



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTRE

University of Ottawa



uOttawa





FROM THE DIRECTOR

Yet another busy year, 2023 moved some steps past the extraordinary COVID disruption and a 'new normal' featuring now routine on-line or hybrid events and activities and a more relaxed office culture as members and visitors combine in situ and virtual presences. The result has been positive in terms of greater flexibility and definitely reach, yet something perhaps lost in terms of fewer spontaneous chats at the photocopier. On balance, the result has been positive as the engagements of our Centre and community have been many, diverse and robust attracting wider interest, reach and impact.

This report (of the calendar year) straddles the second half of the interim directorship of Professor Jabeur Fathally followed by my mid-summer return from sabbatical. In fact, contrary to plans, I had remained in Ottawa and (too) often at my usual office, even attending various events and engaged in some principal ones, such as the honour for HRREC of co-hosting the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. 2023 featured other high-level guests, notably the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and (in the same week) one of the senior most officials of Taiwan. Of course, these attracted wide interest, but the principal work of the Centre resides in that of our many members and continues daily through the range of scholarly activities, events, publications, and so forth which typify active research centres in the academy. These are recounted in summary, indicative or high-lighted terms in this annual report. The range of people is apparent beginning with our membership and dedicated staff through all sorts of partners in various roles coming together in support of human rights according with our mandate and mission. Together, it is strong evidence of the continuing relevance and dynamism of the idea of human rights and the ongoing need and desire for quality research and education in this ever-evolving field of enquiry and action. Indeed, the subjects covered by this report are many and diverse – some old and others novel, but all important elements for human well-being, individually or socially, in Canada and globally. In this connection, I was pleased in the last edition of the *Canadian Yearbook of Human Rights* to include a special section profiling leading Canadians in the field of human rights, as we will again do in the next edition covering the current and last year. For it merits not only seeing the fruits of human rights research, education and activities (as this report does), but also knowing something about the people who do the work and drive the field.

For many (including our community at uOttawa), engagement in human rights is more than an interesting subject for study or even advocacy. It is also a cause for deep concern and passionate engagement aiming at individual and social justice, well-being, and sustainable peace and development. As such, although we may hold quite distinct particular foci of interest and specialization, we work together in some shared endeavours and a common Centre. We are grateful for the opportunity and means to do this work and are dedicated to continue towards the fuller realization and universal enjoyment of human rights.

Professor **John Packer**

Director | Human Rights Research and Education Centre
University of Ottawa

ACADEMIC MEMBERS

Nadia ABU-ZAHRA
Faculty of Social Sciences
(Management Committee)

Jane BAILEY
Faculty of Law

Lori G. BEAMAN
Faculty of Arts

Jennifer BOND
Faculty of Law

Céline CASTETS-RENARD
Faculty of Law

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Faculty of Social Sciences

Magda DONIA
Telfer School of Management

Marie-Christine DORAN
Faculty of Social Sciences

Karen ELTIS
Faculty of Law
(Management Committee)

Jabeur FATHALLY
Faculty of Law & Director a.i.
academic year 2022-2023

Roojin HABIBI
Faculty of Law

Larisa KURTOVIĆ
Faculty of Social Sciences

André LALIBERTÉ
Faculty of Social Sciences

Jamie LIEW
Faculty of Law

Ravi MALHOTRA
Faculty of Law

Pacifique MANIRAKIZA
Faculty of Law

Nathalie MONDAIN
Faculty of Social Sciences

Isaac NAHON-SERFATY
Faculty of Arts

Darren O'TOOLE
Faculty of Law

John PACKER
Faculty of Law

Muriel PARADELLE
Faculty of Law

Mona PARÉ
Faculty of Law

Justin PICHÉ
Faculty of Social Sciences
(Management Committee)

François ROCHER
Faculty of Social Sciences

Scott SIMON
Faculty of Social Sciences

Penelope SIMONS
Faculty of Law (GFH Chair in
Human Rights & Management
Committee)

Valerie STEEVES
Faculty of Social Sciences

Marie-Ève SYLVESTRE
Faculty of Law

Meredith TERRETTA
Faculty of Arts

Sophie THÉRIAULT
Faculty of Law

Karine VANTHUYNE
Faculty of Social Sciences

João VELLOSO
Faculty of Law

David WISEMAN
Faculty of Law

FELLOWS

Pierre Gilles BÉLANGER
Lawyer; Adjunct Professor,
Faculty of Law (Civil Law Section),
uOttawa

Andrew CARSWELL
Director, International Rule of
Law Initiative

Olha CHERNOVOL
Postdoctoral Fellow, Faculty of
Law, Civil Law Section

Amanda DALE
Director Engagement and
Communications, Canadian
Centre for Legal Innovation in
Sexual Assault Law; Faculty,
Women's Human Rights Institute
& Consultant

Oonagh E. FITZGERALD
Senior Fellow
President, International Law
Association of Canada

Philip LEECH-NGO
GFH Postdoctoral Fellow (2016-
2017)

Omid B. MILANI
Ph.D. in Law; Creator of Kontekst

Anoush F. TERJANIAN
Former Special Adviser to the
Vice-President, International and
Francophonie, uOttawa

Jeremy WILDEMAN
Independent researcher on the
Middle East

STUDENT MEMBERS

Alex ADDISALEM
Faculty of Law
(Management Committee)

Van ARMENIAN
Faculty of Arts

Vaeceslav (Slava) BALAN
Faculty of Law
(Management Committee)

Tenille BROWN
Faculty of Law

Carlos GARCIA-RODRIGUEZ
Faculty of Arts

Salvador HERENCIA
Faculty of Law

Bahar JAFARIAN
Faculty of Law

Jocelyn KANE
Faculty of Social Sciences

Andrea KHAN
Faculty of Social Sciences

Marie-Dominik LANGLOIS
Faculty of Social Sciences

Amira MAAMERI
Faculty of Law

Omra MASSTAN
Social Sciences & Law

Justine MONETTE-TREMBLAY
Faculty of Law

Nestor NKURUNZIZA
Faculty of Law

Fiorella RABUFFETTI
Faculty of Social Sciences

Christiana SAGAY
Faculty of Law

Gloria SONG
Faculty of Law

Hokbi TIUNN
Faculty of Law

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Mohammed AL-SHUWAITER
Co-founder & Executive Director
of Qānūn (the Arabic human
Rights platform)

