creation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and freedoms (1982) and the birth of our Centre a few months earlier.

**Activities & events**

During 2022, the Centre hosted or partnered in fifty-five (55) activities or events (in-person or online), including two book launches, four film screenings, an art exhibition, six two-days academic conferences, and seven workshops/symposia/summits. These were organized with 53 partners representing government agencies, research groups, foundations, national and international NGOs, law firms, Embassies, United Nations Special Rapporteurs, student groups, etc. with total attendance of around 3,700 participants. The list of the Centre’s events, reports and outputs can be found on the HRREC website.

Justin Piché received a $61,319 SSHRC Insight Development Grant (2022-2024) for the project *Escape Rooms and Prison Tourism: A Study of Cultures of Penalty and Carceral Retasking* (co-applicant). Justin also received a $308,991 SSHRC Insight Grant as principal applicant for the project titled *Locating Penitentiaries in Canada: How Carceral Space Matters* (2022-2027) and $7,160 Special Collabzium Grant from the Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa.

Valerie Steeves and Jane Bailey received a $120,000 grant from the Law Foundation of British Columbia and a $26,749 SSHRC Connections Grant for the project *Youth Summit on Privacy, Equality and Education Technologies* which was the final activity for their Partnership Grant named *The eQuality Project*.

Karine Vanthuyne received a $27,035 SSHRC Connections Grant for the project *Indigenizing Post-Secondary Curricula with Indigenous Curriculum Specialists*. Karine also received a $7,160 Special Collabzium Grant from the Faculty of Social Sciences, uOttawa, for the project *The futures of reparation in Latin America: imagination, translation and belonging*.

**FELLOWS**

Jeremy Wildeman received a $447,000 SSHRC grant (2022-2025) as principal investigator, for the project *Race, Gender and Diversity Initiative*’ stream, Canada: The right to housing for tenants with disabilities in Canada.
Our CHARTER — Our RIGHTS
This bimodal and bilingual two-days gathering included the participation of law and journalism students from across Canada, advocates, academics, policy analysts and politicians from Canada and abroad. High level speakers included the UN Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Peaceful Assembly and Association, and on Minority Issues, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, three former Ministers of Justice, Attorneys General, Members of Parliament and Senators, the Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and the British Columbia Human Rights Commissioner, and the President of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami as well as the former Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission. The gathering was conceived to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Centre and the 40th Anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The event offered an opportunity for critical analysis in terms of domestic and foreign policy and practice – law, institutions, programmes – required for the effective enjoyment of human rights and their full realisation.

VALLEY OF THE BIRDTAIL:
An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation
This book explores the 150 years journey that transformed the town of Rossburn and the Waywayseecappo Indian reserve in Manitoba into separate and unequal communities. Their story reflects much of what has gone wrong in relations between Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians. Former HRREC member, Andrew Stobo Sniderman, and Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) presented their bestselling novel during a book launch filled with exciting exchanges with community members and law students.

Germain-Brière Conference:
The war in Ukraine & international humanitarian law
This annual conference touches on a current legal issue. It was instituted in 2008 to honour the memory of Mr. Germain Brière, emeritus professor at the Civil Law Section where he taught for over thirty years. This year’s theme was the war in Ukraine and international humanitarian law and the session was in French.

The Challenge of China: Protecting human rights & democracy in the global institutions of the 21st century
The People’s Republic of China (PRC), without a doubt, poses the most pressing human rights challenges since the creation of the United Nations and global institutions that were built to end war and protect human rights for all. Legal experts and social scientists from Taiwan, France, the US, Canada, and University of Ottawa explored what can the international community, specifically Canada, do to encourage China to conform to international human rights standards.

The Honourable Rosalie Silberman Abella — A life of firsts
The Public Law Centre, the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, The Advocates’ Society and HRREC organized a conference to celebrate the remarkable career and legacy of the Honourable Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella from the Supreme Court of Canada. The panels spanned over two days and examined her influence on law and society. The conference was held in person in Ottawa and online.
FOCUS ON UKRAINE

Since the start of the war in Ukraine, the Centre endorsed statements against this unlawful conflict issued by the Association of Human Rights Institutes and the Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes. HRREC organized several webinars around the topic and a special session preceding the annual International Humanitarian Law Summer School was dedicated to the conflict. Academic members also gave interviews on the issue of war crimes and the rules of engagement that should apply to the conflict.

ARTS + HUMAN RIGHTS

Since 2014, HRREC has deliberately engaged in a multidisciplinary experiment of human rights issues framed through the various forms of creative artistic expression such as visual, performance, media, cinematographic, musical and literary arts.

During spring 2022, Senior Fellow Oonagh Fitzgerald and Community Member Ramon Blanco-Barrera undertook the organization of the 2nd HRREC Arts + Human Rights Symposium. Two preparatory workshops held in January were organized along the themes: What are Human Rights in the Posthuman Age of the Anthropocene? And The Arts and Human Rights in the Context of Being Cyborgs, Living Speculative Futures. These led to a two-day Symposium held bimodally in April 2022, focusing on the theme of Building Positive Relations: The Arts, New Materialism, Posthumanism and Human Rights. Artistic works, experiences and ideas shared among participants enriched the discussions. Over the summer, participants provided feedback on an initial draft of ideas for a Manifesto. Participants included human rights, philosophy and arts academics and advocates and artists, story tellers, dancers, and musicians from around the world. Video recordings of the symposium, the Manifesto and the reports of the workshops and symposium, including brief biographical information about participants, can be found in the HRREC website. A multimedia exposition will be held in spring 2023 at Concordia University with support from Concordia University’s Milieux and LeParc, the Universidad de Sevilla, Spain, and Emergent Art Space (EAS).