Kawkab AL-WADEAI
Researcher & Mental Health
Counsellor (Gender, Peace &
Security)

Catalina ARANGO
Coalition for Academic Freedom
in the Americas (CAFA)

Ramon BLANCO-BARRERA
Ph.D., Artist, Interim Professor,
Faculty of Fine Arts, University of
Seville

Aboubacar DAKUYO
Ph.D. in Law, uOttawa

David DESBAILLETS
Policy Analyst, Canadian Human
Rights Commission

Emilie Di GRAZIA
Technical Officer, Gender, Equity
and Human Rights, World Health
Organization

Jordi Feo Valero
Project Coordinator, HRREC
Human Rights Clinic, uOttawa

Kirsten FISHER
GFH Postdoctoral Fellow
(2012-13), Associate Professor,
University of Saskatchewan

Melisa HANDL
Ph.D. in Law, uOttawa

Rasha JARHUM
Co-founder and Director, Peace
Track Initiative

Graciela JASA SILVEIRA
GFH Postdoc Fellow (2014-15)

Janine LESPÉRANCE
Independent External Decision-
Maker, App. by Canada's Minister
of Public Safety and Emergency
Preparedness

Jennifer LOPES
Part-time Professor, Faculty of
Social Sciences, uOttawa

Nelson Arturo OVALLE DIAZ
Part-time Professor, Faculty of
Law, uOttawa

Jacob TATSITSA
Ph.D. in political history of Africa,
Department of History, Faculty of
Arts, uOttawa

Julie Ynès ADA TCHOUKOU
Assistant Professor, Faculty of
Law (Common Law Section),
uOttawa

STAFF

Jabeur FATHALLY
Interim Director (to 30 June
2023)

John PACKER
Director (on academic leave to 1
July 2023)

Viviana FERNANDEZ
Associate Director

Caroline FAUCHER
Specialist, Communications and
Advisory Services

FEATURED PROFILES

Selected profiles from our members and visiting researchers.



CHER CHEN

Fulbright Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice 2023

Cher Weixia Chen has been appointed as the Fall 2023 Fulbright Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and Social Justice. She is Associate Professor in the School of Integrative Studies, Founder of the Human Rights and Global Justice Initiative, Senior Scholar of the Center for the Advancement of Well-Being, and Faculty Fellow of the Institute for a Sustainable Earth at George Mason University. Professor Chen's scholarship focuses on human rights issues, with a particular emphasis on marginalized groups such as women and indigenous communities. Her expertise also extends to international and comparative law. Her notable publications include *Compliance and Compromise: The Jurisprudence of Gender Pay Equity* (Brill/Martinus Nijhoff, 2011) and *International Human Rights: A Survey* (Cambridge University Press, 2022, co-authored with Alison Dundes Renteln).

CÉLINE CASTETS-RENARD

HRREC Academic Member

Céline Castets-Renard is a Full Professor at the University of Ottawa (Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section) and holds the Research Chair on Accountable Artificial Intelligence (AI) in a Global Context. She also holds the Research Chair in Law, Accountability and Social Trust in AI supported by the French government (ANR-3IA) within ANITI (Artificial and Natural Intelligence Toulouse Institute). She is an honorary member of the Institut Universitaire de France (IUF) and a member of the Centre for Research in Law, Technology and Society at the University of Ottawa. She is an Affiliated Fellow of the Yale Internet Society Project and an expert member of the European Commission's Observatory on the Online Platforms Economy. Her research focuses on law and technology from an international and comparative (Canada, Europe and US) perspective.

AMANDA DALE

HRREC Fellow

Amanda Dale joined HRREC as a Research Fellow in January 2023. She is the Director Engagement and Communications, Canadian Centre for Legal Innovation in Sexual Assault Law Faculty, Women's Human Rights Institute. She holds a PhD in Law, Osgoode Hall Law School (2018) and is an international human rights scholar and activist, with a specialization in gender-based violence, access to justice and women's international human rights. She has over 30 years' experience working in municipal, provincial, national, international, multicultural, urban, and remote contexts. Amanda is also the Chair of the Board at the Canadian NGO Inter Pares, and part of the advisory board of the Canadian Centre for Legal Innovation in Sexual Assault Response (CCLISAR) and of the Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability.

TEACHING & TRAINING

During 2023, HRREC offered three online courses in the Winter term involving 53 students. Starting in fall 2023, all online courses created by HRREC were transferred under the Civil Law Section of the Faculty of Law and will continue to be offered with part-time professors contracted directly by the Section.

The Centre delivered the 15th edition of the annual Summer School on International Humanitarian Law (a joint initiative with the Canadian Red Cross) from May 28 to June 2, with fifty students and professionals participating. A public lecture was organized on the principle of distinction in cyber space, specifically legal implications for civilians using digital tools in armed conflict. A new MOU between the Canadian Red Cross, the Faculty of Law and HRREC was concluded in Fall 2022 to ensure the continuation of this initiative through 2027.

During the past year, four contracts or bursaries for teaching assistants/course coordinators/project coordinators were funded by the Centre, most of which benefited graduate students in Law.



28.05.2023 to
02.06.2023

summer school
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

OPEN TO
university students &
professionals

INFO
dih-ihl@uOttawa.ca

15th edition presented by

The bottom right section of the graphic features three circular logos. From left to right: the Canadian Red Cross logo with the text "CROIX-ROUGE CANADIENNE / CANADIAN RED CROSS"; a logo for "CREDIP/HRREC 40" with a large number 40; and the University of Ottawa logo with the text "uOttawa".

HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

Making a difference



During winter and summer 2023, the Human Rights Clinic worked on five projects involving 21 students, addressing or supporting the following topics:

- Business and Human Rights in Latin America;
- 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.

Here are some highlights:

Business & human rights in the Americas | Since 2014

The project focuses on the responsibility of home States for the activities of private companies operating in Latin America. During 2023, the Clinic submitted three amicus briefs to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) on issues related to business and human rights (BHR), indigenous peoples, extractive industries, and free trade agreements.

- The Case of U'Wa Indigenous Peoples vs. Colombia (May) which focuses on military attacks by government security forces and paramilitary groups to displace the U'Wa Indigenous People from their land, which is rich in minerals and oil.
Partners: Universidad Internacional de Valencia and Pontificia Universidad Católica do Paraná.
- Advisory Opinion requested by Mexico regarding the human rights responsibilities of arms manufacturers (September). On May 31st, the Director of the Clinic was invited by the Mexican delegation before the Organization of American States (OAS) to address the OAS Permanent Committee regarding the BHR duties of States regarding the licit activities of private manufacturers of arms.
Partners: Universidad Internacional de Valencia, Núcleo de Estudos em Sistemas de Direitos Humanos da Universidade Federal do Paraná and Pontificia Universidad Católica do Paraná.
- Advisory Opinion requested by Chile and Colombia on climate emergency and human rights (December). The amicus focused on environmental due diligence of corporations and how to interpret the 2015 Paris Agreement under the American Convention on Human Rights.
Partners: Universidad Internacional de Valencia and Pontificia Universidad Católica do Paraná.


Independence of judges & lawyers | 2017-2023

The project closed its activities with the submission of an amicus brief to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) on the case *Gutiérrez Navas vs. Honduras* (February). The case focuses on the illegal destitution of judges from the Supreme Court of Honduras, who struck down legislation adopted by the government to fight corruption and organized crime.

Partners: Universidad Internacional de Valencia and Pontificia Universidad Católica do Paraná.

Scholars at Risk (SAR) in the Americas | Since 2018

During 2023, the Clinic monitored situations that affected academic freedom in nine countries: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela under the direction of Professors Isaac Nahon-Serfaty and João Velloso with support from Project Coordinator Fiorella Rabuffetti and Clinic Director Salvador Herencia. This information contributed to the [2023 Free to Think Report](#) published by SAR in October.



HRREC, the University of Monterrey (Mexico) and SAR continued to be part of an academic network from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and provided technical assistance, creating a report of incidents or attacks to academic freedom in the Americas which was submitted in the spring.

In the context of police raid in San Marcos University, Peru, the Clinic co-filed several constitutional reliefs and amicus briefs to seek the release of university students who were illegally arrested in January. The cases of 200 individuals are still on-going, particularly at the Constitutional Court with the aim of obtaining judicial decisions that would prohibit security forces from illegally stopping the exercise of the right to peaceful protest and from arbitrarily entering university campuses. The Clinic partnered with the Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos and the Instituto de Defensa Legal (leading NGOs in Peru).

Support to the UNSR on minority issues | 2022-2023

This project aimed to support the mandate of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, Fernand de Varennes (of Canada). In 2023, the team led by Ph.D. in Law candidate Slava Balan analyzed 10 communications regarding potential minority rights violations in Europe, Asia and Africa.

The issues addressed included attacks against religious minorities and infrastructure associated with the groups, schooling policies seeking to assimilate minorities against their will, denial of citizenship to minority members and governmental failures to uphold minority culture and language. The project concluded in December 2023 with the expiration of Fernand de Varennes' mandate.

Strengthening the Equality Council of Moldova | 2021-2023

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.

In 2023, the students involved in the project participated in drafting two comparative law briefs. The first one focused on the human rights and equality regime of de facto refugees fleeing war in Ukraine. The second looked at the human rights and equality regime affecting the sexual and reproductive rights of institutionalized persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities. The project ended in fall 2023.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

Improving Student Experience

During 2023, the Student Travel Fund benefitted three doctoral students in Law, members of the Centre. Thanks to this support, they participated in four international events: the 7th conference of the *Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Association* hosted in Monterrey, Mexico (March 23-24); the 6th *Biennial Responsibility to Protect in Theory and in Practice Conference* in Ljubljana, Slovenia (May 11-12); the *American Society of International Law Mid-year Meeting* in Pittsburgh, USA (November 9-11); and a *Research fellowship at the Max Planck Institute* in Luxembourg (month of November).

Professional links

Director John Packer was appointed a member, and elected Chairperson, of the International Expert Group (IEG) [revising UNESCO's 1974 Recommendation](#) concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms during 2022-2023. The IEG was composed of 22 members with the work resulting in a new text adopted in November with the new title [Recommendation on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development](#).

Professor Packer was also appointed by the Secretary General of the [Club de Madrid](#) (comprising over 120 former Heads of State or Government of democracies) as an expert advisor to the Working Group on Shared Societies in preparation for the Summit of the Future (2024) and the II Social Summit (2025) – the two intergovernmental processes proposed by United Nations Secretary-General Guterres in his '[Our Common Agenda](#)' report (2021).

Associate Director Viviana Fernandez is a member of the Executive Board of the Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI) since September 2021. In this capacity, she leads a working group on institutional development and cooperation. Viviana attended the AHRI 2023 Annual Conference (September), hosted by the University of Deusto, Spain, under the theme *Human Rights Defenders Under Siege*. Director John Packer and Postdoctoral Fellow Ghuna Bdiwi, Ph.D., associated with the project *Changing Orders* co-led by HRREC, also attended the AHRI Conference, and presented a paper on transnational repression.

Viviana Fernandez also holds a permanent position on the Steering Committee of the Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory on the Rights of the Child (IRLRC) which, since October 2020, HRREC supports in operational matters and communication-related tasks. In addition, since 2019 she has been a member of the Steering Committee of the Joint Chair in Feminist and Gender Studies, University of Ottawa and Carleton University.

HRREC is a founding member of the Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes (CAHRI, with 14 members across the country) and starting in 2023, the Gordon F. Henderson Postdoctoral Fellow hosted by HRREC will serve as managing editor of the *Canadian Yearbook of Human Rights*, a joint CAHRI initiative. The first Managing Editor was Ashley Barnes, Ph.D.

SCHOLARS AT RISK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

HRREC holds organizational responsibility for the Scholars at Risk (SAR) uOttawa Program since 2014. Associate Director Viviana Fernandez has been a member of the SAR's International Advisory Committee since 2016. In this context, she attended the 2023 Philipp Schwartz Initiative & Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum held in Berlin (May 22-24) and presented at the 2023 Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) Annual Conference in a panel about hosting scholars at risk (February 19-22) in Washington, D.C.

During 2023, the uOttawa Program hosted four scholars: Faisal Al-Kamali, a communications engineering scholar from Yemen (Dec 2021- Nov 2023); Shabnam Salehi, former Commissioner of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (May 2022- May 2024); Zahra Hakimi, Afghan scholar in nursing (Dec 2022- Dec 2024); and Olha Chernovol, a lawyer from Ukraine supported by the Faculty of Law, Civil Law Section (July 2022 - July 2025).