HRREC also partnered with Fellow Omid Milani, Ph.D. and founder of Contekst, to launch a project called “Everyone’s Rights & Freedoms”. Coinciding with the 40th anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the idea was to create a political cartoon bulletin showcasing editorial cartoonists’ views on manifestations and violations of human rights and freedoms in various socio-political contexts. Twenty-four (24) cartoons were chosen from works submitted by tens of world-renowned political cartoonists from scores of countries. The cartoons were selected by jurors Hilal Özcan from Turkey and Mello from Brazil, who presently shine amongst the brightest political cartoonists in the world. The exhibition was shown during the Conference Our Charter – Our Rights and during a temporary art exhibit in the Canadian Senate, co-sponsored by Senator Marilou McPhedran (June 14-16).
Our members publish regularly in peer-reviewed academic journals, contribute to blogs, reports, policy briefs, opinion pieces, etc. They can also contribute to the HRREC Working Papers Series available on uOResearch. Here is a selection of their publications.

BOOKS


BOOK CHAPTERS


JOURNALS (Guest Editors)


ARTICLES


REPORTS, POLICY BRIEFS & OTHER PUBLICATIONS


Notable awards and nominations received by our members.

Community member Olabisi D. Akinkugbe was elected to serve on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law (May). He also joined the Advisory Board of the Center on Inclusive Trade and Development (September).

Jane Bailey was appointed to the Ontario Information and Privacy Commissioner’s Strategic Advisory Council in May. The Council provides independent, expert advice to help ensure a broader range of interests and perspectives are taken into consideration in advancing and implementing the office’s strategic goals. Jane was also named member of the International Advisory Group for Australian Resource Council Fellowship Project (Melbourne, Australia).

Pierre Gilles Bélanger and Adam R. Houston successfully defended their doctoral thesis this year. Pierre Gilles Bélanger’s thesis was titled *La procédure abrégée dans le contexte de la réforme juridique chilienne - une analyse de la légitimité bourdieusienne à travers ses acteurs judiciaires* under the direction of academic member and Dean, Marie-Ève Sylvestre. Adam’s thesis was titled *Neglecting the Essentials: Addressing Barriers to Accessing Off-Patent Essential Medicines for Neglected Diseases in Canada* under the direction of Professor Amir Attaran.

Community member Ramon Blanco-Barrera was awarded the Extraordinary Ph.D. Award of the year for his doctoral thesis earned in 2020.

Assistant Director Viviana Fernandez received a recognition for “outstanding dedication to protecting at-risk scholars and promoting academic freedom” as a long-term member of the Scholars At Risk International Advisory Committee. The recognition was given during the 2022 Philipp Schwartz Initiative & Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum, held in Berlin in May.

André Laliberté became member of the Executive board of the East Asian Society for the Study of Religion.

Professor Jamie Liew’s novel *Dandelion* won an audio book award and was featured as first book in the All in a day Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) book club in October.

Former HRREC Director Edward J. Ratushny was promoted to the Order of Canada for his contributions to the field of administrative law, and for his leadership in sports arbitration and law.

Dean Marie-Ève Sylvestre was named Advocatus Emeritus by the Barreau du Québec in recognition of her professional actions and to mark her exceptional career. The ceremony took place in Montreal in November.
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<tr>
<th>Story</th>
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<tr>
<td>Malorie Kanaan is the recipient of the Jacques Gaudreau Graduate Scholarship</td>
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<td>John Packer’s address at the French National Assembly leads to adoption of resolution to recognize the Uyghur Genocide</td>
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<td>Common Law student gains invaluable first-hand experience in peace negotiations</td>
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<td>HRREC members meet with Pramila Pattern</td>
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<td>Visiting researcher Shabnam Salehi received a DVF award</td>
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<td>From Kyiv to Ottawa: Olha Chernovol finds a new academic home at Fauteux Hall</td>
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<td>HRREC endorses AHRI’s statement on the Russian invasion of Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Rights Clinic: Internship with real world impact!</td>
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<td>Jabeur Fathally appointed Director of HRREC for one year</td>
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Malorie Kanaan is the recipient of the Jacques Gaudreau Graduate Scholarship.

**SOCIAL MEDIA & LISTSERV(S)**

- **Likes**: 1,300 (31% increase)
- **Followers**: 2,156 (10.5% increase)
- **Followers**: 1,554 (21% increase)
- **Non-Members Subscribers**: 1,235 (2% increase)

**EVENTS**
OUR PARTNERS

CAHRI | Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes

Gordon F. Henderson
Chair in Human Rights

Research Chair in Taiwan Studies | FSS | uOttawa
Chaire de recherche en études Taïwanaises | FSS | uOttawa
UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges & Lawyers

Université d'Ottawa
University of Ottawa

Chaire conjointe en études des femmes
Université d'Ottawa | Carleton University

Joint Chair in Women's Studies
University of Ottawa | Carleton University

Centre for Law, Technology and Society
Faculty of Law | Common Law Section | University of Ottawa