These placements were funded thanks to an allocation from the Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation (OVPRI), together with external grants from the IIE-Scholars Rescue Fund (US\$50,000 allocated to Prof. Claude D'Amours in the Faculty of Engineering), the Open Society University Network (US\$25,000 allocated to Prof. Christina Clark-Kazak in the Faculty of Social Sciences) and SAR (US\$50,000 allocated to Prof. Jennifer Quaid in Droit Civil). The uOttawa Program also receives contributions from the Association of Professors of the University of Ottawa and individual donors.

The SAR uOttawa Program also includes a Remote Scholars option focused on Venezuela. The current cohort (two-year placements starting in June 2023) includes four scholars working with University of Ottawa professors in the Faculties of Engineering and Sciences. Previously, in 2021-2022, two scholars in the fields of science policy and infectious diseases were chosen.

Scholar Zahra Hakimi and HRREC member Salvador Herencia participated in two editions of the SAR Free to Think podcast. Viviana Fernandez was interviewed by the Network Academics under Threat in February to talk about the Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas.

The SAR uOttawa Program also entails the academic freedom monitoring work done under our Human Rights Clinic (see the previous pages) and the Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA).

Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)

During 2023, the focus was to strengthen the functioning of the Coalition, increase awareness and advocacy in defense of academic freedom across the Americas, and further the implementation of relevant human rights standards, both as a means of protecting higher education spaces in the western hemisphere, and modeling best practices elsewhere.

CAFA delivered seven webinars during winter and spring 2023 focusing on Venezuela, Mexico, U.S.A. and Hungary, in addition to the 2nd Regional Conference on Academic Freedom in the Americas held in Curitiba, Brazil (November 9-10). Profs. João Velloso and Isaac Nahon-Serfaty, and HRREC members Salvador Herencia, Catalina Arango, Caroline Faucher and Viviana Fernandez organized and participated in the conference which featured the global launch for the SAR Free to Think Report 2023. A special issue in the *Revista Internacional de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales* (Universidad de Monterrey) with papers delivered in the 1st conference, was also launched in Brazil. A new website was launched in early fall, with substantial involvement from HRREC staff.

CAFA is an initiative jointly led by the HRREC, the Universidad de Monterrey and SAR, and supported by the Open Society Foundation. A new two-year grant from the Mellon Foundation will make possible the hiring of a CAFA Director and staff in 2024.



FUNDING & RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

During 2023, the Centre participated in twelve grant applications to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Open Society Foundations, the Open Society University Network, the Scholars at Risk Ukraine Fund, Canadian Defense Academy and uOttawa's Learning Futures Fund.

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 and principal investigators (PIs) are listed below:

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.

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 co-PIs 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 Universidad de Monterrey (Mexico) and the Scholars at Risk Network and funded by the Open Society Foundations.

PRISON TRANSPARENCY PROJECT

Led by Professor Dawn Moore, Carleton University, including Professor [João Velloso](#).

Congratulations to our members who received research funding during 2023:

ACADEMIC MEMBERS

[Nadia Abu-Zahra](#) received a \$24,949 SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant as co-applicant for the project *Mobilisation et Professionnalisation des Savoirs Expérientiels (MPSE) dans le secteur de l'établissement des nouvelles arrivantes : Parcours professionnels d'intervenantes d'origine immigrante dans la région de Gatineau*.

Nadia was also co-applicant in a \$52,170 project funded by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Research and Planning Fund called *Nowhere to Go: Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Housing Insecurity in Ontario* and was co-applicant in a \$25,000 SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant titled *'Peyvand': Exploring an asset-based community development approach to enhance language, leisure, and social ties among Farsi-speaking adult women in a Canadian city*. All three projects will run from 2023 until 2024.

[Jane Bailey](#) was co-applicant in a \$50,000 SSHRC connection grant from SSHRC for the project *Mobilizing Tools and Community to Resist Corporate Influence In Critical Technology Research*.

[Lori G. Beaman](#) is a collaborator on a SSHRC Insight Grant that was awarded \$370,016 for the project *Secularism on the Move (SOM): Transnational Laïcité in Contemporary Québec*.

[Céline Castets-Renard](#) received a \$47,464 SSHRC Connection Grant for the project entitled *Droit de l'IA : Entre règles sectorielles et régime général. Perspectives de droit comparé*.

[Christina Clark-Kazak](#) received a \$50,000 grant from SSHRC for the project *Collaboratory on forced migration in Canada / Collaboratoire sur les migrations forcées au Canada*. HRREC student member [Jocelyn Kane](#) is a collaborator on the project.

[Magda Donia](#) received a \$74,830 grant from SSHRC as co-investigator for the project entitled *Coping with Service Failure: A Tripartite Model of Service Encounter Toxicity*.

[Roojin Habibi](#) received a \$6,000 grant from uOttawa – Conference/Workshop Campus Opportunity for the project *Advancing Health Justice in a Turbulent World: A Free and Open Symposium Commemorating 75 Years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the World Health Organization*. She also received a \$40,000 grant from the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation for the project *Beyond Siracusa: Human Rights in Times of Public Health Crisis* with colleagues Maude Choko, Gabriel Boucher & Rebecca Rowley.

[Larisa Kurtović](#) received a \$20,000 grant as coordinator of the Engaged Research Lab during 2023-2025. The purpose of the grant is to support the group and enable it to become a research centre at uOttawa.

[Jamie Liew](#) was co-applicant on the project *Studying the Professional Experiences of Racialized and Indigenous Faculty in Canadian Law Schools*. This SSHRC Connection Grant was \$24,830.

[Darren O'Toole](#) was a collaborator in a \$2.5M SSHRC Partnership Grant entitled *Liberating Migrant Labour?: International Mobility Programs in Settler-Colonial Contexts*. Darren was also a co-applicant in a SSHRC Partnership Development Grant that was awarded \$199,446 for the project *Indigenous Peoples, Territory, and the Comprehensive Claims Process: Comparing Theories, Comparing Experiences*.

HRREC Director [John Packer](#) and [Nadia Abu-Zahra](#) received a \$1.2 million grant for the project *Supporting Activists-in-Exile in Canada and Beyond* funded by the Open Society Foundations (2023-2024). The project follows their work in a SSHRC grant and includes HRREC Fellow Philip Leech as research coordinator. John also received a \$12,600 contract from the Canadian Defence Academy to produce a research paper titled *Applying Human Security to Anticipate Future Security Challenges*. The research was done in collaboration with student member [Slava Balan](#).

[Meredith Terretta](#) was the principal investigator of a SSHRC Partnership Development Grant and [Christina Clark-Kazak](#) one of the collaborators. The project, entitled *Frontiers of Belonging: Refuge Seeking and Hospitality in West and Central Africa*, was awarded \$192,822.

[Valerie Steeves](#) was co-applicant in a SSHRC Insight Grant project entitled *Artificial Intelligence in Policing*. The project received \$125,644

FELLOWS — HRREC Fellow [Pierre Gilles Bélanger](#) Bélanger and academic member João Velloso received a \$49,985 SSHRC Connection Grant for the project *Plateforme: Légitimité de l'accès à la justice dans les Amériques - un dialogue nécessaire (Nord-Sud/Sud-Nord)*.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS — During 2023, [Ramon Blanco-Barrera](#) received four grants from the Universidad de Sevilla for a total amount of 8,720.00€, for the projects *Movilidad e Investigación KA107 - Estancia en la Universidad Anáhuac de Cancún (Mexico) (May)*, *Red Universidad-Sociedad-Empresa. Modelos de difusión empresarial desde el ámbito educativo (July 2022 to Sept. 2023)*, *Ayudas al Fomento de las Capacidades Emprendedoras del Estudiantado (June 2023 to Sept. 2024)*, and *Construyendo Procesos de Innovación Universitaria con el Método ECO (July 2023 to Sept. 2024)*.

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Centre hosted or partnered in forty-seven (47) activities or events (in-person or online), including two book launches, one film screening, an art exhibition, and three two-days academic conferences/symposia. These were organized with 44 partners representing research groups or chairs, foundations, national and international NGOs, embassies, United Nations Special Rapporteurs, etc. with total attendance of around 3,100 participants. The list of the Centre's events, reports and outputs can be found on the HRREC website.

During 2023, our Centre was honoured to welcome several high-profile officials and organized serious discussions on current conflicts, areas of high political tension, as well as principles of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, Russia/Ukraine, Taiwan, the South Caucasus region, China, Poland, Iran, Israel/Palestine, India, Venezuela/Guyana and Peru, among others. Notable events included a presentation about the human rights crisis that followed the death of Mahsa Amini in Iran, with Professor Javid Rehman, the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Iran. HRREC partnered with the Transnational Law and Racial Justice Network (TLRJN) at Windsor Law, and the International Law Association Canada (ILA Canada). Another notable event focused on an overview of the most recent report to the United Nations General Assembly by the U.N. Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territories, with speakers Navanethem Pillay, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Australian international human rights lawyer Chris Sidoti; the event was presented in collaboration with Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) and the International Law Group, all of uOttawa.

HRREC also organized two networking events for students and recent alumni with speakers Pascal Paradis (Executive Director, Lawyers Without Borders) and Farida Deif (Director, Human Rights Watch Canada).



12.12.2023 | 17:00 (EST)
Desmarais Building | DMS12102 + ZOOM
Registration required.

Developments in justice & human rights:
Perspectives from the
Inter-American Commission
on Human Rights

with [Margarette May Macaulay](#), President of the IACHR

CONFERENCE
with
Ms. **Chen Chu**
Chairperson
National Human Rights Commission, Taiwan

FROM AUTHORITARIANISM
TO DEMOCRACY:
Freedom & human rights in Taiwan

OCTOBER 17 | 10:30 a.m.
Ottawa Art Gallery
REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

IACHR Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
CREDP HRREC
uOttawa

INVITATION

The Human Rights Research & Education Centre at the University of Ottawa is pleased to welcome:

Mr. Volker Türk

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

OCTOBER 16 | 19:00 (EDT)
Tabaret Hall (TB1112)
Registration required.



2023

ELIE WIESEL DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP IN HUMAN RIGHTS

THURSDAY, MAY 4TH

Vision for the Future of Global Justice



Karim A. A. Khan
Chief Prosecutor,
International Criminal Court

Developments in justice & human rights: Perspectives from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

On December 12, the Centre welcomed Margarette May Macaulay, President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The presentation and subsequent dialogue with HRREC members Professor Penelope Simons, Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights, and Fellow Amanda Dale, covered recent developments concerning investigations and reparations for human rights violations in the Americas, including issues concerning violations of the rights of women, property and land rights, and the challenges private companies and extractive industries pose to indigenous people in Canada and the hemisphere.

From authoritarianism to democracy: Freedom and human rights in Taiwan

On October 17, HRREC and the Research Chair in Taiwan Studies at uOttawa partnered with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Canada to welcome Ms. Chen Chu, Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission of Taiwan. The conversation focused on how Taiwan, after 38 years of martial law, turned into one of the most democratic and free countries in Asia, dedicated to raising nationwide awareness of human rights.

Address by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

In the context of the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, our Centre and the Neuberger-Jesin Professor of International Conflict Resolution welcomed Mr. Volker Türk, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at the University of Ottawa, for his first and only public address in Canada on October 16. This event was linked with the project Changing Orders: Shaping the Future and Securing Rights in a World in Transformation, supported by the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue.

2023 Elie Wiesel Distinguished Lectureship in Human Rights

On May 4, HRREC co-hosted this lecture convened by the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, in partnership with the Faculty of Law and the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue. The 2023 distinguished speaker this year was Karim A. A. Khan, the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC). In the wake of the ICC's issuance of a warrant of arrest for Russian President Vladimir Putin, Prosecutor Khan shared his vision for the future of global justice under the Rome Statute. The Elie Wiesel Distinguished Lectureship in Human Rights convenes leading members of the bench, bar, and academe – along with parliamentarians, students, media, and civil society representatives – to learn from and engage with a distinguished lecturer and role model in the pursuit of justice.

ARTS + HUMAN RIGHTS



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

HRREC participated in the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights' 2023 Ignite Change Campaign which took place between December 1 and 10 with a webinar entitled *Arts & human rights: Conversing multiplicities*. The activity allowed arts and human rights practitioners and advocates from around the world to share orks, experiences, and ideas about what it means to be human in the posthuman cyborg Anthropocene. Through multimedia explorations and collaborations, artists, dancers, academics, and musicians developed and animated a manifesto on building positive relations between the arts and human rights, revealing and championing multiple perspectives. The session was led by HRREC Senior Fellow Oonagh Fitzgerald, and community member Ramon Blanco-Barrera.

From May 30 to June 8, Oonagh Fitzgerald and Ramon Blanco-Barrera also curated the exhibition on Arts & Human Rights: Conversing Multiplicities, which followed the 2nd HRREC Arts and Human Rights Symposium held in 2022. At the time, they developed a manifesto on building positive relations between the arts and human rights which artists, dancers, academics, and musicians then animated through this multi-media exposition, hosted at the Milieux Institute in Concordia University (Montreal).

HRREC also participated in the 20th Annual Human Rights Watch Canada Film Festival, sponsoring the screening *Freedom on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom* in March (in person: March 8; online: March 13-19).

PUBLICATIONS

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

Borrows, J., Chartrand, L., [Fitzgerald, O.E.](#) and Schwartz, R. (Eds.). (2023). *Braiding Legal Orders: Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 252 p.

[Castets-Renard, C.](#) and Eynard, J. (Eds.). (2023). *Artificial Intelligence Law: Between Sectoral Rules and General Regime & Un droit de l'intelligence artificielle : Entre règles sectoriales et régime général*. Bruxelles: Bruylant.

[Clark-Kazak, C.](#) (2023). *Research across Borders: An Introduction to Interdisciplinary, Cross-Cultural Methodology*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 312 p.

[Piché, J.](#) (Ed.). (2023). *Penal Abolition and the Legacy of Louk Hulsman*. Ottawa: Red Quill Books, 292 p.

Plaut, S., Bilotta, N., Rosenoff Gauvin, L., [Clark-Kazak, C.](#) and Felices-Luna, M. (Eds.). (2023). *Messy Ethics in Human Rights*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 280 p.

[Simon, S.E.](#) (2023). *Truly Human: Indigeneity and Indigenous Resurgence on Formosa*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 387 p.

[Simon, S.E.](#), Hsieh, J. and Kang, P. (Eds.). (2023). *Indigenous Reconciliation in Contemporary Taiwan: From Stigma to Hope*, London: Routledge, 282 p.

[Wildeman, J.](#) and Ayash M.M. (Eds.). (2023). *Canada as a Settler Colony on the Question of Palestine*. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 352 p.

BOOK CHAPTERS

[Abu-Zahra, N.](#) (2023). Aid for Peace Revisited: A New Paradigm for Understanding Conflict and Development. In [Wildeman, J.](#) and [Ayyash, M.M.](#) (Eds.), *Canada as a Settler Colony on the Question of Palestine*. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, Chapter 6.

[Clark-Kazak, C.](#) (2023). The Politics of Representation and Allyship in Human Rights Work. In [Plaut, S.](#), [Bilotta, N.](#), [Rosenoff Gauvin, L.](#), [Clark-Kazak, C.](#) and [Felices-Luna, M.](#) (Eds.), *Messy Ethics in Human Rights*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

[Dakuyo, A.](#) (2023). Truth, Justice, and National Reconciliation: The Dilemmas of Transitional Justice in Burkina Faso. In [Ibhawoh, B.](#), [Bawa, S.](#) and [Ayelazuno, J.](#) (Eds.), *Truth Commissions and State Building*, Montreal: McGill-Queens University Press, p. 163-185.

[Herencia-Carrasco, S.](#) (2023). Guiding Principle 24: Priorization of Severe Human Rights Impacts by Businesses. In [Choudhury, B.](#) (Ed.), *The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights*, Edward Elgar Press, Chapter 24, p. 186-190.

[Kurtovic, L.](#) (2023). Waters of Sarajevo: Notes on the Political Lives of Infrastructure. In [Finci, J.](#), [Petritsch, W.](#) and [Solioz, C.](#) (Eds.), *Sarajevo Singular Plural: In Honour of Zdravko Grebo Edition SEIP*, Volume 14, Baden: Nomos, p. 145-154.

[Piché, J.](#) and [Walby, K.](#) (2023). Flooding the Zone, Challenging State Secrecy: Newsmaking Criminology in Pandemic Times. In [Deflem, M.](#) (Ed.), *Crime and Social Control in Pandemic Times*, Bingley (UK): Emerald, p. 107-122.

[Simon, S.E.](#) (2023). Hunting Rights, Justice, and Reconciliation: Indigenous Experience in Taiwan and Canada. In [Simon, S.E.](#), [Hsieh, J.](#) and [Kang, P.](#) (Eds.), *Truly Human: Indigeneity and Indigenous Resurgence on Formosa*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, p. 77-95.

[Simon S.E.](#) (2023). Indigenous Religious Rights in Taiwan: The Invisibility of Animism in Modern State Law. In [Gélinas, C.](#), [Legault-Laberge, R.M.](#) and [Lebel-Grenier, S.](#) (Eds.), *International Perspective on Indigenous Religious Rights*, Leiden: Brill: p. 262-282.

[Simons, P.](#) (2023). Guiding Principle 26: Domestic Judicial Mechanisms. In [Choudhury, B.](#) (Ed.), *The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights*, Edward Elgar Press, Chapter 26, p. 200-207

[Wildeman, J.](#) and [Athallah, M.](#) (2023). The Middle East—Fast Tracking Great Power Competition and the Rise of China on the World Stage. In [Roberts, K.](#) and [Bano, S.](#) (Eds.), *The Ascendancy of Regional Powers in Contemporary US-China Relations: Rethinking the Great Power Rivalry*, MacMillan-Palgrave.

ARTICLES

[Blanco-Barrerra, R.](#) (2023). Understanding drawing in all its forms: a journey through the recent aesthetic commitment to the public, social and political. *Aisthesis. Pratiche, linguaggi e saperi dell'estetico*, 16(1): 169-179.

[Castets-Renard, C.](#) and [Robichaud-Durant, S.](#) (2023). Logiciels de surveillance d'examens en ligne en temps de pandémie : À la recherche d'une minimisation des risques d'atteinte à la vie privée des étudiant. *Revue Générale de droit*, 53(1) : 207-245.

[Clark-Kazak, C.](#) (2023). "Why Care Now" in Forced Migration Research? Imagining a Radical Feminist Ethics of Care. *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*, 22(4): 1151-1173.

[Cubas, M.A.](#), [Al-deen, T.J.](#), [Mansouri, F.](#) and [Beaman, L.G.](#) (2023). Empathy Across Difference: Migrant Youth and Transcultural Capital. *Journal of Intercultural Studies*, 44(6): 951-966.

[Dakuyo, A.](#) (2023). Cyberspace et limitations des libertés d'opinion et d'expression en contexte de lutte contre le terrorisme au Burkina Faso. *Canadian Journal of African Studies / Revue canadienne des études africaines*, 57(3) : 693-711.

[Espinoza, J.A.](#), [O'Neil, T.A.](#) and [Donia, M.B.L.](#) (March 2023). Big Five Factor and Facet Personality Determinants of Conflict Management Styles. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 2023, Article 112029.

- Ezzy, D., Beaman, L.G. et al. (December 2023). LGBTQ+ non-discrimination and religious freedom in the context of government-funded faith-based education, social welfare, health care, and aged care. *Journal of Sociology*, 59(4): 931-951.
- Gostin, L.O., Chirwa, D.M., Clark, H., Habibi, R. et al. (2023). The World Health Organization's 75th Anniversary: WHO at a pivotal moment in history. *BMJ Global Health*, 8(4): e012344.
- Houston, A.R., Liu, J., Habibi, R., Murthy, S. and Pai, M. (2023). Canada's Role in COVID-19 Global Vaccine Equity Failures. *BMJ* 382: e075149.
- Iqbal, R., Shahzad, K. and Donia, M.B.L. (December 2023). Environmentally specific transformational leadership and employee green attitude and behavior: An affective events theory perspective. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 92, Article 102181.
- Jacquemin, M., Mondain, N. and Goudiaby, J.-A. (January 2023). Rethinking Academic Support for Girls in Senegal: The House of Education in Ziguinchor as a Means of (re)Enrolling Them in School. *Education et sociétés*, 49(1): 131-147.
- Kane, J., Schuurmans, G. and Kitamura, M. (2023). Health Care Experiences of Stateless People in Canada. *Journal on Migration and Human Security*, 11(3): 261-278.
- Lardoux, S., Flahaux, M.-L., Mondain, N., Dogba, M.J. and Meintel, D. (2023). Trajectoires de familles migrantes et contributions aux sociétés d'appartenance : réflexions interdisciplinaires et internationales. *Enfances, Familles Générations* : Revue scientifique internationale, 43.
- Maameri, A. and Doris, J. (Printemps 2023). Les sorties sèches à l'épreuve de la participation - Quelles perspectives d'évolution de la protection de l'enfance à l'aune des rapports publics en France et au Québec? *Criminologie*, 56(1): 277-303.
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- Pauls, H., Walby, K. and Piché, J. (March 2023). Regimes of Representation in Canadian Police Museums: Othering, Police Subjectivities, and Gunscapes. *Crime, Media, Culture: An International Journal*, 19(1): 114-134.
- Simon, S.E. and Mona, A. (2023). Between Legal Indigeneity and Indigenous Sovereignty in Taiwan: Insights From Critical Race Theory. *Social Inclusion* 11(2): 187-197.
- Simons, P. (June 2023). Developments in Canada on business and human rights: One step forward two steps back. *Leiden Journal of International Law*, 36(2): 223-232.
- Tchoukou, J.A. (September 2023). The Silences of International Human Rights Law: The Need for a UN Treaty on Violence Against Women. *Human Rights Law Review*, 23(3).
- Terretta, M. (Spring 2023). Human Rights, Revolutionary Humanitarianism, and African Liberation in 1970: Unsettling Discontinuities in Human Rights History. *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development*, 14(1): 146-165.
- Vanthuyne, K. and Dugal, M.-C. (September 2023). Regenerating Maya-Mam Ways of Governing, Indigenous Emancipatory Politics in the Age of the Extractive Imperative. *The Journal of Latina American and Caribbean Anthropology*, 28(3): 251-260.

HRREC PUBLICATION

Packer, J. and Neve, A. (Eds.). (2023). [The Canadian Yearbook of Human Rights](#), Vol. 3 (2019-2021).

REPORTS, POLICY BRIEFS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Balan, V. (2023). The Human Rights Based Approach and the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals: Will the Indigenous Peoples Be Left Behind? *Social Sciences Research Network (SSRN) Papers* (online).
- Balan V. and Packer, J. (January 2023). Supporting Minority Languages Requires More Than Token Gestures. *The Conversation* (online).
- Beaman, L.G. (August 2023). Competing narratives of the "us" in "our culture and heritage". *The Immanent Frame* (online).
- Clark-Kazak, C. (2023). "Responsibility-Sharing" and the Safe Third Country Agreement: From a Politics-Based to a Rights-Based Approach to Refugee Protection. *PKI Global Justice Journal: Special Issue on Refugee "Responsibility Sharing" - Challenging the Status Quo*, 6.
- Leech-Ngo, P. (September 2023). Recognition versus reality: Lessons from 30 years of talking about a Palestinian State. *The Conversation* (online).
- Maameri, A. (May 2023). Comment mieux adapter la participation des enfants à la justice : Exemples de la France et du Québec. *La Conversation* (online).
- Nahon-Serfaty, I. (December 2023). Academic freedom is under attack in the Americas – overcoming silence and intimidation. *Macdonald Laurier Institute's Inside Policy* (online).
- Simon, S.E. (January 2023). Canada's partnership with Japan: Strengthening security in the Indo-Pacific. *CIPS Blog – Centre for International Policy Studies*, University of Ottawa.
- Simon, S.E. (January 2023). How Should Canada Navigate the Taiwan Strait Conundrum? *CIPS Blog – Centre for International Policy Studies*, University of Ottawa.
- Simon, S.E. (March 2023). The Indo-Pacific and Canada's Entanglements across the Taiwan Strait. *CIPS Working Papers*, University of Ottawa
- Simon, S.E. (March 2023). The Taiwan Strait: What Can Canada Do? *CDA Institute Threat Assessment*, Vol. 1. Ottawa: CDAI, 16 p.
- Wildeman, J. (January 2023). Charting a New Path for Canadian Engagement with the Middle East. *Commentary published as part of the Institute for Peace & Diplomacy's project Deconstructing the Changing Middle East Security Architecture*.

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

Notable awards and nominations received by our members.

Women and Gender Equality Canada named Professor [Jane Bailey](#) as a member of the Canadian delegation for the UN Commission on the Status of Women meetings in New York, which ran March 6-17. The priority theme this year was innovation and technological change and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Gordon F. Henderson Postdoctoral Fellow [Ashley Barnes](#) (September 2022-December 2023) accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law at Thompson Rivers University starting in January 2024. Her expertise spans public and private international law with a focus on access to justice and remedies in dispute resolution.

Ph.D. student [Erin Dobbelsteyn](#) was awarded the Jacques Gaudreau Graduate Scholarship in International Human Rights Law for the academic year 2022-2023. This scholarship is awarded each year to an outstanding graduate student (Master or Ph.D.) in the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa.

Associate Director [Viviana Fernandez](#) moderated two sessions of the federal, provincial and territorial (FPT) ministers responsible for human rights meeting held on June 19 and 20. The purpose was to discuss key priorities related to Canada's international human rights obligations, such as: diversity, inclusion and anti-racism measures; the rights of persons with disabilities; domestic implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; strengthening implementation of human rights in Canada; and the important role of human rights commissions.

[Roojin Habibi](#) received the 2023 Contract Faculty Award of the Lincoln Alexander School of Law, Toronto Metropolitan University (elected by the Class of 2025). During this year, she was also a member of the External Review Group of the WHO guidelines on public health and social measures for mitigating the risk and impact of epidemic and pandemic influenza, Global Influenza Programme, World Health Organization.

[Melisa N. Handl](#) successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on October 17. Her thesis was titled "Law, Conditional Cash Transfers, and Violence Against Women: An Institutional Ethnography of Argentina's Universal Child Allowance Program".

[Jamie Liew](#) received the Excellence in Research Award from the Common Law Section, Faculty of Law. The award is given to a member of the faculty who has earned distinction because of the importance and exceptional characteristics of their research over the past seven years. Professor Liew is recognized as one of Canada's leading voices in the field of immigration, refugee and citizenship law.

[John Packer](#) was elected Chairperson of the International Expert Group revising UNESCO's 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms during 2022-2023. He was also appointed by the Secretary General of the Club de Madrid as an expert advisor to the Working Group on Shared Societies in preparation for the Summit of the Future (2024) and the II Social Summit (2025).

Dean [Marie-Ève Sylvestre](#) is the recipient of the *Mérite du Barreau de l'Outaouais - Jean-Claude Sarrazin 2023*, in recognition of her exceptional and exemplary professional influence, as well as her major contribution to the evolution of the law and her constant concern to defend the rights of marginalized people, particularly in the Outaouais region.

The Canadian Partnership for International Justice (CPIJ) — which includes HRREC academic members [Peneleope Simons](#), [Jennifer Bond](#), [João Velloso](#), and [John Packer](#) — received the Governor General's Innovation Awards. These awards recognize transformational Canadian innovations that create a positive impact in Canada and inspire the next generation of innovators. The ceremony took place on May 18 at the National Arts Centre.

[Ramon Blanco-Barrera](#) work was included in the Graduate Thesis Abstracts 2023 by the prestigious Leonardo International Society, in collaboration with Arizona State University, United States of America.

SELECTED STORIES OF 2023

**UN High Commissioner's insightful address
on the 75th anniversary of the UDHR in Canada**

**A successful second CAFA conference
on academic freedom in the Americas**

**HRREC & Neuberger-Jesin Professor have signed The Sunflower
Declaration to protect human rights defenders at risk**

**Beyond the Class: Reflections on ICC Prosecutor Karim Khan's
2023 Elie Wiesel Distinguished Lectureship in Human Rights**

HRREC delegation at the AHRI Conference

**Viviana Fernandez moderated consultation sessions during
Forum of FPT ministers responsible for human rights**

**The Canadian Partnership for International Justice, of which
HRREC was a partner, wins Governor General's Innovation Award**

**HRREC Human Rights Clinic is proud to support the mandate
of the UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues**

**Erin Dobbelsteyn is the recipient of the
Jacques Gaudreau Graduate Scholarship 2023**

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FOLLOWERS

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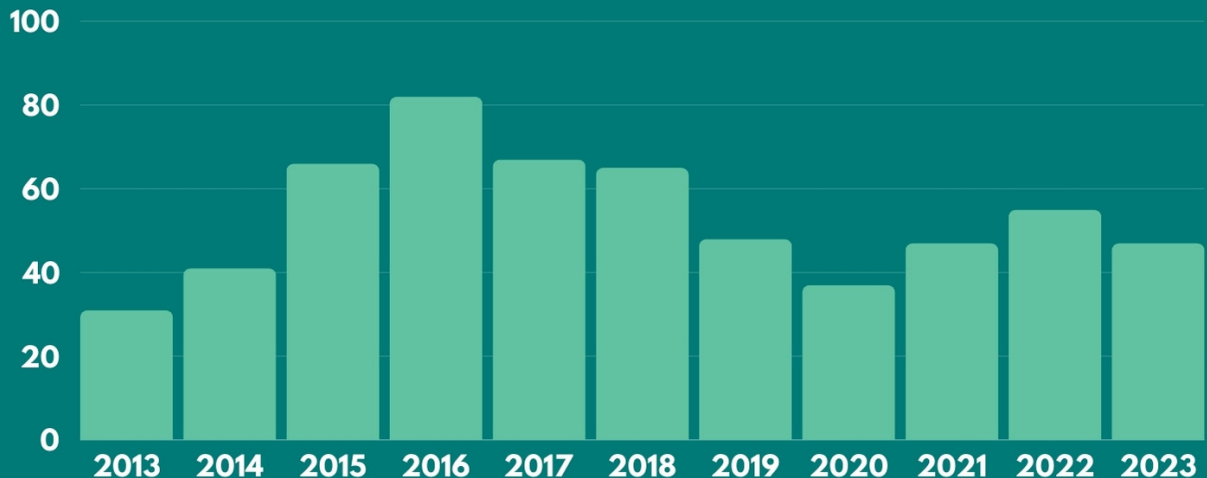


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EVENTS



OUR PARTNERS



Research Chair in Taiwan Studies | FSS | uOttawa
Chaire de recherche en études Taiwanaïses | FSS | uOttawa

CAHRI | Canadian Association of Human Rights Institutes



Université d'Ottawa / University of Ottawa

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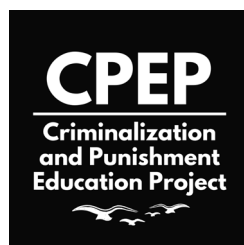


Joint Chair in Women's Studies / University of Ottawa | Carleton University



JOHN HUMPHREY CENTRE for PEACE and HUMAN RIGHTS

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